

PILLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PILLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY
8th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7pm**



Present:

Pilling Parish Councillors:

*Neil Cookson, Chairman
Graham Curwen, Vice Chairman,
Steve Phillpotts,
Alf Whiteside,
Dave Ponton
Lisa Stanger
Paul McWhirter
Liz Kiersey
Julia Brewer (Clerk)*

5706 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr E Cookson, Cllr J Savage, and Wyre Cllr A Leigh.

5707 DECLARATION ON INTERESTS

Cllr G Curwen and Cllr P McWhirter declared their interests as members of Pilling Village Hall Committee.

5708 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: *The minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2025 having been circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.*

5708 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing orders were suspended to allow public to speak.

- **Planning application: Rushside Stables, Lancaster Road (25/00787/FULMAJ)**

Residents were in attendance and raised their ongoing concerns regarding this planning application following the refusal of the previous planning application.

- **Wyre Cllr Adam Leigh**

Although Cllr Leigh had sent his apologies he forwarded an update on the verbal response to concerns raised about the changes to the publication of public comments on the planning portal which was circulated to the Parish Council in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: *The Parish Council meeting and Standing Orders were resumed.*

5709 CLERK'S REPORT

Further to the circulated report, the Clerk reported that Defibrillator training had now been arranged by the WI for 20th and 28th October.

Resolved: The Clerk's Report was received.

5710 PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES

There were no policies to be discussed.

5711 BUDGET 2026-27

The first draft of the budget for 2026-27 was received by the Parish Council and it was noted that hopefully the precept amount would not need to be increased.

Resolved: The Parish Council approved the first draft of the Budget for 2026-27.

5712 AGAR: EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT AND CERTIFICATE

The External Auditors Report and Certificate were presented to the Parish Council which highlighted some errors made, although it was acknowledged that some of these were as a result of the change in tenure of the Parish Clerk midway through the financial year.

Resolved: The External Auditors Report and Certificate were received by the Parish Council and comments noted by the Responsible Financial Officer.

5713 LANCASHIRE PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Information regarding the Lancashire Parish and Town Councils Conference on Saturday 1st November had been circulated to councillors should they wish to attend.

5714 ORCHARD END WIND FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

Information regarding the next round of grants from the Orchard End Community Benefit Fund was received. It was agreed that consideration should be given to the siting of a 'Welcome to Pilling' sign to be located within the area that the fund covers.

Resolved: Parish Council to consider the funding of a 'Welcome to Pilling' sign within the boundaries of the grant scheme.

5715 SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE: SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

Arrangements for the Remembrance Service were discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Neil Cookson would lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that the poppies for display on the lampposts around the village had now been received. The purchase of metal figurines to be erected at the war memorial depicting members of the armed forces was discussed and agreed in principle.

Cllr N Cookson also reported that he had agreed to the purchase of a new flag for the church flagpole.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would make a donation to the British Legion of £100.00.

Resolved: Members of the Parish Council noted the arrangements for the Service of Remembrance and agreed to the purchase and erection of 3 figurines depicting members of the armed forces together with a donation of £100.00 be made to the Royal British Legion.

5716 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON: MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Arrangements for the Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On were discussed. The Parish Clerk would write to the Coffee Queen to switch on the lights and to both of the schools to invite them to attend to sing carols. Cllr Curwen would make arrangements for 'Father Christmas' to attend and Cllr Whiteside would arrange for the Christmas Tree to be delivered.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed the arrangements for the Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On on Monday 1st December.

5717 DYKE ON A588

Cllr Curwen raised the issue of the dyke on A588 which when blocked, caused flooding on the road, and the fact that Lancashire County Council did not keep the dyke cleared as they should.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to Lancashire County Council Highways to highlight the issue and request the dyke to be cleared.

5718 PROPOSED BUS SHELTER OUTSIDE METHODIST CHAPEL

Cllr Curwen raised the issue of the proposal to build a bus shelter outside the Methodist Chapel and requested whether the Parish Council would consider an alternative location to that originally proposed.

Resolved: Parish Council to consider an alternative option for placement of bus shelter outside the Methodist Chapel and discuss this with Lancashire County Council.

5719 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application Number: 25/00781/FUL

Proposal: Proposed erection of light industrial building following demolition of existing storage building.

Location: G France Ltd Carr Lane Pilling Preston

Resolved: The Parish Council have no objections to this proposal.

Application Number: 25/00776/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single-storey side extension for the amenity of a disabled person

Location: Smallwood Hey Farmhouse Smallwood Hey Road Pilling Preston

Resolved: The Parish Council have no objections to this proposal

Application Number: 25/00790/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and two rear dormers

Location: Bonds Farm Duck Street Pilling Preston Lancashire

Resolved: The Parish Council have no objections to this proposal

Application Number: 25/00809/FUL

Proposal: Retention of agricultural building (Retrospective)

Location: James Farm New Lane Eagland Hill Pilling

Resolved: *The Parish Council object to this planning application on the basis that this is not an agricultural site.*

Application Number: 25/00787/FULMAJ

Proposal: Proposed retention of stable block providing 2 stables, tack and feedstore and change of use of agricultural land to equine land (retrospective)

Location: Land North Of Union Cottages, Rushside Stables Lancaster Road

Resolved: *The Parish Council object to this application on the basis that the proposed development, although for two horses, has not been reduced in size and therefore has the same adverse environmental impact as it is not in keeping with the open and rural character of the countryside.*

Planning Appeal Notification:

Appeal Reference: APP/U2370/C/17/3182648

Location: Mayfield House New Lane Eagland Hill Pilling Preston

Nature of Complaint: Without planning permission the material change of use of land from agriculture to residential and without planning permission the erection of a dwellinghouse

Enforcement Number: 23/00063/MOB

Resolved: *The Parish Council noted the above planning appeal.*

5720 FINANCE

Income:

St. John's Church	£ 25.00	Grounds Maintenance
Pilling Village Hall	£ 340.00	Monthly Loan Repayment
Grantscape	£ 2438.00	SPID

Payments

Payment Type	Inv No	Date	Payee	Amount £	Reason
BACS		September 2025	HMRC	844.03	PAYE/ NI
BACS	1740	30/09/2025	Houghtons	110.11	Diesel/Petrol
CP	PVH-0649	29/09/2025	Pilling Village Hall	35.00	Room Booking (Community Action)
DD		30/09/2025	Unity Trust	9.45	Bank charges
BACS			Salaries*	4518.18	Payroll
DD		01/09/2025	Easy Websites	69.96	Website/Admin
SO		01/09/2025	PVH	100.00	Rental
DD	2383922979	02/09/2025	EE	42.94	Mobile Phones
CP	25766943	28/09/2025	Xero	0.64	Accounts system
BACS		28/09/2025	J Brewer	49.97	Training/Bond Paper

BACS	3950	18/09/2025	DFX Systems	60.00	Community Action
CP	6343640	17/09/2025	Viking Office UK	57.49	Office admin
BACS	12848	16/09/2025	Laburnum Nurseries	339.84	Pilling in Bloom
CP	122002268381	15/09/2025	Poppy Shop (RBLI)	100.00	Poppies
BACS	SB20252552	23/09/2025	PKF Littlejohn	378.00	External Audit Fee
BACS	11493	01/10/2025	Morley's Group Ltd	150.00	Storage Unit Rental
BACS	MEME255375-1	01/10/2025	SLCC	190.00	Membership Renewal
BACS	471356 471594 472232 472653 473984	3/09/25	Wyre Building Supplies	71.42	Pilling in Bloom
Bank Transfers					
Redwood Business Savings		£10,000.00		Unity Trust Current Account	

*inclusive of pensions contributions

Resolved: Councillors noted the income and approved the payments and transfer of monies.

Bank Reconciliation to 30th September 2025

See information.

Unity Trust Bank	£ 5421.64
Redwood Business Savings	£81,305.10
Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	£60,000.00

Resolved: Councillors accepted bank reconciliation and budget monitoring to 30th September 2025

5721 VERBAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- Chairman's Report**

Cllr N Cookson reported that a meeting regarding the final decision on the proposed Quarry at Preesall was to be held on 15 October at County Hall.

- Over 60's Afternoon Tea**

It was noted that a date of Friday 12 June 2026 had been made for the Over 60's Afternoon Tea.

- Pilling Village Hall**

Cllr McWhirter reported that there was a caravan rally booked at the village hall for the weekend.

- Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils**

The Clerk attended the meeting on 24th September and reported on the following:

- **Recycling Food Waste:** From April 2026 it will be no longer possible to put food waste in the grey bins and Wyre will begin a weekly food waste collection. Information will be sent to residents after Christmas.
- **Formation of a Wyre Energy Action Group**
Due to the impact of the proposed Offshore Wind Farm and cable across the Fylde and Wyre it was agreed that a similar group to the Fylde Energy Action Group be set up for Wyre.

- **Pilling Community Action**

Cllr Liz Kiersey agreed to pick up the Pilling Community Action Facebook account and it was agreed to use this account for the Parish Council rather than have a separate Facebook page.

- **Our Future Coast Working Group/Flooding Issues**

Cllr Whiteside reported that the work had started on the new flood gates and would take about 3 weeks. A further meeting was being held to obtain a contact list for everyone whose property is affected by the waterways.

- **Create Homes/St Williams Gate**

Cllr Ponton reported that he was still awaiting a response from Planning as to what information they had requested from Create Homes and that the next step would be to write to the CEO. He also reported that a recent house sale had fallen through due to the ongoing situation.

5722 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Refreshments Van: Amenity Area**

Cllr Curwen drew attention to the situation at the Amenity Area whereby a man purporting to be from the Environment Agency had approached the Refreshments Van and informed them that they required a licence from the Environment Agency.

- **Accident at Golden Ball: Roundabout**

Following a recent accident at the Golden Ball, Cllr Curwen raised the issue of having a traffic island at the centre of the roundabout in order to make people go round the roundabout instead of cutting across the junction.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21pm.

Chairman

Date