

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Wrightington Parish Council held on Monday 16th March 2026 at Appley Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Ms K Juckes (Chair),Mrs J Burton (Vice Chairman), Mr. L Burton, Mrs Sue Roberts, Mr Hugh Carey,Mrs H. Kelsall and Mr J Ashurst, Clerk

Members of the Public were also present

OPEN FORUM

(At this point in the Meeting members of the public present can report, ask questions, raise issues and make observations on parish matters or items appearing on the Agenda. Reports will also be received from the Police, Borough and County Councillors if attending – Once open forum is closed the Chairman will only suspend standing orders to allow public participation in extreme circumstances.)

The Chair welcomed those present to the 16th March 2026 meeting and asked everyone to treat each other with respect, and respect everyone's points of view by opening the meeting at 7.30pm.

There was a report of Fly Tipping on Appley Lane South, and the Clerk was asked to report this to West Lancs

Another vehicle accident outside by 5 Too Good Lane was also reported and the Clerk was asked to record this in the Council's Accident File

Open Forum was closed at 7.35 pm

143. APOLOGIES –were received from Councillors, Fletcher and Ainscough

144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Juckes declared an interest as follows:
In the interests of openness and transparency I , Cllr K Juckes, wish it to be recorded that I was in a land dispute which was legally decided in November 2023.

145 MINUTES *The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 16th February 2026 were unanimously accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair*

146. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA None

147 PLANNING MATTERS

1. Plan App 2026.0106.FUL 203 Mossy Lea Road --- It was resolved that the Council would object to this App on the basis of the significant comments made in the Gas report with which the Council wholeheartedly agreed.

2.Plan App 2026.0108.FUL 36 Manse Avenue Wrightington – It was resolved that Council would object this App and Cllr. Juckes would draft a reply for consideration by the Council before despatch

3. Plan App 2025/0968/ FUL 315 Mossy Lea Road Planning Permission granted.
However, it was resolved to follow up on the Council's concerns regarding the reinstatement of the site

4. **Plan App 2025/0910/FUL --** A letter from West Lincs' Paul Charlson dated 26th February 2026 was circulated and the contents noted. **The Council resolved** to record its thanks to Cllr. Fletcher for her efforts regarding this matter.

148. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION ITEMS.

Items to be reported and noted by the Council – no decision required: REPORT 1 on page 4. **It was resolved** to accept the Report

Items requiring observations, discussions or action by the Council

- a) Email from Dial a Ride calling for further information regarding the Pensioner affected and enclosing an application form to be completed and returned to Dial a Ride. Cllr. J. Burton reported that this issue had now been satisfactorily resolved.
- b) E mail dated 2/3/26 from Jennifer Sutcliffe offering her services as Internal Auditor.
- c) Email dated 2/3/26 from Nigel Parkinson offering his services as Internal Auditor

149. EAST QUARRY

Nothing to report

150. WEST QUARRY AND PAD

No correspondence received

151. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) **SPIDS .** **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact Newburgh's clerk to ascertain how she accesses the Spids information and relay the outcome to Cllr. Carey
- b). Cllr L Burton reported that a Volunteer Groups was going around the Parish picking up litter and requested that the Council record its appreciation.
- c). Yellow Lines on Mossy Lea Road. It was resolved that the Clerk would report to Highways that the newly painted yellow lines on Mossy Lea Road had already started to fade
- d) Speeding on Too Good Lane --- **It was resolved** that the Clerk would again report the Council's concerns regarding speeding on Too Good Lane with a copy to LCC Cllr. Nigel Swales

152. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE BODIES. Nil report

153. VILLAGE HALLS

Mossy Lea:

Door and Window Panels This work has been satisfactorily completed

Sound proofing panels, Repainting the interior of the village hall, and further refurbishment of the Ladies toilets. Installation of Patio Doors to comply with Martin's Law .

Cllr Carey suggested and it was agreed that these items be considered under Cap.Ex item later in the Agenda

New Chairs with Arm rests. The purchase of 10 new chairs had been agreed previously. The cost is being researched.

Appley Bridge:

Asset Register The Clerk agreed to progress this matter

Outside Book Library The outdoor book Library had been installed, and it was noted that it had already been used enthusiastically by appreciative Parishioners

Cellar refurbishment It was resolved to defer this item until Councillors had looked into it to ascertain the feasibility of usage. It was further resolved that the Clerk would contact West Lancs and take advice as regards the Health and Safety aspects of access to the cellar

Cleaning Costs It was resolved that the Cleaner of the village halls would be paid from the Council's Unity Bank account with effect from 1st April 2026

Open Evenings at the both Village Halls Ongoing

154. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS The Clerk gave a report

155. FINANCE / ACCOUNTS

It was resolved to approve the following Receipts and Payments for March 2026:-

Payments::

J. Ashurst	Clerk's Salary (net) to 28 th Feb. 2026	£998.55
J. Ashurst	Clerk's PAYE for February 2026	£249.60
J. Ashurst	Clerk's Exes (Mileage) to 16/3/26	£55.33
J. Ashurst	Employers NIC for February 26	£124.67
D/D Waterplus	ABVH Water Charges March 2026	£1.64
D/D Brit Gas	MLVH Gas Usage Feb/March 2026	£246.19
D/D Brit	Gas ABVH Gas Usage Feb-March 2026	£424.40
D/D E.on Next	Elec..Costs re: ABVH Dec-Feb 26	£161.94
D/D E.on Next	Elec Costs re: ABVH Sep-Nov 25	£112.32
Starboard Sys.	Monthly Scribe Subscription Mar. 26	£37.20
D/D BT	Broadband Charges February 26	£69.48
D/D Unity Bank	Bank Charges for February 2026	£6.00
D/D Easyweb	Provision of Website Services Feb. 26	£58.08

DKLS Services	Bookstore and Work at ABVH	£470.00
Chubb F & S	Equipment testing at Village Halls	£243.47
LALC	Clerk's CILCA Training Course	£450.00
Dale Burton	Half Year Ground M'nance ABVH	£340.00
J. Ashurst	Copy of Arnold Baker 14 th edition	£175.27
J. Ashurst	Petty Cash Top Up	£50.00

Monthly Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation

It was resolved to accept the **monthly budget report and bank reconciliation** as at 28th February 2026 as a correct record which was signed by the Chair

Appointment of Internal Auditor for 25/26 Accounts

It was resolved to appoint Jennifer Sutcliffe as Internal Auditor for 25/26

156 POLICIES REVIEW **It was resolved** to defer this item to the next meeting

157. CAP EX PROJECTS

Mossy Lea VH

Re-decorating Hall and refurbishment of Toilets **It was resolved that** Quotations for this work would be obtained.

Sound proofing panels, Repainting the interior of the village hall, and further refurbishment of the Ladies toilets. Quotations are being obtained

Appley Bridge VH

Refurbishment of Toilets **It was resolved to accept Quote E of £3680 for this work**

Painting of Hall **It was resolved to accept the Quotation from MARDEC for £3840 for this work**

158 Local Plan The current Local plan finishes in 2027. The Clerk was asked to interrogate SHELAA to ascertain which parcels of land in the parish have been earmarked for possible future development

159 FAIRY GLEN It was reported that this area was being adversely affected by the number of visitors in the following ways:-

- i) The No Stopping Zone indicated by a single white line is being ignored by visitors parking on both sides of the road
- ii) Litter in the Lay by is everywhere
- iii) Blocked Gullies cause the road to flood whenever it rains and the spray from passing vehicles is dangerous
- iv) Legality of parking of Mobile Café in Lay By was questioned

It was resolved that the Clerk would write to LCC's Highways to report the problems and request the attendance of Enforcement Officers to issue Parking tickets. Copy to Dan Massey, Fairy Glen's Head Ranger

**160 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Mossy Lea Village Hall**

Monday 20th April 2026 at 7.30 pm At

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman:

Date

REPORT 1

- a) Email from Waterplus dated 6/3/2026 regarding the frequency of reading the water meter at Mossy Lea Village Hall
- b). E mail from Tom Lynan West Lancs Deputy Democratic Services Officer regarding Parish /Town Council Elections 2026.
- c).E mail from Leanne Joyce dated 6/3/26 regarding condition of Mossy Lea Park
- d) E mail from James Mather dated 9/3/26 regarding a balloon trapped in a tree
- e). Email dated 23/02/26 from Customer Engagement West Lancs regarding an invitation to complete a Cultural, Heritage and Arts Survey
- f). Email dated 9/3//26 from First Cut Grounds Ltd offering tree surgery services.

Meeting Protocols: Please note the following procedures to ensure the smooth running of the meeting:

- Members of the public will only be able to speak during the Open Forum section of the meeting. If you wish to speak during this section, please email the Clerk by 5pm on the day before the meeting, with brief details of the subject matter being raised. The Chairman will ask the member/s of the public to speak. Before speaking, the member of the public should state their name. Time permitting the Chairman will ask if members of the public wish to raise anything else, however, dependant on time, this may need to be held over until the next meeting. Each member of the public will be able to speak for a limit of three minutes.
- Parish Councillors wishing to speak are asked to please raise a hand and the Chairman will invite him/her to speak.
- To vote, members should raise their hand as appropriate