

WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of the Wroughtington Parish Council held on Monday 20th April 2026 at Mossy Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm the following were present:

Councillors: Ms K Jukes (Chair), Mrs J Burton (Vice Chairman), Mr. L Burton, Ms Sue Roberts, Mr Hugh Carey, Mrs H. Kelsall, Ms A Fletcher, Mrs H. Ainscough 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 20th April 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.

No members of the public wished to speak so Open Forum was closed at 7.33 pm

161. APOLOGIES – None

162. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Jukes declared an interest as follows:

In the interests of openness and transparency I , Cllr K Jukes, wish it to be recorded that I was in a land dispute which was legally decided in November 2023.

163 MINUTES *The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 16th March 2026 were unanimously accepted as a true record following an amendment of Minute 157 paragraph relating to work at the Appley Bridge village hall to record "Refurbishment of Toilets and Doors. it was resolved to accept Quote E of £3680 and £2261 for this work". This amendment to be agreed at the next Meeting. The Minutes were then signed by the Chair*

164 MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA Cllr L Burton reported that former Councillor Chris House had successfully completed a charity fund-raising run-in aid of Andy's Man Club and The Appley Bridge Meadows. This was noted and the Council wished to record its appreciation and would consider making a donation at the next Meeting

165 PLANNING MATTERS

1. **Plan App 2026.0108.FUL 36 Manse Avenue Wroughtington** – Following a debate there was a disagreement between Councillors , five wishing to lodge an objection and two against. Following a request for a named vote by Cllr J Burton, the Clerk asked the Chair “ is this a named vote then ? and the Chair replied “ Yes we will have a named vote” . A named vote followed **it was resolved** by a majority of 6 to 2 that the Council would object to this App on the grounds stated in the reply previously drafted and circulated to Councillors. Councillors voting to object were Cllrs. Jukes, Kelsall,

Roberts, Carey, Fletcher and Aiscough. Councillors not voting to object were Cllrs. L Burton and J Burton.

Late Plan Apps

1. **Plan App 2026/0286/PIP Land within Oaksprings** It was resolved that the Council would raise no objections to this App.

166. 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, and it was noted that 5 Councillors wished to attend the next Planning Course organised by LALC

Items requiring observations, discussions or action by the Council

- a) Email dated April 2026 from Campaign to Protect Rural England requesting renewal of the Council Memberships Subscription and possible increase thereof. **It was resolved** to pay this subscription

- 167. EAST QUARRY** At this point Cllr. Juckes left the Meeting having made a declaration at the start of the Meeting and Cllr. J. Burton took the Chair. It was reported that vans had observed operating on the East Quarry and it was queried whether West Lancs were aware of this and if these operations were permitted in the light of previous correspondence from West Lancs regarding this matter

- 168. WEST QUARRY AND PAD** It was noted that the deadline had passed for the enforcement of the requirements of the Planning Inspectorate as regards the operations of Chorley Concrete. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would write to West Lancs requesting a report as regards what action had been taken. Copy of the letter to be sent to Borough Councillors Bailey and Whittington

Pollution Incident of Canal at Appley Bridge. Following the referral of this matter to the Canal and Rivers Trust, **it was resolved** that the Clerk would request a report on the outcome

At this point Cllr Juckes rejoined the meeting at 8.20

169. HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) **SPIDS .** Cllr Carey gave a report and circulated to Councillors the data he had downloaded. **It was resolved** to defer this item to the next Meeting to give Councillors time to consider it

- b). Cllr J Burton reported another vehicle accident on the junction of Moss Lane and Courage Low Lane.

170. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE BODIES. Nil

171. VILLAGE HALLS

Mossy Lea:

Capital Expenditure items were deferred to be dealt with later in the Agenda

New Chairs with Arm rests. It was resolved that 10 new chairs with arm rests and vinyl seats were to be purchased in accordance with the cost previously circulated

Appley Bridge:

Cellar refurbishment The Clerk explained that a report was awaited from West Lincs following an inspection of the cellar by West Lincs' Surveyor, Tom Hill

Gas Bill The Clerk reported an unusually high gas bill and was asked to request a breakdown of the usage

Open Evenings at both Village Halls Ongoing

172 LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS Nothing to report

173. FINANCE / ACCOUNTS

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

Payments::

J. Ashurst Clerk's Salary (net) to 31st March 26	£998.35
J. Ashurst Clerk's PAYE for March 2026	£249.80
J. Ashurst Clerk's Exes (Mileage) to 20/4/26	£58.46
D/D Waterplus ABVH Water Charges April 2026	£51.05
D/D Brit Gas MLVH Gas Usage March/April 2026	£246.89
D/D Brit Gas ABVH Gas Usage March/April 2026	£531.86
Starboard Sys. Monthly Scribe Subscription April. 26	£37.20
D/D BT Broadband Charges April 2026	£76.68
D/D Unity Bank Bank Charges for March 2026	£7.00
D/D Easyweb Provision of Website Services Mar. 26	£58.08
Corletts Elec Appliance testing at Village Halls	£144.00
M. Brady Window Cleaning MLVH March '26	£40.00
M. Brady Window Cleaning MLVH April '26	£40.00

Monthly Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation

It was resolved to accept the **monthly budget report and bank reconciliation** as at 31st March 2026 as a correct record which was signed by the Chair

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

175. CAP EX PROJECTS

Mossy Lea Village Hall

Installation of Patio Doors Following a discussion **it was resolved by a majority vote** of 5 against, 2 in favour and 1 abstention that the Patio Doors were not a necessity at this time. **It was also resolved** that the issue be reconsidered in six months' time by a majority vote of 7 to 1.

Re-decorating Hall and refurbishment of Toilets Quotations are awaited.

Soundproofing panels, Repainting the interior of the village hall and further refurbishment of the Ladies toilets. Quotations are awaited

176 Local Plan. It was resolved that the Clerk be asked to obtain, if possible, population demographics for Appley Bridge and Wrightington Wards by age

177. FAIRY GLEN. It was reported that cars were still being parked illegally on the road in the red zone, causing damage to the grass verges and forcing pedestrians to walk in the road. The problem is particularly bad at weekend.

It was resolved that the Clerk would write to LCC's Highways again to report the ongoing problem and to the Police as regards the illegal parking

178. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (s) **Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.00p.**
at Appley Bridge Village Hall

Annual Parish Meeting
Followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.30

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

Meeting Closed at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman:

Date

REPORT 1

- a) E mail dated 23/3/26 from LALC's Val Watson offering training courses for new Councillors and Clerks
- b) E mail from Chris Twomey dated 31/3/26 regarding his departure from West Lancs BC
- c) E mail from Altham PC offering help regarding the downloading of SPIDS data
- d) E mail from West Lancs dated 2/4/26 confirming removal of fly tipped rubbish .
- e) E mail from LCC Highways dated 23/3/26 confirming that block drains and pothole work had been scheduled.
- f) E mail dated 23/3.26 from Newburgh PC regarding SPIDS data.
- g) E mail dated 24/3/26 from Dan Massey Greenspace Manager regarding Fairy Glen
- h) West Lancs Media Release dated 24/3/26 regarding Junction 4 scheme in Skelmersdale
- i) West Lancs Media Release dated 25/3/26 regarding funding for new homes on brownfield land.

- j) West Lancs Media release dated 13 April 26 of Candidates standing in 2026 Local Elections.
- k) E mail from Chris Brooke dated 13/4/26 regarding a pollution incident at the canal at Appley Bridge and referring it to the Environmental Agency.
- l) E mail from WHP Telecoms Ltd dated 26/3/26 inviting pre application comments on the proposed base station upgrade on land at Hill House Farm

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