

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 4TH JUNE, 2025
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chair)

Councillors

*D. Gallear
B. Newman*

Co-optees

*D. Heap – Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
M. Schofield - Roughlee Booth Parish Council
D. Wood – Higham with West Booth Parish Council
J. Hartley – Old Laund Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
A. Pushparagan
J. Eccles*

*Housing Needs Manager (Area Co-ordinator)
Planning Officer
Committee Administrator*

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M. Stone.)



The following people attended the meeting and spoke on the following item:

<i>P. Martinson</i>	<i>Unauthorised development - removal and</i>	<i>Minute No. 25</i>
<i>B. Gerrard</i>	<i>erection of a fence at 1 Fir Trees Grove, Higham</i>	



19. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

20. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident of Barrowford reported 8 wheel tipper trucks using Higher Causeway to access the housing development at Land to the North East of Saint Thomas Church, Wheatley Lane Road, Barrowford, and asked if this was the agreed route.

The Chair said that he would seek clarification from the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services and report back to him.

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 7th May, 2025, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

22. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for May 2025 compared to the same period in the previous year had been circulated prior to the meeting.

APRIL	2025	2024
Burglary – Residential	3	0
Burglary – Other than Dwelling	4	3
Vehicle Crime	4	4
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	16	15
Theft	3	5
Arson/Criminal Damage	5	8
All Recordable Crime	42	42
All Recordable Crime (Year to Date)	169	159
Anti-Social Behaviour	9	15

PCSO A. Fielding had sent his apologies with a brief update on policing priorities in the area. The crime figures were pretty much in line with the same time last year. He reported a spike in vehicle theft/burglary activity and asked all residents to remain vigilant checking security on vehicles suggesting the use of immobilisers, a steering lock or adding a bollard to their drive. The vehicles that were being targeted were BMWs and Golf Rs.

The Committee were reminded that residents could log any complaints about parking to LCC online. Complaints about dog fouling and littering could be sent to Pendle Borough Council.

The Police were continuing to target anti-social driving. There would be ongoing speed enforcement and resources put into targeting various motoring offences e.g. cars with loud exhausts.

It was reported that cars were still parking on double yellow lines on the bridge on Carr Road, Nelson and were impacting on highway safety. The issue on Carr Road had been raised with the Police previously.

RESOLVED

That the Police be requested to investigate incidences of dangerous parking on the bridge on Carr Road, Nelson.

23.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning applications for determination

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted the following planning applications for determination: -

24/0857/FUL *Full: Change of use of land to be used as a Shooting Club (Sui Generis) including formation of Earth Bund at end of existing track and the creation of car parking area on existing yard at Hunters Holme, Grove Lane, Higham for Mrs. Adele Hanson*

(A site visit was undertaken prior to the meeting.)

This application was deferred from the last meeting for a site visit.

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **granted** subject to the following conditions -

1. The proposed development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: Required to be imposed by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

- HAN/02 Dwg 00A Rev A - Location Plan (received 20.01.25)
- HAN/02 Dwg 02A Rev B - Proposed Site Plan (received 11.02.25)
- HAN/02 Dwg 03 – Existing and Proposed Elevations (received 20.01.25)

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3. All the external materials to be used in exterior of the development hereby permitted shall be as stated on the application form and approved plans and there shall be no variation without the prior consent of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: These materials are appropriate to the locality and in order to allow the Local Planning Authority to control the external appearance of the development.

4. Notwithstanding any indication on the approved plans and application form, a detailed scheme including the location, dimensions and appearance of the flags and signs to be installed around the shooting range shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority within 3 months of the date of this permission. The development shall thereafter times be carried out in strict accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To allow the Local Planning Authority to control the external appearance of the development in the interest of visual amenity.

5. No firearms above the calibre of a 0.22 rimfire shall be used at the shooting range hereby approved, and the noise levels from the firearms measured at the boundary of the application site should not exceed 55db(A) at any time.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

6. The use hereby approved at all times operate on a pre-booking basis only in accordance with the Operational Statement received on 12th February 2025 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The operators of the site shall maintain an up-to-date register of the member bookings and shall make this information available at all reasonable times to the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure proper control of the use of the site so that its operation does not generate traffic movements which have not been fully assessed.

7. The maximum number of people on site at any one time shall be 15 including members, instructors and staff.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety to limit the number of vehicle movements on Grove Lane.

8. Sessions shall be staggered with a cross over of a minimum of 15 minutes unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the site's operation does not generate traffic movements which would be detrimental to highway safety and capacity.

9. The car and motorcycle parking shown on the Proposed Site Plan (Drawing 02A) shall be made available at all times and remain free of obstructions for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: To ensure that adequate off-road parking is available to prevent parking on Grove Lane which would be detrimental to highway safety.

10. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in strict accordance with the submitted METHOD STATEMENT Operation of the Range, METHOD STATEMENT Operation of the Site, and RISK ASSESSMENT Precision Target Shooting Range, prepared by Hunters Target sports received on 26.03.25. The operation of the site shall at all times adhere to the mitigation and control measures outlined within these documents.

Reason: To ensure the safe and proper operation of the development in the interests of public safety.

11. Details of the additional vertical barriers between lanes and the adjustable frame system shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority within 2 months of the date of this decision. The development shall thereafter at all times be carried out in strict accordance with the approved plans.

Reason: To ensure the safe and proper operation of the development in the interests of public safety.

- 12.** No part of the development commences unless and until a Planning Obligation pursuant to section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act, 1990 (or any subsequent provision equivalent to that section) has been made with the Local Planning Authority. The said obligation shall provide for monitoring of Biodiversity Net Gain over a 30-year period.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed development makes provision to enhance biodiversity on the site and that this can be monitored for a period no less than 30 years following completion of the development.

BNG Conditions

- 13.** The development may not be begun unless—
- a. a biodiversity gain plan has been submitted to the planning authority and
 - b. the planning authority has approved the plan

Phase plan

(b) the first and each subsequent phase of development may not be begun unless— (i) a biodiversity gain plan for that phase has been submitted to the planning authority and (ii) the planning authority has approved that plan

Reason: In order to fulfil the obligations for Biodiversity Net Gain, in accordance with the Environment Act 2021, Schedule 14

Informative Notes

The application site lies in an area defined by the Coal Authority as containing potential hazards arising from former coal mining activity at the surface or shallow depth. These hazards can include: mine entries (shafts and adits); shallow coal workings; geological features (fissures and break lines); mine gas and former surface mining sites. Although such hazards are seldom readily visible, they can often be present and problems can occur in the future, particularly as a result of new development taking place. If any suspected coal mining feature is encountered on site, this should be reported immediately to the Coal Authority on 0800 288 4242. Further information is available on the Coal Authority website at: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-coal-authority.

The developer should take note of all the public footpaths running through and adjacent to the site and take utmost care to ensure that these are kept undisturbed and free of obstruction during the course of the development. Any breach of the legislation which protects public rights of way can result in legal action, fines and default action carried out and re-charged to the landowner. Any proposals for the temporary diversion or closure of a footpath should be made to Lancashire County Council's public rights of way team. An enquiry about permanently diverting or closing a footpath may be made to Pendle Council

REASON

Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that applications be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The proposed housing development would accord with Local Planning Policy and would be compliant with the guidance set out in the Framework, subject to compliance with planning conditions. The development therefore complies with the development plan. There is a positive presumption in favour of approving the development and there are no material reasons to object to the application.

25/0203/PIP *Permission in Principle: Erection of 3 no. dwellings at land to the South West of Old Hall Close, Blacko Bar Road, Roughlee for Ms J. Griffiths*

(Before the vote was taken, the Planning Officer advised that a decision to refuse the application for the reasons set out would represent a significant risk of costs being awarded against the Council in the event of an appeal. The matter would therefore be referred to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and subject to his agreement the decision would stand referred to the Development Management Committee.)

RESOLVED

That planning permission in principle be **refused** for the following reasons -

- The application site is not in a sustainable location
- No evidence that the development is required to meet local needs of the community

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on planning appeals. It was noted that appeal 24/0022/AP/REFUSE had been dismissed.

24. CALDERDALE WIND FARM NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Members were informed that an informal consultation was underway asking for comments on the proposed 41 wind turbine development on land adjacent to Pendle, in Calderdale. Pendle would be a statutory consultee in the formal planning application stage which would be assessed under the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project process. The consultation closed on 10th June.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to email Members with further information and timings on the consultation process.

25. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report, for information, giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions. A verbal update was given at the meeting.

The Enforcement Officer had been in touch with the owners of Land South of Heights House, Heights Lane, Fence the previous day about a site visit to try and move progress. It was noted that the further enforcement notice served on 16th May in respect of Land adjacent Pasture Barn East, Pasture Lane, Barrowford would take effect from 20th June. If there was no compliance, the matter would go back to Court. The planning application received in respect of Land to the South of Sunnymede, Well Head Road, Newchurch in Pendle would be determined in the next few weeks.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services provide an update on Land South of Heights House, Heights Lane, Fence to the next meeting.

**26. UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT
REMOVAL AND ERECTION OF A FENCE AT 1 FIR TREES GROVE, HIGHAM**

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on the removal and erection of a fence at 1 Fir Trees Grove, Higham. The report stated that actions had been taken to identify the breach and had been dealt with as far as practically possible. However, Members wanted to know whether a certificate or notice had been or would be issued to indicate that the enforcement notice had been complied with.

RESOLVED

That this item be deferred and the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to provide written confirmation on whether the fence had been brought down to the purple line shown in the enforcement notice.

REASON

To establish compliance with the enforcement notice.

27. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2025/26

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health submitted a report which advised Members on the Committee's 2025/26 Budget. Taking into account uncommitted funds carried forward from 2024/25 of £363 and the 2025/26 allocation of £17,850 there was £18,213 remaining uncommitted.

The report included new bids as follows –

PBC Bid (1) £3,000 – Premises Improvement Grants
PBC Bid (2) £1,000 – Litter and Dog Waste Bins
Fence Village Hall Committee Bid £1,750 – Fence Village Hall
Friends of Victoria Park Bid £80 – PL Insurance for Events
Barrowford PC Bid £3,500 – Path to rear of Lake
Goldshaw Booth PC Bid £1,250 – Playing Fields Football Posts and Nets
Higham PC Bid (1) £750 – Footpath
Higham PC Bid (2) £400 – Bus Shelter
Higham PC Bid (3) £370 – Notice Board
Higham PC Bid (4) £500 – Playground
Roughlee PC Bid £2,770 – Radar Speed Sign
Barley PC Bid £2,500 – Toilet Block Improvement
Blacko PC Bid £700 – Emmot's Track Resurfacing

A late bid from the Higherford Residents Action Group seeking £1,500 for the Higherford Globes Project had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £1,776 be deallocated from the Premises Improvement Grants allocation carried forward from the previous year.

(2) That the following allocations be made from the Area Committee Budget 2025/56 –

PBC £2,919 – Premises Improvement Grants
PBC £1,000 – Litter and Dog Waste Bins
Fence Village Hall Committee £1,750 – Fence Village Hall
Friends of Victoria Park £80 – PL Insurance for Events
Barrowford PC £3,500 – Path to rear of Lake
Goldshaw Booth PC £1,250 – Playing Fields Football Posts and Nets
Higham PC £750 – Footpath
Higham PC £400 – Bus Shelter
Higham PC £370 – Notice Board
Higham PC £500 – Playground
Roughlee PC £2,770 – Radar Speed Sign
Barley PC £2,500 – Toilet Block Improvement
Blacko PC £700 – Emmot's Track Resurfacing
Higherford Residents Action Group £1,500 – Higherford Globes Project

REASON

To enable the Area Committee Budget to be allocated efficiently and effectively.

28. LEAK AND POTHOLES ON PASTURE LANE, BARROWFORD

At the last meeting Members were made aware of issues with a leak and potholes on Pasture Lane, Barrowford. The potholes were getting larger and were becoming increasingly dangerous.

It was noted that United Utilities had undertaken works to repair the water main on Pasture Lane, Barrowford and completed the work on 6th May 2025. The works to repair the water main should have resulted in any nearby defects also being repaired.

29. PREMISES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS SCHEME – SUMMARY 2024/25

The Head of Economic Growth submitted a report on the progress made on the Barrowford Premises Improvement Grants Scheme; to request that Members agree to a funding allocation of £3,000 for 2025/26; and consider the appointment of two Grant Panel Members for 2025/26. Consideration of this report had been deferred from the last 2 meetings.

The report advised Members that of the £3,000 allocated from the 2024/25 Budget £1,224 had been paid out for one application and there were three other enquiries that were expected to result in applications. In the earlier item, when the Area Committee Budget 2025/26 was discussed, Members agreed to deallocate the £1,776 remaining from the Premises Improvement Grants allocation carried forward from the previous year and allocate £2,919 from this year's Budget to support new applications.

RESOLVED

That Councillors D. Gallear and M. Stone continue to be the Premises Improvement Grants Panel Members for Barrowford in 2025/26.

REASON

- (1) To note the outcomes of the Premises Improvement Grants Scheme in 2024/25.**
- (2) To allow the Premises Improvement Grants programme to fund future projects in 2025/26.**
- (3) To allow Members to make decisions that support the ongoing regeneration of Barrowford Town Centre.**

30. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

Members were advised that there were currently no environmental blight sites in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

Any new sites should be reported to Tricia Wilson (tricia.wilson@pendle.gov.uk) with a brief description of the site and the problem along with contact details.

31. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

Members mentioned a blocked drain on Park Avenue near the bottom of Lower Parrock Road.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Team be asked to investigate a drainage issue in the Park Avenue area of Barrowford near the bottom of Lower Parrock Road.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

32. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- a. Flooding/Drainage Issue on Pasture Lane, Barrowford (02.04.2025)
- b. Flooding/Drainage Issue in the Vicinity of the Forest pub, Fence (02.04.2025)
- c. Flooding/Drainage Issue in the Vicinity of the Public Toilets in Newchurch-in-Pendle (02.04.2025)

33. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following item of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended when it was likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of exempt information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

34. UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on unauthorised development at a property in the area.

RESOLVED

That this item be deferred and clarification be sought on what constituted permitted development.

Chair _____