

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2026
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chair)

Councillors

*N. Ahmed
D. Gallear
B. Newman
M. Stone*

Co-optees

*R. Fewster - Blacko Parish Council
J. Hartley – Old Laund Booth Parish Council
D. Heap - Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
J. Metcalfe – Higham with West Booth Parish Council
R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

<i>E. Barker</i>	<i>Legal Services Manager (Area Co-ordinator)</i>
<i>R. Ferguson</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>
<i>A. Pushpagaran</i>	<i>Planning Office</i>

Police

PCSO. A. Fielding

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The following person attended the meeting and spoke on the following item -

<i>Richard M Kenyon</i>	<i>25/0646/FUL Full: Conversion of existing public house (Sui Generis) to 1 no. dwelling (Use Class C3) and associated works at Cross Gaits Inn, Beverley Road, Blacko.</i>	<i>Minute No. 117(a)</i>
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113. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. Members' attention was also drawn to the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct relating to the disclosure of Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests.

114. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

115. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 7th January 2026, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

116. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for December and January had been circulated prior to the meeting.

PCSO A. Fielding attended the meeting and gave a brief summary of recent operations. A man had been charged with 50 conspiracies to commit burglary. It was said it had been difficult locating the individual responsible for these crimes. Extensive efforts from the police had resulted in the prevention of further burglaries being committed by individual.

PCSO A. Fielding advised that Pendle Police Station would open in the next coming weeks.

It was said that targeting speeding vehicles had been a priority recently, with plans being put into place for the summer months to prevent speeding. A speed device in Roughlee had been the recent target of vandalism, PCSO A. Fielding advised he would support the Parish in locating the perpetrator.

The Committee thanked PCSO A. Fielding for providing information and his attendance.

117. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning applications for determination

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

25/0646/FUL Full: Conversion of existing public house (Sui Generis) to 1 no. dwelling (Use Class C3) and associated works at Cross Gaits Inn, Beverley Road, Blacko for Mr John Kay

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason: -

There is no clear and convincing justification for the proposed change of use of Cross Gaits Inn to a dwelling. The proposal would result in the loss of a community facility and would result in less than substantial harm to the significance of the designated heritage asset.

25/0647/LBC Listed Building Consent: Conversion of existing public house (Sui Generis) to 1 no. dwelling (Use Class C3) and associated works at Cross Gaits Inn, Beverley Road, Blacko, for Mr John Kay

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason: -

The proposed works to enable the change of use of the Grade II Listed Building which is a public house to a residential dwelling would lead to less than substantial harm to its significance due to loss of significant features and loss of historic public house use, resulting in loss of communal value. There is no clear and convincing justification for this harm, and no public benefits have been demonstrated to outweigh the harm.

25/0682/FUL Full: Conversion of stable block to one dwellinghouse at Whitehough Grange, Barley New Road, Barley for Mr & Mrs Stevenson

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason: -

The only feasible access to the site is via a privately maintained bridge with a limited weight capacity which would not provide safe and suitable access for emergency and service vehicles and result in an unacceptable impact on highway safety.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on outstanding planning appeals for information which was noted.

118. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Legal and Democratic Services Manager submitted a report giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions.

It was said that progress was ongoing with the enforcement notice at Dam Head Farm, Blacko and that a further update would be provided at the next meeting of the Committee. A planning application had been submitted for the land part of Forest of Pendle Leisure Park. It was explained that due to the Christmas period and postal delays, the notice would take effect in March.

119. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2025/26

The Legal Services Manager submitted a report on the Area Committee Budget for 2025/26.

The Chair reminded Parishes that funds allocated for the schemes as set out in the report should be spent by the end of the financial year and invoices submitted.

There was discussion on a couple of the schemes where works had been delayed.

120. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATHS & PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF A PUBLIC FOOTPATH AT WHEATLEY LAITHE FARM

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report seeking authorisation for a number of public footpaths to be diverted in order for the development of the industrial area centred on the former Wheatley Laithe Farm, off Barrowford Road to be carried out.

RESOLVED

The Committee granted permission to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make an order to divert public footpaths FP1315095, FP1315103, FP1315108, and to stop part of public footpath FP1315110 as illustrated in the report. The order would be confirmed subject to there being no objections, or if any objections received are subsequently withdrawn, subject to all necessary consents first being obtained. In the event of objections not being withdrawn, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services would be authorised to send the order to the Secretary of State for determination.

121. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH FP1309033 AT MALKIN CROFT, GREAT STONEDGE FARM, BLACKO

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report which asks the Committee to make a decision either to go no further with the proposed diversion, or to send the order to the Secretary of State to consider confirming the order.

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

RESOLVED

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to send the order to the Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to be determined.

122. PENDLE TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Pendle Traffic Liaison Meeting held on Monday 1st December 2025 were submitted for information which was noted.

123. FLOODING/DRAINAGE ISSUES

(a) An opportunity for new flooding/drainage issues to be raised

There were no new issues raised.

Residents were asked to report any existing or new highway/flooding issues including blocked gulleys on the LCC Love Clean Streets App. This would allow LCC's Inspector to review issues and arrange remedial action as required in accordance with their Highway Safety Inspection Policy.

(b) Outstanding Flooding/Drainage Issues

It was noted that there was no progress with the following LCC drainage issues previously reported –

- At Park Avenue at the bottom of Lower Parrock Road, Barrowford; and
- The flow of water coming onto the A6068 from the field below Enty's Eats at Pendle Forest Sports Club.

RESOLVED

That Lancashire County Council be asked to provide a response to concerns raised with the long-standing problem of drainage at Park Avenue/Lower Parrock Road in Barrowford as soon as possible in view of the worsening wet weather.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

124. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

In accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (B)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the Chair agreed that the following item should be considered as a matter of urgency, the ground being that funds could be granted on a time-limited scale.

125. PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FND

The Chair advised that although the Pride In Place Impact Fund had been allocated based on the Barrowford population, Parishes could benefit from the fund. It was said other Area Committees such as Colne & West Craven had decided to split the fund with Parishes in their respective areas. Due to the number of Parishes within Barrowford, it was evident that the fund was insufficient to support all potential projects.

Members were reminded that the fund must be spent within a year. It was emphasised that the criteria to receive funding required a positive impact directly on the community. Members discussed potential projects in their Parishes. It was said that all bids would go to the leadership of the Council for scrutiny and approval or rejection. It was advised that bids would most likely be accepted if match funding was provided and if it was evident that the project could be achieved within the year.

RESOLVED

That Parish Council's submit their bids at their earliest convenience to the Chair who will pass the bid onto the relevant officer.

REASON

To give Parish Council's the opportunity to receive funding from the Pride In Place Impact Fund.

126.

PART II – EXEMPT ITEMS

Exclusion of the Public and Press

To consider excluding the public and press from the meeting during the next following items of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended when it is likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there will be disclosure of exempt information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

127.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME QUARTER 3

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report on environmental crime in Barrowford and Western Parishes for the period 31st October to 31st December 2025 which was noted.

Chair _____