

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD & WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE
ON 5th AUGUST 2026**

PRESENT –

Councillor M. Stone – Vice-Chair (In the Chair)

Councillors

D. Gallear

B. Newman

Co-optees

J. Hartley (Old Laund Booth Parish Council)

D. Heap (Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council)

N. Hodgson (Blacko Parish Council)

B. Murrell (Goldshaw Booth Parish Council)

R. Oliver (Barrowford Parish Council)

M. Schofield (Roughlee Booth Parish Council)

Officers in Attendance

E. Barker

Legal Service Manager/Area Co-ordinator

L. Barnes

Senior Planning Officer

R. Ferguson

Committee Administrator

Also in Attendance

County Councillor H. Hartley

(Apologies for absence were received from N. Ahmed.)



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

Ben Bainbridge

26/0323/FUL Technical Details Consent:

Minute No. 40 (a)

Change of use of agricultural land to residential use (Use Class C3), erection of 4 no. dwellings including integral and attached private vehicular garages with garden and parking areas of Planning Permission 23/0173/PIP at Land To The North East Of Pollard Row, Wheatley Lane Road, Fence.

36.

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.

37.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was raised that there had been an increase in the use of fireworks at unsociable hours, and it was requested that the police be made aware of the issue. A question was asked regarding the actions being taken to address the ongoing problem.

A member of the public enquired about the status of a local public house that had recently been the subject of a closure notice and an application for a closure order. It was noted that, as there had been insufficient grounds to grant the order, a hearing was scheduled to take place on 1 September to determine the designated premises supervisor application for the premises licence.

RESOLVED

That the police be made aware of the reported increase in the use of fireworks at unsociable hours and be requested to provide a response outlining the actions that would be taken to address the issue.

38.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

39.

POLICE MATTERS & COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for July 2026 had been circulated prior to the meeting. No police representative was in attendance.

A member questioned the volume of assaults that had been reported in the crime statistics.

Members noted that concerns had been raised with Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Constabulary regarding road conditions, parking practices and driver behaviour throughout Blacko, particularly on Beverley Road. A response had been received from Lancashire Constabulary advising that speeding-related concerns could be reported directly to the Lancashire Safer Roads Partnership. Members requested that the police be reminded that these concerns remain ongoing and continue to be a matter of local concern.

Members welcomed the Chat with PCSO initiative, which provided residents with an opportunity to raise concerns directly with local police officers.

Members noted the continued absence of police representatives from Parish Council meetings. Discussion took place regarding the lack of police attendance at Area Committee meetings. It was agreed that the local Member of Parliament, Jonathan Hinder MP, should be contacted to seek his assistance in encouraging police representatives to attend such meetings where possible.

RESOLVED

That Jonathan Hinder MP be contacted to seek his assistance in encouraging police representatives to attend Parish Council and Area Committee meetings where possible.

40.

PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications to be determined

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

26/0323/FUL Technical Details Consent: Change of use of agricultural land to residential use (Use Class C3), erection of 4 no. dwellings including integral and attached private vehicular garages with garden and parking areas of Planning Permission 23/0173/PIP at Land To The North East Of Pollard Row, Wheatley Lane Road, Fence for Mrs. Noreen Rycroft

(Before the vote was taken, the Senior Planning Officer advised that a decision to refuse the application would represent a significant risk of costs 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.)

RECOMMENDATION

That planning permission be **refused** on the grounds that Members considered the proposed development to be out of keeping with the character and appearance of surrounding properties and the wider locality, resulting in an unacceptable impact on the visual amenity of the area.

26/0366/HHO Full: Erection of a detached single storey double garage at Waterside House, Barley New Road, Barley for Mr And Mrs John & Sue Coupe

RESOLVED

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

1. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: Location Plan, W.H / 1A, W.H / 2A.

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

2. Prior to above ground works involved in the erection of the external walls of the development hereby approved samples of the external materials to be used in the walls and roof of the development shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out in strict accordance with the approved materials.

Reason: To preserve the visual amenity of the area, character and appearance of the Conservation Area and scenic beauty of the National Landscape.

3. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, no site clearance, demolition, or construction works shall commence until protective fencing has been erected around all trees and hedgerows to be retained, in accordance with BS 5837:2005 Trees in Relation to Construction. The fencing shall be a minimum of 1.25 metres high, securely mounted on timber posts firmly driven into the ground, and shall be inspected and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of works. The fencing shall be positioned at least 1.0 metre beyond the protected area identified in BS 5837. Within the protected area, existing ground levels shall not be altered, roots greater than 25mm in diameter shall remain unsevered, and no construction activity, excavation, storage of materials, or deposition of spoil shall take place. The protective fencing shall be retained and maintained for the

full duration of the construction works.

Reason: To safeguard the protected tree from damage during the construction process and to ensure its long-term retention in the interests of visual amenity and the character of the Conservation Area.

4. Prior to first use of the approved development, that part of the access extending from the site boundary with Bridleway BW1308029 for a minimum distance of 5m into the site shall be appropriately paved in tarmacadam, concrete, block pavements, or other hard material to be approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety to prevent loose surface material from being carried on to the public bridleway where it could pose hazard to other highway users.

Notes:

To minimise the impact on local residents, the following standard hours for noisy works should be adhered to:

- Monday to Friday: 08:00 – 18:00
- Saturday: 08:00 – 13:00
- Sundays and Bank Holidays: No noisy works permitted.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report, for information, on planning appeals, which was noted. A brief verbal update was provided regarding a recent appeal that had progressed to a Planning Inspectorate hearing. It was noted that timescales for receiving a decision can vary considerably.

41. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted an update on enforcement matters, which was noted.

Members expressed disappointment in the lack of progress with several enforcements.

42. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2026/27

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report advising Members that consideration of the budget had been deferred from the previous meeting.

Members were advised that a significant number of applications had been received and that the total value of bids exceeded the budget currently available to the Committee.

It was noted that applications totalling £30,275 had been received, exceeding the available uncommitted funds of £18,015.

The report included bids as follows:-

Barley PC, £2,500 – Barley Village Toilet Block Improvement
Barrowford PC, £1,500 – Rose Garden and Herb Garden at Hill Top

Blacko PC, £1,000 – New Gates to Recreation Ground
Goldshaw Booth PC, £3,054 – Information Boards
Higham PC, £500 – Bus Shelter Notice Board
Higham PC, £750 – Village Wall Restoration
Higham PC, £1,500 – Phone Box Community Library Project
Higham PC, £600 – Memorial Garden Enhancement Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £700 – Village Entrance Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £500 – Community Notice Boards Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £2,000 - Defibrillator Installation Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £500 – Grass Cutting Equipment
Roughlee PC, £1,600 – Woodland Clearance and Renovation
Barrowford in Bloom, £300 – Shuttle Planter
Higherford Residents Action Group, £1,500 – Globes Project
St Thomas Church, £4,000 – Restoration of Church Tower
Friends of Barrowford Library, £640 – Barrowford Library Bench
Friends of Victoria Park, £50 – PL Insurance for events
PBC, £4,000 – Nelson & Colne College Path Improvements
PBC, £3,081 – Premises Improvement Grants

RESOLVED

That the following allocations be made from the Area Committee Budget 2026/27:-

Barley PC, £2,500 – Barley Village Toilet Block Improvement
Barrowford PC, £1,500 – Rose Garden and Herb Garden at Hill Top
Blacko PC, £1,000 – New Gates to Recreation Ground
Goldshaw Booth PC, £1,894 – Information Boards
Higham PC, £500 – Bus Shelter Notice Board
Higham PC, £750 – Village Wall Restoration
Old Laund Booth PC, £700 – Village Entrance Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £500 – Community Notice Boards Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £1,000 - Defibrillator Installation Project
Old Laund Booth PC, £500 – Grass Cutting Equipment
Roughlee PC, £1,600 – Woodland Clearance and Renovation
Barrowford in Bloom, £300 – Shuttle Planter
Higherford Residents Action Group, £1,500 – Globes Project
Friends of Barrowford Library, £640 – Barrowford Library Bench
Friends of Victoria Park, £50 – PL Insurance for events
PBC, £3,081 – Premises Improvement Grants

Total = **£18,015**

REASON

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

43. PENDLE TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Pendle Traffic Liaison Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 were submitted for information.

44. PROVISION OF LITTER/DOG WASTE BINS

An update was given on the provision of litter/dog waste bins in Quarter 1 – 1st April to 31st June 2026 which was noted.

45. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

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

No issues were raised.

[Report It on the go with Love Clean Streets - Lancashire County Council](#)

(b) Outstanding flooding/drainage issues

The following issues have been reported to LCC –

- Excess water reported on several occasions at Park Avenue at the bottom of Lower Parrock Road, Barrowford.
- Flow of water onto the A6068 from the field below Enty's Eats at Pendle Forest Sports Club.

It was reported that Lancashire County Council had cleaned the gullies on Lower Parrock Road in February as part of a 2-year intensive gully cleaning project.

It was reported that, at the meeting of the committee held on 3rd December 2025, Members had been advised that LCC would undertake safeguarding works in relation to the sinkhole located near the Stepping Stones, Roughlee. An update on the progress of the repairs was requested as the sinkhole appeared to be increasing in size.

RESOLVED

That Lancashire County Council be requested to provide an update regarding progress on the repair and safeguarding of the sinkhole near the Stepping Stones, Roughlee.

46. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

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.

47. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report on environmental crime in Barrowford & Western Parishes for information.

Chair _____