

Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council (BPC)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 14th January'26 at the Village Hall

Present: Cllr. D. Heap (Chair) Cllr. D. Goldsbrough Cllr. J. Connor
Cllr. L. Rushworth Cllr. McGregor Cllr. J. Harthan

In Attendance: C A Heap (Clerk & RFO) **Public:**

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| 1 | Apologies: Cllr. G. Grimshaw | Absent: |
| 2 | Councillors Declaration of Interest: None | |
| 3 | To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 10th December 2025. It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting should be APPROVED and that the Chair sign them as a correct record. | |
| 4 | Public Participation: None | |
| 5 | Financial Matters: The following payments were approved / ratified for payment: | |
| | December'25 | Expenditure |
| | 12 | LED & Filament Electrical Light Bulbs Toilet 99.67 |
| | 12 | NVM Lt Gents Toilet Door Handle Repair 168.00 |
| | 15 | Ubiquiti 7No CCTV Cameras G6 1335.60 |
| | 15 | ABC Ltd Xmas Lights & Toilet Block Electrics 630.00 |
| | 17 | PwE Commission 362.03 |
| | 22 | Premier Farnell Handwash Part for Hand dryers 54.91 |
| | 22 | UU Water Toilets 3Nov – 2 Dec. 413.25 |
| | 22 | UU Water Supply Drawing 22.34 |
| | 29 | Gatekeeper Salary 296.00 |
| | 29 | Clerk Salary 525.00 |
| | 29 | RFO Salary 340.00 |
| | 29 | HMRC 174.00 |
| | January 26 | |
| | 2 | Wilkinson December Toilet Clean 390.00 |
| | 8 | Toilet Block LED Floodlight 45.00 |
| | 13 | Octopus Energy Electricity February 51.87 |
| | 14 | ABC Electrical Xmas & Toilets 350.00 |
| | 14 | PwE Commission 352.68 |
| | 14 | Playground & Car Park Clean December 66.50 |
| | 14 | 3No Kosnic LED Lights for Toilets 56.86 |
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| <p>c</p> | <p>Update on Signage – Pendle Lay-By Waste, Resident Parking & Playground Restrictions Signs have been made and are ready for collection. Action Cllr Heap. Permission is required to erect signs at foot of Pendle Hill steps. Action: Cllr McGregor. Erection of playground signs to be progressed. Action: Cllr. Harthan & Goldsbrough.</p> |
| <p>d</p> | <p>Feedback Xmas Decorations 2025 Members agreed they were all satisfied with the Xmas decorations. The Clerk had switched off all lights on 5th January, and the contractor had taken down the VH, Chapel and Santa Sleigh lights on 12th January with the Clerk then drying and storing them. The tree lights were scheduled to be taken down and stored on 18 January. Action Cllr Goldsbrough & Connor assisted by Bob. Hargreaves.</p> |
| <p>e</p> | <p>Double yellow lines on Barley Green - Cllr Grimshaw not present and no update provided.</p> |
| <p>8</p> | <p>Traffic Issues, Turning Area, Car Park & Planned Events Pendle Way in a Day – 7th February from Barley Village Hall – was 250No Runners in 2025. Stan Bradshaw Fell Race – 7 March from Village Hall.</p> |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Reports from Chairman</p> |
| <p>a</p> | <p>Resident Parking Briefing to post on website – Outstanding Action: Cllr Grimshaw</p> |
| <p>b</p> | <p>Update on Playground Inspection Reports – Outstanding Action: Cllr Harthan It was confirmed that reports should be sent to the Clerk each month as evidence they had been done on time (and not retrospectively) should a claim be submitted. Action: Cllr. Harthan. Cllr Harthan and Goldsbrough were planning to meet and discuss the annual inspection report.</p> |
| <p>c</p> | <p>Support from Residents & Gratuities The chairman explained that the Council usually offered gratuities when residents assisted the Council. Residents often refused cash as they were supporting the village but were often more receptive to a gratuity. This was easier for the Council as it reduced the risk of comparisons and bad will, developing. RFO to assess each case and determine an appropriate gratuity in consideration of fair and reasonableness.</p> |
| <p>10</p> | <p>Members to consider an offer from Pendle BC to undertake maintenance work to the playground carpet – Cllr Heap Moss is developing in the astroturf on the playground, and it mentioned in the Annual Playground Inspection Report (Page 15 of 30). A stiff brush and weedkiller are the answer to prevent further spread as reported by PBC and Kompan. Regular brushing is crucial to keep the artificial fibres upright and ensure the sand infill is evenly distributed. Infill Management involves checking sand infill levels regularly and top up as required to maintain the correct playing characteristics and protect the fibres. The use of a mechanical brushing is more effective than hand brushing. The Council has not done any maintenance to the carpet, except sweeping, since the carpet was installed. Pendle BC have offered to treat all the carpet area. Members agreed to progress cleaning, but Cllr McGregor suggested we also invite Lancashire Landscapes to quote as the company is owned by a resident. Action: Cllr McGregor to ask if LL are interested and to inform the RFO of their response. Asap.</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>Members are asked to set the Council Tax Precept for 2026-27. Members agreed, given the Councils positive financial position, to set the tax precept at zero for 2025-2026. Action: RFO to inform Pendle BC.</p> |

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| 12 | <p>Members to agree on future participation in the Lengthsman Scheme – Cllr Heap</p> <p>The chairman reported the Council have been in the scheme for many years and enjoyed a 20% enhancement for every pound we put into the scheme due to supporting funding from others such as Lancs CC i.e. For every £1 put in we got £1.20 value of Lengthsman time. The support funding has now been withdrawn.</p> <p>The Council have the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Continue in the scheme as it is and contribute 15% towards its administration – For every £1 we put in we get £0.85p of Lengthsman work. 2) Go independent and employ a Lengthsman directly – For every £1 we put in we get £1 of Lengthsman time but the scheme will need administering by the PC including insurances, training, risk assessments etc, <p>The Lengthsman provides general maintenance work only including grass cutting, sweeping, pruning, weeding, litter picking and keeping drains cleared etc.</p> <p>Members RESOLVED to join the scheme for a further year and see how it works out. It was acknowledged the scheme could collapse if most PC members withdrew. Action: RFO.</p> |
| 13 | <p>CCTV Events & Maintenance Update - Designated Councillors Grimshaw & Goldsbrough</p> <p>Cllr Goldsbrough confirmed CCTV checks and timings were up to date on the VH and the Farm, but the Toilet Block CCTV had not been maintained during building works.</p> <p>Following recent delays in liaising with the police regarding CCTV footage, members RESOLVED that the Council should look at CCTV footage when a theft has been reported and then inform the police (and residents) if there was any footage of value. The police can then come and look if they wish or we e-mail footage to them if requested using a police link. The target should be to look within 3 days and two of the designated officers should attend.</p> |
| 14 | <p>Clerk & Financial Officers Report</p> <p>Reports to be presented upon Accounts, Financial Matters & Correspondence.</p> <p>The current bank balance was £86,775.90 and after setting aside commitments and reserves, the monies available for the Council to spend is £18.6k.</p> |
| 15 | <p>General Maintenance Issues</p> <p>Cllr Heap reported that he would report the two large potholes at the top of Cross Lane to LCC.</p> |
| 16 | <p>Reports from Councillors & Borough Councillor Reports</p> <p>Pensioners Gifts – Members reported all gifts had been well received.</p> <p>Mary Bland had said she had not received a gift (GG) and JH had an outstanding delivery.</p> <p>Cllr McGreggor reported that the steps up Pendle Hill above his home needed maintenance. He was directed to contact Tom Partridge at Pendle BC. Action: Cllr McGreggor.</p> <p>It was agreed to purchase 2No mole traps for the village green. Action: Cllr Heap.</p> <p>Members declined an invitation to attend the Mayor's Ball on 27 March 2026.</p> |
| 17 | <p>Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 11th February '26 (agenda items by 5th February '26)</p> |