



CATTERALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st July 2025 at 7:00pm at Catterall Village Hall

Present: Cllrs J Finch (Chair), J Bostock, S Bulman, J Mackenzie, K O'Hanlon and P Perks.

In Attendance: E Millington (Clerk and RFO), Wyre Cllr D Swift.

4223 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs I Brayshaw, S Kirkman and L Ormerod and the reason accepted.

4224 Declarations of interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest nor any request for a dispensation for any item on the agenda.

4225 Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2025 be agreed as a correct record.

4226 Public Participation

At the request of the Chair, councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.

Apologies were received from LCC Cllr J Tomlinson and Wyre Cllr D Bolton.

Wyre Cllr Bolton sent the following updates.

Lancashire Devolution / Unitary Authority Restructuring

Progress remains slow on the Lancashire devolution agenda. All previously outlined options—from two to four unitary councils—are still actively under consideration. It has been reaffirmed that no substantive work will take place until the autumn. However, a consensus position must be reached by the end of 2025 in order to align with the government's proposed (and ambitious) 2028 implementation timeline. The target date is considered "incredibly sporty," given the scale of consultation and restructuring required.

Unadopted Land – Blackthorn Avenue

An issue has been raised by a local resident regarding an unadopted and currently unmaintained parcel of land within the new development on Blackthorn Avenue. A review of the submitted documentation is currently underway. Initial impressions suggest that the developer ought to incorporate this parcel into their routine grounds maintenance responsibilities under the existing ground rent or service charge arrangement. Further clarification will be sought from the developer, and updates will follow once reviewed in full.

Cllr Finch gave an update on the Miller Homes attenuation pond, minute 4171 refers. One side of the attenuation pond has been regraded to make it less steep. The pond still needs to be desilted and the inlet is, yet again, filled with debris. Miller Homes have said they will address this.

As part of the drainage survey undertaken by LCC Highways, a broken foul drain was identified on Pentland Place, minute 4137 refers. A report and photos of the issue were given to Miller Homes at the meeting on the 6th March 2025 and also shared with United Utilities. This has still not been resolved by Miller Homes. A deadline for response of the 30th June has been given to Miller Homes. Should the work not be undertaken, United Utilities will repair the drain and Miller Homes be billed for the work.

At the conclusion of the public participation and at the request of the Chair, councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

4227 Christmas Light Switch On 2025

Catterall Parish Council resolved to hold the 2025 Christmas Light Switch On event on Sunday 30th November and approved the booking of Darrel Edwards for sound and event support and the Singspiration Community Choir, minute 4125 refers.

Councillors were asked to form a working party to deliver this year's event.

Any donations from the event are traditionally collected by and given to a local group. Councillors **resolved** to nominate Catterall Rainbows and Catterall Brownies to receive this year's donations.

Last year's budget of £350 was sufficient to deliver the event, with mulled wine, hot drinks, mince pies and children's craft activities.

Councillors **resolved** to approve this year's budget of £350. This is excluding the £375 already committed for sound and event support

4228 Catterall in Bloom – bulb planting

Councillors **resolved** to permit Catterall in Bloom to plant spring bulbs, such as wild daffodils and crocus, around the bug hotel and the benches in the riverbank.

Catterall in Bloom intend to hold a community bulb planting event in the autumn to plant the bulbs.

4229 Play area gates

As reported in last month's Clerks Report, on Wednesday 28th May 2025 an accident happened on the younger children's play area. A child was hit by the gate on the younger children's play area leaving quite a deep cut. The child had to be taken to hospital.

The CCTV footage has been reviewed, and it shows the child passing, unsupervised, through the gate five times in the space of a minute. On the fifth pass through the gate, the child holds the gate much closer to the middle of the gate and appears to run into the end of the gate.

The play areas, including gates, are inspected weekly by the Parish Lengthsman and annually by an external playground inspector. This year's external report stated that 'The gate rebounds when opened quickly and could strike the next user entering the area' however it was considered a low risk.

Playdale have been contacted about the gate and stated that 'These gates are used on thousands of play areas all over the UK, there should not be any reason to replace the gate.' They have recommended adjusting the gate to slow down the speed of closure. When the speed of closure has been adjusted in the past, it always results in the gate remaining slightly ajar rather than closing completely. A quote for replacement springs has been requested, to see if this will allow us to slow the gate down further. Playdale only offer one type of gate making complete replacement seem unproductive.

Councillors reviewed the information above and **resolved** to contact the Parish Council's insurance company for advice on gates and how to move forward.

4230 Bins around the MUGA

The 2025/26 budget included £1,000 to replace the three bins surrounding the MUGA. The current bins are old and damaged and are out of keeping with both the rest of the bins in Catterall and the high standards maintained on the playing field.

Councillors are asked to approve the purchase of three Streamline Jubilee Litter Bin from Gladson UK Ltd at a cost of £997.83 (net). These new bins fit on the current bases.

Councillors **resolved** to proceed with the purchase of new bins

4231 Planning

Planning Applications for consideration and comment:

Application # 25/00484/FUL

Proposal: Proposed construction and installation of a gas governor kiosk enclosing above ground gas pressure reduction infrastructure

Location: Shelley Row, Garstang Bypass Road, Catterall, Lancashire

Councillors **resolved** to offer no objections to this application.

4232 Finance

Receipts (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
Wyre Council	£600.00	Donation to Catterall in Bloom
Catterall Gala Committee	£50.00	Donation to Catterall in Bloom
Ruby Hill	£28.50	Donation to Catterall in Bloom
Unity Trust Bank	£253.49	Bank interest

Payments (for approval)

Payee	Amount	Details
HMRC	£2,109.16	Quarter 1
Police & Crime Commissioner	£150.00	Donation towards a police e-bike, minute 4141 refers
Houghtons Filing Station	£11.70	Fuel – May 25
C & C Supplies	£10.51	Barrier tape and corner brace
A Haxby	£12.25	Catterall in Bloom – photo printing
Haldane Fisher	£3.67	Moulded Valved Cup Respirator
Wyre Council (E Millington expenses)	£110.00	Green waste subscription x 3
M Newton	£214.02	Catterall in Bloom – bedding

		plants, herbaceous perennials, 6 x hi-vis vests, fence paint, volunteer refreshments
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Routine Payments by bank transfer, direct debit and standing order (for noting)

1. Staff Costs for June	£2,837.36
2. LCC Pension	£1,102.65
3. Towers Gornall	£68.40
4. EE phone contract	£22.80
5. Easy websites	£36.96
6. P Hartley (mileage)	£7.20
7. Cheque charges (03/03/25 – 03/06/25)	£2.40

Charge card expenses 28/06/25 (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
Lloyds	£6.00	Charge card fee
Bradshaws	£75.00	Top soil
Bradshaws	£48.00	Bark for around trees

Investments

CCLA investment £75,554.89 at 31st May 2025 (£221.26 reinvested and £15,000 deposited).

Councillors **resolved** to note the receipts, approve the payments and to note the payments by Standing Order, Direct Debit, Charge Card and the reinvested investment receipt.

Statement of Accounts

Councillors **resolved** to accept the May statement and reconciliations for CCLA and the June statement and reconciliations for Unity Trust current, Unity Trust saver and Redwood.

Transfer of Funds

Councillors **resolved** to approve a transfer of £5,000 from Unity saver to Unity current.

Budget Monitoring

None.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**4233 Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives****QEII Playing Field**

None.

LALC Wyre Area Committee

A meeting took place on the 25th June, with updates given by Wyre Council's chief executive and an update on the local plan project by the planning policy manager. During the discussion around Lancashire Devolution/Unitary Authority Restructuring it was suggested that Parish Council's look at assets and land in their parishes that are

owned and maintained by Wyre Council. It was suggested that Parish Council could approach Wyre Council to see if they can take on the responsibility of any assets and land.

Catterall Village Hall

The new electric panel has been installed.

Catterall Gala

Catterall Gala Committee have met to discuss ideas for the 50th anniversary Catterall Gala on 30th May 2026.

A stage is being considered for next year's event. Options for car parking and traffic management are also being investigated.

4234 Clerk's report

Councillors **noted** the information in the Clerk's report.

4235 Action Tracker

Councillors **noted** the information contained in the action tracker.

4236 SPID Report

Councillors **noted** the information contained in June 2025 SPID report from Cock Robin Lane LC6 (north east bound). Only four days of data has been recorded this month due to lengthman annual leave and road works on Cock Robin Lane. This data has been uploaded to the Parish Council website.

The SPID on Garstang Road LC30 (north bound) has been working in June 2025 but the data hasn't been retrieved.

4237 Questions to councillors

None

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8:00pm.