



CATTERALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd September 2025 at 7:00pm at Catterall Village Hall

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

In Attendance: E Millington (Clerk and RFO), Wyre Cllr D Bolton, Wyre Cllr D Swift and 2 members of the public.

4252 Apologies for absence

None.

4253 Declarations of interest and dispensations

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

4254 Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2025 be agreed as a correct record.

4255 Public Participation

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

A member of the public shared their views on the fairground was on Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field, Catterall in August.

The MOP also reported that there are parked cars blocking the pavement on Meadowcroft Avenue, some of which are taxis. Cars parked in dangerous locations should be reported to the police, ideally with photographs.

Wyre Cllr D Bolton gave an update on the Local Plan. Wyre Council are continuing to identify areas suitable for housing despite the Local Government Reform due by 2028.

Cllr Finch gave an update on the Miller Homes attenuation pond. The parish council have been informed that a management company took over responsibility for the green areas and attenuation ponds on the 1st September.

LCC Cllr J Tomlinson gave apologies for absence.

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

4256 Public footpath improvements - Collinson's

Collinson's are in the process of improving the public footpath on their land, by installing a new 2 m wide, hard-wearing limestone surface path. This should be a smooth and durable walking route, which will ensure the Public Right of Way can be

used safely and comfortably all year-round, even in wet weather.

Collinson's have asked for permission to continue the path across the section of Parish Council land to connect up the two sections of new path and to continue the new path to join the perimeter path around the playing field.

Councillors **resolved** to grant permission for the PROW upgrade across parish council owned land and passed on thanks to Collinson's for undertaking the work.

4257 Weed control on Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field

A resident has contacted Catterall Parish Council about the weed killing that takes place on Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field.

"I was delighted this morning whilst walking my dog in the park to see the Cinnabar Moth caterpillars feeding on the ragwort, sadly I didn't see any on the one plant I grow in my garden (there's always next year) and I also noticed that a lot of the wildflowers planted by volunteers earlier this year were also thriving.

However, imagine my dismay to see that you have sprayed weedkiller around the base of all your trees, around the perimeter of the children's playground and as I walked I could see very clearly where you had also sprayed around the whole perimeter of the park!

May I ask why are you promoting the planting of wildflowers on one side of the park but purposefully destroying all other plants including Rose Bay Willow Herb which according to the RHS "their nectar-rich flowers are great for pollinators and many invertebrates feed on the leaves" ?

There are other ways to control the plants you don't wish to encourage such as using a hoe or hand weeding which are safer to all users of the park and the people whose gardens abut the park, or better still, surely these areas could be planted with wildflowers too so as to benefit nature and not annihilate all those plants you don't want - this way there would be no need to spray at all and it would save money in the long run as you wouldn't have to buy pesticides/chemicals anymore.

I have attached a link below for you from Pesticide Action Network (PAN) who have recently carried out a Freedom of Information request to councils across the UK asking about their use of pesticides in public spaces in 2024, they received 368 responses which you can see for yourself on their website or through the link below. It is

<https://www.pan-uk.org/pesticide-free/>

Also, see below a small but not insignificant paragraph from PAN UK website.

Some of these pesticides – including glyphosate which makes up at least 90% of the pesticides used in public spaces – have been linked to the development of cancers and other serious diseases such as Parkinson's. They have also been shown to have devastating impacts on biodiversity, both harming wildlife directly and removing plants relied upon by birds, insects and other animals for food and shelter. These chemicals also run off hard surfaces, contaminating water courses and harming aquatic species.

I am writing to the County and Local Council together with my MP under separate e mail but in the meantime I look forward to hearing from you with your reasoning to my above questions/observations and I look forward to your response."

Catterall Parish Council uses Roundup Provantage a Glyphosate weedkiller to spray n hard to mow areas of Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field. This includes the fence along the back of the houses at Meadowcroft Avenue, around the non-mulched trees, along the bottom of the fence surrounding the little children's play area and around the base of the zip wire.

The side of the playing field edged with the back fences of the houses on Meadowcroft Avenue has traditionally been weed sprayed. The ground is very poor and rocky along the fence line and cannot be cut with the mower and the Lengthsman feels it is too rocky to be cut with a strimmer. In 2024 and 2025, the fence line wasn't weed sprayed to see what it looked like. The plants that grew in the area were very straggly. Both years someone has started to pull the plants out along the fence line, leaving them discarded on the ground. As they appeared to be causing a nuisance, at this point both years the fence line was then sprayed.

Weed killer is used around the zip wire. When this area was strimmed, there were strimmer marks left on the timber supports which was then highlighted on the playground inspection report. This area would be a suitable place to use a combination of strimmer and hand weeding.

Under the trees is a hard to mow or strim area with rough ground and roots. Bark mulch could be used under some of the trees on the dog field, as it already is on the playing field. As a trial the grass under the larger trees could be left to grow, to see what it looks like.

Catterall in Bloom will be consulted regarding a suitable low growing, low maintenance plant for around the little children's play area which won't interfere with any fence maintenance. The Sweet Alyssum planted around the sluice gate fence has been very effective this year and removed an area which had previously been weed sprayed. Something similar would work around the little children's play area, but it would be better if the plant wasn't an annual.

Councillors **resolved** to trial a herbicide free year on Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field in 2026.

4258 James Richards Circus 2026

James Richards Circus would like to return to Catterall in 2026 for the 'back to school' week with performances on the 4th, 5th and 6th September 2026, arriving on site on the 31st August. However they state that this is typically a poor week for ticket sales and have asked if the Parish Council would consider not hiring the playing field out for fun fairs etc in the 3 weeks leading up to their visit.

Councillors **resolved** to approve this request.

4259 Phone contract

The mobile phone contract with EE comes to an end on 12th September 2025. The handset is still fit for use. A monthly rolling contract, of unlimited calls and texts and

20GB of data, with GiffGaff is recommended at a cost of £10.00 (gross) a month. The current parish council phone number will be maintained.

Councillors **resolved** to change of provider.

4260 Planning

Planning Applications for consideration and comment:

Application # 25/00636/FUL
Proposal: Proposed erection of rear dormer and velux window to front elevation.
Location: 25 Cock Robin Lane Catterall Preston Lancashire PR3 1YL

Councillors **resolved** to object to this application on the basis of the second floor rear dormer. The council believes that the dormer bungalows to the rear of the property will be significantly overlooked by the proposed second floor dormer windows.

Application # 25/00686/FUL
Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension and erection of balcony
Location: 53 Meadowcroft Avenue Catterall Preston Lancashire PR3 1ZH

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

4261 Finance

Receipts (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
James Richards Circus	£250.00	Donation towards playing field upkeep
Ruby Hill	£25.00	Donation to Catterall in Bloom

Payments (for approval)

Payee	Amount	Details
Playdale Playgrounds	£273.60	50% deposit – gate spring replacement
PKF Littlejohn LLP	£504.00	Limited assurance review – year end 31 st March 2025
C&C Supplies	£22.25	Limestone gravel and bolt
C&C Supplies	£60.52	Anchors
C&C Supplies	£11.43	Washers
Amazon	£12.80	Bag clips
Garstang Football Club	£30.00	Refund of pitch hire for final week in August due to fun fair
Houghtons Filling Station	£114.76	Fuel – August25
Haldane Fisher	£91.20	Catterall in Bloom – timber posts
M Newton	£230.97	Catterall in Bloom – tree guards, mulch and daffodil bulbs

Routine Payments by bank transfer, direct debit and standing order (for noting)

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|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Staff Costs for August | £2,905.51 |
| 2. LCC Pension | £1,142.44 |
| 3. Towers Gornall | £68.40 |

4. EE phone contract	£22.80
5. Easy websites	£36.96
6. P Hartley (mileage)	£17.10
7. Bank charges (01/08/25 – 31/08/25)	£9.00

Charge card expenses 28/08/25 (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
Lloyds	£6.00	Charge card fee

Investments

CCLA investment £76,088.28 at 31st July 2025 (£266.41 reinvested).

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 July statement and reconciliations for CCLA and the August 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**4262 Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives****QEII Playing Field**

Despite the poor weather, there was no damage to the playing field from the fairground.

LALC Wyre Area Committee

None.

Catterall Village Hall

None.

Catterall Gala

A Jumble Trail fundraiser was organised for the 31st August, and a Halloween event is being held in Catterall Village Hall on the 26th October.

4263 Clerk's report

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

4264 Action Tracker

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

4265 SPID Report

Councillors **noted** the information contained in August 2025 SPID report from Joe Lane (SW bound). This data has been uploaded to the Parish Council website.

The SPID on Garstang Road LC21 (northbound) has been working in August 2025 but the data hasn't been retrieved.

4266 Questions to councillors

None.

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 7:50pm.