



## **CATTERALL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7:00pm at Catterall Village Hall**

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

**In Attendance:** E Millington (Clerk and RFO), Lancashire County Council Cllr S Turner, Wyre Cllr D Bolton and 1 resident.

#### **4134 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Bostock J Finch, J Leech and L Ormerod and the reason accepted.

#### **4135 Declarations of interest and dispensations**

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

#### **4136 Minutes of the last meeting**

Councillors **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be agreed as a correct record.

#### **4137 Public Participation**

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

An update was provided by LCC Cllr S Turner with regards to the ongoing flooding issues on Cock Robin Lane, minute 4105 and 4121 refers.

The survey of the drains and desilting is almost complete. Several issues have been identified including some damaged infrastructure and a United Utilities chamber which is over run. The attenuation ponds on the Miller Homes site were supposed to be eventually handed over to United Utilities but has been built incorrectly.

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

#### **4138 Annual playground inspection 2024**

Councillors **resolved** to accept the 2024 annual playground inspection report for Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field, Catterall (emailed 07th January 2025) and to delegate the responsibility of fulfilling any recommendations to the clerk.

All risks are in the low or very low category, with the exception of a moderate risk on the rope net of the Multi Play tower. Playdale have been contacted, and the net will be replaced week commencing 3rd February.

#### **4139 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field youth shelter (Cllr Brayshaw)**

Cllr Brayshaw suggested that the youth shelter on Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field should be removed.

There has been an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour on the playing field, including the two small fires lit in the youth shelter in November 2024. The youth shelter is used regularly as a place to congregate and some residents have reported feeling unsafe walking past it, especially in the evening.

The youth shelter does require a new roof and has become an eyesore on the playing field. The cost of a new roof has been included in the 25-26 budget.

Councillors **resolved** to remove the youth shelter.

#### **4140 Catterall in Bloom – wildflower sowing on the bank**

Catterall in Bloom have been working on establishing wildflower along the bank at Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field for a number of years. The wildflower have been slow to develop, and advice has been taken. The consensus is that wildflower meadows are very difficult to establish with seed alone and a mixture of plug plants and seeds are recommended.

Catterall in Bloom would like to plant a mix of plugs and sow seed along the bank to improve success. The plugs would need to be planted in bare soil at a ratio of 5-7 plants per square metre. Catterall in Bloom would need to remove the turf from a number of square metre plots, then sow the seed on and around these areas. This will help identify where growth is happening and also ease watering if required.

The plugs planted will be in line with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust biodiversity report, written for Catterall Parish Council in 2022 and will be a mix of Oxeye Daisy, Knapweed and Geranium Pratensis.

Councillors **resolved** to approve this request.

This year Catterall in Bloom are holding a wildflower seed sowing event on Saturday 22nd March 2025, 2pm to 5pm, to involve the wider community in the project.

#### **4141 Donation request - Police E-bike**

The following message has been received from Sergeant Elliot Jones;

*“Happy New Year. I hope you all are well, and I hope that 2025 brings peace and a safe environment for all.*

*I come to you today cap in hand with an ask for the coming spring. I am on a drive to get some Electric assisted bikes for the PCs/PCSOS in your community. I feel I have spoken about the staffing at length now to you all, but I also have mobility issues. I have been conducting research into the use of E-Bikes. This will enable my staff to get around easier and further when we have vehicle issues, but more importantly, to go places that our cars cannot. Many times, with e-scooters, Bikes. E-bikes and ASB we are dealing with parks, paths, and alleys. The engagement in school, and the awareness and safety options for children they would offer is irreplaceable.*

*I have been doing research into this last year, and in the East of the County there is a Neighbourhood team who secured some bikes, and they are proving effective. I have been seeking funding from business, and spoke to some trusts, I feel like I am in a position to secure 2 bikes at this time, but ideally, I require 2 more. It is these 2 which*

*will serve this area, the others (which I believe I have secured funding for) will service Poulton, Fleetwood and Thornton-Cleveleys.*

*I must think out of the box, and this is why I would like to ask each Parish Council for a nominal sum of money to help me achieve my goal.*

*My ask is for £150 from each Parish to help me towards this objective. It's a small amount but combined it proves powerful and gives me the funds to secure these 2 bikes for my/our area. I would be grateful if you could raise this and give it consideration. Please don't underestimate the benefit this could bring. My objective has been clear from the day I took over. To get my staff out and about, show a presence and keep the residents safe. I have fought for staff, and I've ensured a good showing at these meetings. I really want to do things different, so I have to think different. The public purse is empty, and so by combining these small amounts collectively I really think I can make a difference.*

*The social media side would be powerful, what a great way to promote the partnership of us all with an event to roll out these bikes, and with business support and Parish support of nominal amounts I feel this could be a new way to work. I would look to do a launch of these bikes with the Council and make a bit of a song and dance about it. I think all partners together would be wonderful*

*Thanks for the consideration, and I would be happy to discuss anything if required"*

Councillors **resolved** to donate £150.00 towards a police E-bike.

#### **4142 A6 speed limit**

A resident has contacted the parish council with grave concerns about the 50mph speed limit on the A6 through Catterall and asks if work can be done to lower the speed limit.

This follows from reports of a road accident at 8:30pm on 24th January where a van travelling north collided with the back of a bicycle. The cyclist was thrown from the bike, suffered a serious head injury and later died in hospital.

It is not known if speed was a factor in this particular collision but the A6 is difficult for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians with the intermittent cycle lane and road narrowing by the pedestrian refuge islands. The A6 through Catterall is used regularly by cyclists and is crossed by many pedestrians each day, including many children on the way to school.

The parish council understands that a wider A6 strategy is being developed, which may amongst other things include a reduction to the speed limit, improved cycle lanes and improved crossing points. Delivery of this A6 strategy is still several years away.

Councillors **resolved** to ask LCC Cllr Shaun Turner if he could enquire about the possibility of reducing the speed limit ahead of delivery of the complete A6 strategy.

### 4143 Government Consultation: Strengthening the Standards and Conduct Framework for Local Authorities in England

Catterall Parish Council are invited to respond to the government consultation on introducing a mandatory minimum code of conduct for local authorities in England, and measures to strengthen the standards and conduct regime in England to ensure consistency of approach amongst councils investigating serious breaches of their member codes of conduct, including the introduction of the power of suspension.

Councillors **resolved** to delegate response to the Clerk. Councillors agreed that there should be a prescribe a mandatory minimum code of conduct for local authorities in England and that there should be sanctions, such as suspension, for elected members for who breach the code of conduct.

Councillors are encouraged to send individual responses to the consultation alongside the Parish Council's response.

### 4144 Planning

#### Planning Applications for consideration and comment:

**Application #** 24/01080/FUL

**Proposal:** Proposed steel-framed double garage clad in timber.

**Location:** Highfield, Stones Lane, Catterall, Preston, Lancashire

Councillors **resolved** to object to this planning application on the basis of the proposed 4100 height of the garage. Most of the properties on the north side of Stones Lanes are bungalows and it is felt that a garage with a height of 4100 would create a visual intrusion to the neighbouring properties.

### 4145 Finance

#### Receipts (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
Myerscough Juniors FC	£600.00	Pitch hire

#### Payments (for approval)

Payee	Amount	Details
Clarke and Pulman	£33.11	Trimmer head
Houghtons Filing Station	£73.00	Fuel – December 24
Edge IT Systems	£39.60	New email address setup – K O'Hanlon
Playdale	£1,196.80	Replacement climbing net and installation
Amazon	£34.77	Disposable gloves, hand sanitiser, GT85 spray
Amazon	£15.65	Bleach
Amazon	£17.63	Disposable gloves, screwdriver bits
Amazon	£14.98	D ring shackles
Amazon	£10.22	Water butt lid
Amazon	£14.73	Bolts for MUGA

Mrs M Newton	£118.27	Catterall in Bloom - Weed control membrane, meeting refreshments, RHS Liability insurance
Swinton Insurance (PH Expenses)	£433.03	Van insurance 05/02/25 – 04/02/26

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

1. Staff Costs for January	£2,846.16
2. LCC Pension	£1,102.65
3. Towers Gornall	£68.40
4. EE phone contract	£22.80
5. Easy websites	£ 36.96
6. ICO - Data protection fee	£47.00
7. P Hartley (mileage)	£6.30
8. Bank charges (01/01/25 – 31/01/25)	£8.25

**Charge card expenses 27/01/25** (for noting)

Payee	Amount	Details
Lloyds	£6.00	Charge card fee

**Investments**

None.

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 January statement and reconciliation for Unity current, Unity saver and Redwood.

**Transfer of Funds**

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

**Budget Monitoring**

None.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY****4146 Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives****QEII Playing Field**

None.

**LALC Wyre Area Committee**

The LALC Wyre Area Committee AGM was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025. A speaker briefed the committee on the Lancashire Best Kept Village competition.

**Catterall Village Hall**

The village hall is as busy as ever.

**Catterall Gala**

Catterall Gala are currently going through the process of selecting a Gala Queen or King and their retinue.

**4147 Clerk's report**

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

**4148 Action Tracker**

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

**4149 SPID Report**

Councillors **noted** the information contained in the January 2025 SPID report from LC48 Garstang Road (southbound) and Post Joe Lane (SW bound).

This data has been uploaded to the Parish Council website and reported to Lancashire Road Safety Partnership.

**4150 Questions to councillors**

Cllr J Mackenzie asked if councillors felt that a bike rack should be provided on the playfield for people to lean their bikes against whilst using the MUGA. This will be added to the March agenda.

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