

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: J. Harvey, Bouskill, Yans Lane, Storth, LA7 7LJ Tel: 015395 62970 e: clerk@beetham-pc.gov.uk
<https://www.beetham-pc.gov.uk>

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7pm on
Monday 2nd February 2026 at Beetham School

Present: Cllrs Greifenberg (Chair), Duff, Phelan, Gardner, Meakin
W+F Cllr Audland Clerk: Jessica Harvey

(To be presented for acceptance at the Parish Council meeting on 2nd March 2026)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Low and Clark. Cllr Low's apology was ACCEPTED; Cllr Clark's apology was NOT ACCEPTED. It was NOTED that Cllr Clark's constant absences due to work commitments, despite the meeting dates being published well in advance, must be interfering with his role as councillor.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 5th January 2026

The minutes were APPROVED and signed by the Chair.

4. Councillor vacancies

4.1 It was NOTED that Cllr Low had signed his Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interests prior to the meeting

4.2 It was NOTED that there has been one expression of interest in co-option for the vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr Knowles.

5. Public Participation/Open Session

Cllr Audland INFORMED Cllrs that:

- there is still a degree of uncertainty regarding the budget to be received from central government
- there are concerns about M6 closures and the size of Solar Panel applications alongside it
- Rachel Jepson, Forestry England, is prepared to speak with residents about the reinstatement of footpaths in the woods of Burntbarrow Plantation if Cllrs can ascertain the level of interest

9.4 Cllr Audland PROPOSED arranging a Q+A session for Cllrs with a representative from Highways so that Cllrs could feed back to residents about their traffic concerns

12.4 Cllr Audland PROPOSED that he visit residents in Farleton to canvas views on the proposed boundary change. Cllr Phelan AGREED to accompany him.

Cllr Audland then left the meeting

6. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No members of the public were present

7. Financial matters (Appendix A)

7.1 The detailed payments were APPROVED and 2 payments authorised under Section 14 not listed previously.

66	ARAG LAW SOLICITORS	29/01/26	17000.00	0.00	17000.00
67	HMRC - PAYE/NI	29/01/26	5107.70	0.00	5107.00

7.2 Detailed bank receipts and balances to 31st January 2026 were NOTED

7.3 It was NOTED that the cash book reconciled to the bank statements

7.4 The current expenditure against budget was NOTED

7.5 The closure of the Barclays Bank Savings Account was AUTHORISED

8. Applications for Development

8.1 Applications were NOTED

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8.2 No observations had been SUBMITTED by the clerk

8.3 Decisions were NOTED

9. Progress reports

9.1 It was AGREED that Beetham in Bloom would manage the grass around the stocks in Beetham and on Hale Green, to be cut just annually. The clerk was asked to INVESTIGATE official designation as a village green and the formation of a Parish Council sub-group.

9.2 It was AGREED to ask ASNL to remove the padlock from the cutting gate to allow greater access for all

9.3 It was NOTED that arrangements for the new format Parish Assembly are well under way and AGREED to order 50 A4 and 250 A5 posters

9.4 Parish traffic concerns were COVERED by Cllr Audland

9.5 The actions so far and the fact that there would be more after 12th March were NOTED

9.6 It was AGREED to continue using Beetham School for meetings, that there be no meetings in August and September and to move the Parish Assembly to May 2027, clerk to produce the calendar for the next year for the website.

10. Policy Review Group

The Councillor Expenses policy was APPROVED, Clerk to post on website

11. Parish Land Working Group

11.1 The Parish Steward Program of works was NOTED, with changes to cuts as AGREED in 9.1

11.2 The detailed information regarding the plot was NOTED and it was DECIDED that no changes were necessary.

Clerk was asked to check the insurance cover for works by Cllrs or voluntary working parties.

12. New matters for consideration

12.1 It was AGREED that the clerk would work through the checklist and produce a report on the shortfall for the next meeting

12.2 It was DECIDED that a Parish Review produced by the Chair be included as part of the Parish Assembly

12.3 It was AGREED that the end of March would be the completion date for the mandatory Cllr Data Security Training. Clerk was asked to forward an additional training video to complement the ICO training already circulated

12.4 The draft W + F Community Governance was COVERED by Cllr Audland.

12.5 Cllr Statements of Assurance were RECEIVED from all present Cllrs.

13. Clerk's report

The Clerk's report was NOTED. No questions were asked

14. Personnel Matter

Councillors AUTHORISED the clerk to carry out actions necessary to draw the matter to a conclusion.

15. Agenda for the next meeting

Agenda to include Councillor training

16. Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting was CONFIRMED as Monday 2nd March at Storth Church

Meeting closed at 9:10pm