

Tatham Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 7.30pm
The Old School, Lowgill, LA2 8PS

Present:

Councillors R. Wilson (Chair), S.Wattam, A. Taylor, R. Parker.
Lancaster City Councillors, J. Pritchard, P. Jackson.
Lancashire County Councillor, S. Crimmins.
Clerk, M Brady

Fire Evacuation and Safety

Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes per member of the public and 30 minutes maximum*).

None present.

Apologies for Absence.

25/105 Apologies were received from Councillor Osborne, these were noted.

Declarations of interest and dispensations

25/106 None

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025

25/107 It was resolved the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025 be approved.

Review and approve the Health and Safety Policy

25/108 The Health and Safety Policy was reviewed and resolved to approve.

To receive a report on The parish and Town Council Meeting with Lancashire C.C. by Councillor Osborne including Rural Affairs, Highways Road Safety and issues around Devolution and reorganisation.

25/109 Councillor Osborne was unable to attend the meeting and provided a written report which was read out by the Chair. Council thanked Councillor Osborne for attending the annual Parish and Town Council meeting on behalf of Tatham Parish Council and for the comprehensive report which Council resolved to receive.

To apply for a grant from The Champion for Rural Affairs to replace and re sign the road signs owned by the Parish.

25/110 It was resolved that the Clerk contact Highways to confirm ownership of the signs and if necessary apply for a Champions Grant from Lancashire County Council to replace two signs on Slaidburn Road and one at Ivah.

To receive and review the Community Emergency Plan.

25/111 Councillors had received a draft of the Community Emergency Plan for review prior to the meeting. Council thanked Councillor Wattam for progressing the CEP and resolved the CEP would be formally adopted at the next Parish Council meeting with Councillor Wattam appointed as Interim Lead representing the Parish Council.

To consider the recent Communication from Lancashire Archives.

25/112 Lancashire Archives had contacted the Clerk to advise they were able to offer archive facilities to the Parish Council for the Minute Books. It was agreed Tatham Historical Society be contacted to confirm which Minute Books had been photographed and arrange for those to be taken to Lancashire Archives, the remainder to be stored at Bentham Town Hall.

To review the response from Councillor Goldsworthy, Lancashire County Council regarding the axing of the Local Delivery Plan and whether alternative funding would be provided for Parish Councils.

25/113 Council were disappointed to learn there had been no response from Councillor Goldsworthy. Council were advised Lancashire County Council Public Rights of Way had indicated supply of materials would continue to Parish Local Delivery Scheme. This was welcome as the materials and Footpath Volunteer Scheme members had enabled significant improvement works to footpaths within the Parish. Councillor Crimmins, who was present at the Parish meeting, offered to take a copy of the letter to discuss with Councillor Goldsworthy.

Recent Planning Applications – NONE

25/114 It was noted there were no planning applications to discuss.

Finance

Receipts

- HMRC VAT Refund 2024-25 £96.19

Payments to approve

The Old School (Nov)	£20.00
Clerk's Salary October/November	£361.66
Lengthsman September	£160.00
Lengthsman October	£165.00
ICO Registration Renewal (due Jan)	£52.00.

25/115 The receipt and payments were approved.

To review and approve the current budget position.

25/116 It was resolved to approve the current budget position as presented.

Draft Budget for 2026-27. To review initial draft and confirm any changes ahead of final approval.

25/117 A review of the spend to date and projected final costs for the year 2025-26 was presented. Various proposals were discussed for the Clerk to incorporate into a draft 2026-27 budget for circulation and final approval at the January 2026 meeting.

To review the bank mandate and update as agreed.

25/118 Financial Regulations require review of the levels of authority assigned to Clerk and Councillors. Changes to these were agreed and a revised mandate to be signed and implemented.

For Information

25/119 Reports were received and noted.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

25/120 It was resolved the date and time of the next meeting will be Tuesday 20th January 2026 at the Church of St. James the Less, Tatham, LA2 8NH

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

*see Standing Orders 3 (f) and 3 (g)