Tatham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting commencing at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at the Church of St James the Less, Tatham LA2 8NH.

Present:
Councillors R. Wilson (chair), R. Parker, A. Taylor, S. Wattam.
Councillors J. Pritchard (Lancaster City Council), S, Crimmins, (Lancashire County Council).
Two members of the public.
Clerk. M Brady.

26/065 Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes per member of the public and 30 minutes maximum*)
A member of the public advised he wished to speak about the water supply at The Old School. The Chair advised this matter was an agenda item for discussion later in the meeting.

26/066 Apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Councillor B. Osborne.

26/067 Declarations of interest and dispensations
None

For Decision

26/068 To consider and approve the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 21st July 2026
The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st July were approved.

26/069 To review and approve Council Standing Orders and Sub Committees. (To be read on the P.C. web site)
Council Standing Orders and Sub Committees were reviewed and approved.

26/070 To review and approve Financial Regulations. (To be read on the P.C. web site)
Financial regulations were reviewed and approved.

26/071 To review and approve the Complaints Policy. (To be read on the P.C. website)
The Complaints Policy was reviewed and approved.

26/072 To consider the quote received for repair of the signpost at Ivah.
Members considered the estimate received. It was noted the difficulty in obtaining suitable materials had increased the cost significantly and exceeded the planned budget. Members agreed to explore additional sources, Councillor Crimmins also offered to seek assistance. Councillor Wilson advised the volunteers would be able to install the post, which would

reduce the overall cost. It was resolved a further estimate would be sought for sourcing the fingers and fitting.

26/073 To continue the attempt to get metal railings in the Parish restored by the Payback team run by Lancashire Probation Service and to continue the dialogue with Lizzie Collinge MP, to speed up the unresolved Health and Safety issues and the need for Welfare Services, which is impractical in most rural settings.
Members were advised rubbing down rusted paintwork and repainting were considered to be high risk activities and outside the scope of the Payback Team. Members were also advised of the requirement for welfare facilities to be available within 20 minutes from the work location, which means the Community Payback Team are unlikely to be able to work in rural areas. This had been brought to the attention of the MP, Lizzie Collinge. It was agreed that Councillor Osborne continue dialogue with the MP and Community Payback

26/074 To support the Management Committee of Tatham Old School in requesting that United Utilities provide mains water to the building. It was noted that at the recent Community Liaison Group with HARP that there is a fund to support local good causes.
Councillor Parker advised he had raised this and the contractor, Cascade, would be setting up the fund. The Management Committee of the Old School were advised to obtain a quote for a new mains water connection and use this to submit a grant application to Cascade. It was agreed that Council would continue to attend the Community Liaison Group and advise when Cascade have set up the fund.

26/075 To receive a report from Councillor Wattam regarding the recurring blockage of Knott Hill lane (church lane) and damage to Glenn Cottage by LCC vehicles and to decide how this can be progressed.
Councillor Wattam advised there have been three incidents this year. In May 2025 Council contacted Highways regarding Knott Hill Road being used by commercial vehicles and damage to property. Highways advised the road already featured 'unsuitable for HGV' signage at each end, however Council considered the incidents and damage this year and resolved to ask Highways to further review and advise whether any additional preventative measures could be provided. It was agreed Councillor Wattam obtain the photographic evidence of damage and vehicles and forward to the Clerk, who will send to Highways and Councillor Crimmins.

26/076 Recent Planning Applications
None

Finance
26/077 To approve the payments as listed.

St James the Less Room hire (Sept)	£ 20.00
Salary	£361.66
Parish Online Mapping	£ 54.00
Lengthsman August	£185.00
Patrick Internet *	£ 29.99

(* reimbursement)

Resolved to approve the payments as listed.

26/078 To review and approve the current budget position.

Resolved to approve the current budget position and bank account. Resolved to transfer £5000 to an interest bearing reserve account.

26/079 To take steps to recruit new councillors to fill existing vacancies.

Members were advised a completed application form would be submitted before the next meeting. Councillors welcomed this news and considered whether an open day for residents and councillors to meet would help fill the remaining vacancy. It was agreed the Clerk would bring a draft proposal to the next meeting.

For Information

26/080 To receive and note verbal reports from Councillors

Public rights of way

Health

Highways

The verbal reports were noted.

26/081 To receive a report from the Clerk and review the decision taken on the 17th March 2026

It was resolved to continue to apply the sanction decision taken on the 17th March 2026 and to review again in six months.

26/082 To agree the time and date of the next Parish Council Meeting be held at 7.30pm Tuesday 17th November 2026 at The Old School, Lowgill, LA2 8PS

Resolved that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 7.30 pm, Tuesday 17th November 2026, at The Old School, Lowgill, LA2 8PS
The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:	**Date:**

Chairman	

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