

PARISH OF NETHER KELLET

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Congregational Church
Hall on Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7:00 pm.**

Present:

Councillor Mrs J Bentham (Chair)
Councillor Mr M Uttley (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Mr C Halhead
Councillor Mrs S Mason
Councillor Mr D Whitaker
Councillor Mr I Williams
Councillor Mr M Winrow

In attendance:

Adrian Osmotherley - Parish Clerk
Stephen Hinde - Village Hall Chair
The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

20460 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies were received from Halton-with-Aughton and Kellet Ward Councillor James Sommerville and County Councillor Phillippa Williamson.

20461 **MINUTES:**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2024 be approved.

20462 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

There were no declarations of interest.

20463 **ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION & INFORMATION ONLY UPDATES:**

(i) **Public discussion:**

There were no residents or members of the general public in attendance.

(ii) **Clerk report and correspondence:**

The proposed Parish Council meeting dates for 2025 have been passed to Councillors for their information.

The identification plaques for the Derbyshire Environmental Trust and the Lancashire Environmental Fund have been erected in the play area.

Confirmation and photos of the plaques have been forwarded to both organizations with thanks on behalf of the Parish Council for their funding and support.

The flooding issue at the entrance/exit from the quarry onto Back Lane raised by Councillor Winrow at the December meeting has been passed to County Councillor Phillippa Williamson for discussion with the Lancashire County Council highways team. The standing water on the carriageway seems to be following the surfacing work carried out by Lancashire County Council. The carriageway surface levels at the kerb edge are not allowing surface water to flow into the nearby road gully. Councillor Winrow advised that a drainage channel has been installed in the carriageway adjacent to the kerb to take standing water to the nearby gully. This has not, however, fully resolved the issue. Councilor Winrow advised he would forward some photos of the standing water to the Parish Clerk.

(iii) **and reports since the last meeting including:**

1) **LALC:**

The next regional Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC) meeting is planned for the 15.01.2025.

2) **QUARRY:**

Councillor Williams advised that the hedge adjacent to the public footpath between Hilltop Lane and Longdales Lane requires cutting back. The Parish Clerk advised that he would report this to Tarmac who have historically maintained this section of hedge.

3) **TWINNING ASSOCIATION:**

Nothing to report.

4) **FLY-TIPPING:**

There had been no issues/incidents reported since the last meeting.

5) **PRoW:**

All PRoW are currently very wet but in the main passable. The PRoW at Dunald Mill is extremely wet at the moment and not passable using normal walking boots. A discussion was held by Councillors, and it was agreed that this stretch of PRoW would be strengthened using a hard-core stone material in the spring when the weather and ground conditions improve.

The four kissing gates between Bottom Gardeners Hill and Cattle Bridge and the two kissing gates at the top of Laithbutts Lane that all require repairs have now been assessed for repair by Lancashire County Council PRoW Team. Repairs will be carried out once the PRoW Team have materials resource available.

6) **VILLAGE HALL:**

Stephen Hinde advised that the New Year party was a great success and was attended by over 70 residents. Bingo, Darts and Pool events are being planned for the coming months.

7) **PROJECTS:**

Nothing to report.

8) **B4RN:**

Nothing to report.

9) **LENGTHSMAN REPORT:**

The Lengthsman monthly Time and Works Record sheet for December 2024 had been received and passed to Councillors in advance of the meeting for information. Summary of works carried out were as follows; Weekly visual checks to the play area completed. Removal of the Christmas tree and lights. Erection of the two plaques in the play area.

10) **GRASS/VERGE CUTTING:**

Nothing to report.

11) **OTHER MATTERS:**

The Chair suggested that Lizzie Collinge MP be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting at some point during 2025. A discussion was held by Councillors, and it was agreed this was a good suggestion. The Parish Clerk said that he would contact her office with details of future meeting dates along with a request for her to attend.

Stephen Hinde advised that the current stock of emergency equipment that is held at the Village Hall is now quite dated. Stephen had tried to contact Lancaster City Council (LCC) who had originally supplied the equipment but had not received a response. The Parish Clerk advised that he would discuss this with LCC. The Parish Clerk requested the current inventory of equipment. Stephen advised that he would provide this.

20464 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS/TRAFFIC ORDERS:**

Application No:	Description & Site Address
24/0248/TCA	Fell to ground level small conifer tree and prune and reduce height of Magnolia. 5 Ashmeadow Grove, Nether Kellet, LA6 1EW.

The Parish Clerk advised that there had been one new notice of intention to carry out tree works since the last meeting. Details of the above notice had been sent to Councillors for their comment in advance of the meeting. The Parish Council unanimously supported the notice.

20465 **PLANNING AUTHORITY DECISIONS:**

The Planning Applications Comments and Decisions December 2024 document had been updated and passed to all Councillors in advance of the meeting. The Parish Clerk advised that since the last meeting application **24/00851/FUL** was permitted on the 09.12.2024. Application **24/01022/FUL** was also permitted on the 20.12.2024.

20466 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

Description	Amount £
Mr A Osmotherley Clerks fees and expenses - December 2024	£480.04
HMRC Payroll Payment for Parish Clerk Salary - December 2024	£112.00
HMRC payroll payment for Parish Clerk Salary - Paid directly by A Osmotherley Parish Clerk due to late authorisation of accounts Payment	£107.00
Mr M Ashton Lengthsman fees and expenses - December 2024	£16.00
Lloyds Bank Master Card Account Service Charge - December 2024	£3.00

Copies of all invoices had been passed to Councillors in advance of the meeting for their information. After a discussion and explanation of the invoiced details by the Parish Clerk it was **RESOLVED** that all the above payments be made.

20467 **To consider the Precept application for the period 01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026**

The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that he had provided details of forecasted expenditure for the period up to 31.03.2025 as well as forecasted expenditure for the period 01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026. In addition to this the Parish Clerk had provided Councillors with financial figures relating to the value of precept based on percentage increases ranging from 5% to 15%, and the impact this would have on the Council Tax base rate that would be payable by households within the Parish. A discussion was held by Councillors, and it was majority agreed that an increase of only 5% would be added to the Precept for the current period 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025. The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that the precept for the period

01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026 would be £12,699.75 based on a 5% increase. Councillors majority supported this increase. The Parish Clerk advised that he would now apply for a Precept value of £12,699.75 for the period 01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026.

20468 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Congregational Church Hall on **Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 7.00pm.**

The Parish Council meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Clerk of the Council: *A Osmotherley*

Date: 10.01.2025

Chair: *J Bentham*

Date: 10.01.2025