

# CABUS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Cabus Parish Council meeting held at Cabus Village Hall on  
Monday 11 March 2024 at 7:30pm

**Record of members present:** Parish Cllrs R Hastings, A Birchall-Farr, M Houghton, L Jackson and T Suart

**In attendance:** Wyre Borough Councillors Sir R Atkins, Lady D Atkins and Mrs A Collinson; Lancashire County Cllr S Turner; L Banton (Parish Clerk), Paul Whitaker (Lengthsman)

**One member of the public was present.**

**2357. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2358. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

It was resolved that the minutes of the last meeting of Cabus Parish Council (08.01.24) be approved.

**2359. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none**

**2360. CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS – PROACTIVE MEASURES - STANDING ITEM**

Noted that a number of climate emergency measures would be considered in the body of the agenda.

**2361. NOTICE OF A CASUAL VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR**

It was noted that following the resignation of Mrs J Slater, there was now a Parish Councillor Vacancy.

**2362. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - The meeting was adjourned to allow for a period of public discussion.**

Police – no police present

Wyre Borough Council – Cllr Lady D Atkins reported that Wyre Borough Council would be undertaking an asset review next year which would include the Hospital Field; bus stop upgrades – to be followed up. Cllrs Lady Atkins and Mrs Collinson left the meeting at this point. Cllr Sir R Atkins reported that Climate Change was now a subcommittee of Wyre Borough Council and a Task Group would be meeting with Lancashire County Council to discuss electric vehicle charging. In response to a question on Solar Panel Farms and where these sit within the Climate Strategy, Cllr Sir R Atkins indicated that the lead would be taken from the Government.

Lancashire County Council – County Cllr Turner encouraged everyone to continue reporting pot holes and flooded roads. A number of locations were brought to the attention of Cllr Turner including the maize field run off water onto the A6. Cllr Turner provided an update on the Combined County Authority devolution deal involving Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council which if approved would transfer new money and powers to the newly created Authority allowing it to tackle key local priorities.

Lengthsman – Mr Whitaker reported on his work within the Parish which included: clearing mud off the footpaths and power washing the areas, drain gully clearance, removal of storm damage branches, litter picking, securing the bench near Crofters which had been re-sited onto a new concrete flag by contractors and re-charging the speed sign batteries to still if still a viable asset (to be discussed at next Parish Council meeting). Mr Whitaker was thanked for all his work.

**Cabus Nook Lane Pot Holes and Tarmac Deterioration** – the member of the public present raised the poor quality of work being undertaken by contractors at this location and was invited to try and take a note of who the contractors might be so Lancashire Highways could investigate.

**The meeting was reconvened at 8.35pm.**

The member of the public and Cllrs Sir R Atkins and S Turner left the meeting at this point.

**2363. REPORTS/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1. Tree Planting Project** – members of the working group were invited to contact potential suppliers of a plaque and plinth for the completed Royal Canopy Project and to seek quotes.
- 2. Hedgehog Highway Project** – it was noted that an invitation had been received to participate in the project which would involve the purchasing of a box of hedgehog highway surrounds (£150 + postage). It was resolved that the Clerk gather information as to whether there was demand in the local community for hedgehog highway surrounds.
- 3. Wildflower Areas** – it was resolved to purchase 25 primroses within a budget envelope of £35 +vat

4. **Bus shelters** – the following was noted: Wyre Borough Councillor Lady D Atkins would be pursuing an update from Wyre Borough Council on possible bus shelter upgrades to the Snapewood/A6 bus shelters; the Parish Clerk had submitted a complaint to Lancashire County Council over the premature painting of yellow bus stop clearway lines at the Graham Road bus stops and objected to the introduction of one of the bus stop clearways on the basis that it encroached upon the privacy of a nearby residential property if buses stopped at the front end of the clearway. The matter would be considered at a forthcoming cabinet meeting of Lancashire County Council.
5. **Wyre Draft Climate Change Strategy** – Cllr Birchall-Farr and Cllr Jackson had attended the stakeholder event held in February 2024 and reported that feedback had been sought from attendees on what might be missing from the proposed strategy. Some useful contacts had been made and Cllr Birchall-Farr would be providing information to these contacts on the potential Solar Farm application in Cabus.

**2364. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**It was resolved that the following be authorised for payment.**

PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	CHQ NO.
HMRC	4 <sup>th</sup> Qrt Tax	£241.40	001022
L Banton	Clerk's expenses: Broadband (Feb-March= £34.50) & Salary adjustment (x2 mths=£123.96)	£158.46	001023
Npower Commercial Gas	Christmas Lights 23/24 unmetered useage	£35.60	001024
P Whitaker	Lengthsman work (08.01.24-11.03.24)	£252.00	001025

**TO NOTE AUTHORISED PAYMENTS SINCE LAST MEETING**

Clerk's Salary - £260 (26 January 2024) and £260 (26 February 2024)

2 **BUDGET UPDATE 23/24** - the accounts were reviewed and noted

**2365. GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT – 2024/25**

The Clerk was authorised to offer an extension of the current grass cutting contract for a further 12 months.

**2366. GOVERNANCE RELATED – PARISH COUNCIL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

It was resolved to re-affirm the following to ensure compliance with para 1.26 of the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Guide 2023 (which also pertains to Assertion 3 of the Audit Governance Statement):

- the [cabusparishcouncilclerk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cabusparishcouncilclerk@hotmail.co.uk) email account is owned by Cabus Parish Council
- the maintenance of the account is transferable in accordance with respective delegated authorities which might be in force as and when required, the Parish Clerk has delegated authority for the maintenance and management of the email account
- the email account is used solely for Cabus Parish Council business

**2367. PLANNING RELATED – Solar Panel Farm – Screening Opinion (24/00006/SCRE)**

It was noted that the proposed Solar Panel Farm Screening Opinion was on the Wyre Borough Council Planning Application website but Cabus Parish Council had not been invited to comment despite being a statutory consultee. Clerk to investigate.

**2368. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Monday 13 May 2024 at 7.00pm for the Annual Parish Council Meeting followed at 7.30pm by the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting in Cabus Village Hall

**The meeting closed at 9:20pm.**

Signed: .....  
Chair of Cabus Parish Council

Date.....