



Up Holland Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB(Hons), MA, CiLCA
1 Pinewood, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 6UZ

Mobile: 07973340254

e-mail: clerk@uphollandpc.gov.uk

website: uphollandparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Minutes of the meeting of Up Holland Parish Council held on **Tuesday 9th December 2025 at 7.30pm** in the Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill, WN8 ONR.

Present: Cllr Neil Smith (Chairman), Cllr Helen Johnston, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Gill Sinnott, Cllr Nigel Swales, Cllr Richard Taylor, Cllr Linda Jones.

Public participation: no items raised.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Jenny Whiting, Cllr Neil Pye, Cllr Alex Stoddart and Cllr Andrew Grant.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 11th November 2025

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Financial Matters:

- **Consideration of Applications for Grant Support for PTA's**

It was resolved to issue a full grant of £500 to St Thomas the Martyr School for the creation of a forest school. Tony Melia, Senior Planning Officer (Section 106 / Community Infrastructure Levy) confirmed by email that these grants can be funded from Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy and the parish council budget is therefore unaffected.

- **Accounts for ratification and payment**

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| Parish Online | 271125 | Website costs | 87 | £672.00* |
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| CPRE | 271125 | Membership fee 0685268 | 88 | £36.00 |
| TreeKings | 021125 | Rear of Lawns Ave tree prune | 89 | £750.00 |
| Methodist Church | 131225 | Room hire general meetings | 90 | £20.00 |
| St Teresa's School | 151225 | Grant for forest school | 91 | £500.00 |
| Wm Fernandez | 161225 | Cleaning 3 noticeboards | 92 | £15.00 |
| NEST | 261225 | Pension payment December | 93 | £232.64 |
| HMRC | 241225 | Tax and NI payments | 94 | £426.70 |
| E A Broad | 241225 | Salary, expenses | 95 | £1,579.52 |
| Yates Playgrounds | 251225 | Play area inspections | 96 | £352.00* |
| Unity Trust | 301225 | Bank charges – monthly | 97 | £8.00 |

*contains VAT (recoverable)

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

5. To record any police issues

A motorized scooter dumped at Mill Lane Play Area was reported to the police. It was removed by council members.

6. Ward Reports: Update the meeting on issues Councillors are attending to

Mill Lane Play Area: installation of the new equipment is underway.

Chequer Lane: recent heavy rain fall coupled with the HGVs working on the former Ravenhead Brickworks have made the road very muddy, all the way past the Lancashire Manner. Homes adjacent and opposite and their cars are covered in mud. Washers are on site but are either inadequate or not being used. County Councillor Swales will inform LCC Highways, but the issue is for WLBC Planning to check that the work is being conducted within the realms of the planning permission granted. It was also noted that the Christmas trees on sale on the corner of the road were causing a temporary problem of encroachment into the highway.

Village Ward: The diversion of motorway traffic, particularly HGVs, through School Lane, Parliament Street, Dingle Road, was causing problems for residents of noise and had caused partial collapse of the road outside the church which LCC Highways had to deal with as an emergency.

Newgate Ward: Mill Lane has a number of newly developed potholes. Reported on Love Clean Streets and County Cllr Swales has spoken to Highways cabinet member at LCC about these and others throughout the village.

Roby Mill Ward: Huge concerns following work being undertaken at the former St Joseph's college. WLBC Planning Department confirmed that Paul Chadwick, Planning Enforcement Officer had been visiting the site on a weekly basis and would continue to oversee development there. The works currently being undertaken are on construction of a golf course, permission having been granted following application submitted in 2002 – Planning Reference 2002/0689. Tree removal and construction of roads using ECO sand base are all permitted within this permission. The permission granted includes a condition that construction vehicles have a wheel wash which Mr Chadwick has seen being used, to avoid spillage or transportation onto the LCC Highways area (ie College Road and Roby Mill). Mr Chadwick also observed that tree protective fencing is in situ around any trees with preservation orders, though there are a couple of trees under dispute and the TPO Officer at WLBC is involved here. LCC Highways have been informed about the spillage of ECO sand (glass-based product) and County Councillor Swales will continue to request that the road and pavement outside the development is kept clean and safe.

- **Village Ward Councillor: creation of a litter picking group**

The suggestion was presented that each ward councillor finds 3-6 willing people to sign up and identify areas needing attention. If successful this could be expanded to gardening, hanging baskets etc but does require land owner permission if encroaching off public land and insurance for items such as hanging baskets and flowerbed troughs. Proposed actions are to chose areas, collate list of volunteers, create policy and procedures including risk assessments in line with those produced by WLBC for volunteers.

7. Update on new website

The website is now up and running at <https://uphollandpc.gov.uk>

8. Update from LALC (Lancashire Association of Local Councils)

No update available.

9. Any Update from Borough or County Councillors

County Councillor Swales gave an update on issues, in particular highways, Love Clean Streets App for recording potholes, blocked drains etc and issues noted above regarding St Joseph's College.

10. To consider any planning issues or applications

The meeting heard that a zoom meeting regarding the Inter Rail at Warrington/St Helen's M62 was open to them to attend if they so wish.

Similarly, zoom meetings were offered regarding the proposal for BESS at Tontine.

11. Resolution for the Exclusion of Press and Public

It is recommended that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and as, in all circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Section 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Resolved.

12. Any update on legal issues:

- **LCC Land lease of walled garden at Hall Green/Ormskirk Road/Dingle Road junction (by The Good Catch Chip Shop)**

The meeting heard that the Clerk had submitted all documentation to the solicitor to proceed with this. LCC confirmed that the extent of the land does not include the car park which is a WLBC asset.

- **Permission to cross parish owned land at Janet Lally field for the construction and maintenance of BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) Site at New Fold Road, Orrell.**

Greenfield Energy Developments suggested a Zoom meeting with parish councillors to discuss their proposals. This meeting decided that this would be counter-productive, as the parish council has no decision-making powers in regard to the proposals and WLBC Planning Department will decide.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.44 pm

***Cllr Neil Smith
Chairman to Up Holland Parish Council***

13th January 2026