



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

The Minutes of the meeting of Up Holland Parish Council held on **Tuesday 14th April 2026 at 7.30pm** in the Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill, WN8 ONR.

Present: Cllr Jenny Whiting (Vice-Chairman), John Gardner, Cllr Andrew Grant, Cllr Helen Johnston, Cllr Neil Pye, Cllr Gill Sinnott, Cllr Alex Stoddart, 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 Neil Smith. Vice Chairman Cllr Jenny Whiting chaired the meeting.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 10th March 2026

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

4. Financial Matters:

- Accounts for ratification and payment**

nPower	070426	Quarterly charge public clock	1	£18.12*
nPower	070426	Annual charge for battery	2	£220.74*
Dootson's	080426	Solicitors fees – land lease	3	£2,831.36*
LCC	100426	Land lease LCC charges	4	£1,500.00
Methodist Church	130426	Room hire general meetings	5	£20.00
E A Broad	120426	Postage stamps and sundries	6	£17.05

Wm Fernandez	160426	Cleaning 3 noticeboards	7	£15.00
E A Broad	240426	Salary, expenses	8	£1,513.68
NEST	250426	Pension payment	9	£232.64
Laurence Davis	250426	Grass cutting contract	10	£1,437.50
Yates Playgrounds	250426	Play area inspections	11	£352.00*
Unity Trust	300426	Bank charges	12	£9.70

*contains recoverable VAT

Bank balance as at 10th April 2026

Reserve account: £168,990.23

Current account: £11,003.20

Total: £179,993.43

CCLA balance on investments £101,938.18

Total: £ 281,931.61

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

- **Note meeting of Financial Committee 21st April 2026**

An agenda for this upcoming meeting was made available to Members. Gill, Richard apologies

5. To record any police issues

In The Know reported that the police had stopped illegal motorbikes driving on Rivington Drive. It was noted that a video of dangerous motorbike driving through Hall Green/Ormskirk Road had been uploaded to You Tube.

6. To approve policy documents for uploading to the website

No further policy documentation was required to be uploaded at this stage.

7. To plan conversion of Roby Mill Telephone Kiosk to history point or book exchange

It was resolved to complete the paperwork for adoption of the telephone Kiosk at Roby Mill. Cllr Swales and Cllr Grant agreed to take a look at refurbishment of the interior to install shelving for a book exchange.

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

There continue to be sightings of young people driving recklessly through the village on motorbikes or motorised cycles. One 'keep left' plastic illuminated bollard at Vicarage Corner has been squashed and this was reported on Love Clean Streets App.

Cllr Sinnott is leading an amazing set of enthusiastic volunteers in the form of the Cleaner, Greener Up Holland group. They are meeting, litter-picking and gardening around various parts of the parish. They have a leadership team of six members who are arranging a bank account, insurance and seeking funding opportunities. They have joined the West Lancs Community Voluntary Service (WLCVS) and are looking to move towards wider community activities.

Crawford Ward Councillor thanked CGU for attending Crawford School to talk about litter picking, and County Councillor Nigel Swales for ensuring the verges are cleared and cut back. The road signs for the village will be prioritised and County Councillor Swale agreed to assist liaison with LCC Highways to obtain permission to install them. It was understood that the road out of Crawford – at the St Helen's end – will be closed for repairs next month.

The issue of moss covering the War Memorial was raised. It was also noted that people were piling small lacquered stones on the memorial as tributes and these had water gathering around them which was staining the stone. It was agreed to request WLBC to clean the moss away but it wasn't known how to discourage the leaving of tributes on the structure.

9. To discuss any play area issue (Mill Lane, Lawns Avenue & Farley Lane)

Farley Lane play equipment and signs are in need of cleaning, there is a tree towards the back of the play area that has been damaged in the recent storm. There are still a couple of sections of wooden fence at Mill Lane that are damaged. Quotations will be sought to address these.

10. Update on development at Hall Green Bowling Green

A meeting with Jennifer Rooney Tawd Valley Development Project Officer and the contractor R P Tyson will be arranged to discuss the demolition work they are undertaken shortly.

The quotation from Sphere Architects for a further topographical survey at £495 plus VAT (total £594.00) was rejected. The Clerk was asked to clarify the need for one and to request a timescale for this project from planning to build for a tearoom and toilets to be sited where the wooden shed currently is.

It was resolved to remove the lock at the Britannia end of the bowling green so that it can be accessed by members of the public as a green community space. The lock on the other end of the green to remain closed as it is a vehicular access.

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

The Minutes of the LALC area committee meeting were distributed. The next meeting is 7pm on Thursday 14th May 2026. LALC subscription fees are now due though the invoice not yet received. Last year's subscription was £939.90 – it was resolved to continue to be members.

12. Any Update from Borough or County Councillors

County Councillor Swales gave an update on his activities including dealing with fly tipping, Alma Court council houses, and requesting LCC Highways deal with resurfacing along School Lane, Tontine Road, and the missed-off Ormskirk Road, (Highmeadow – Highgate Road). His community drop-in sessions continue to be well attended.

Borough Councillors had been invited to send reports again this month but had not done so. It was noted that the Returning Officer Chris Twomey will be leaving WLBC for a new job out of the area. The statement of persons nominated for the election on 7th May will be posted on the noticeboard at the Artz Centre.

13. To consider any planning issues or applications

PROW application for a DMMO to create a public footpath at Ayrefield House, Roby Mill was heard at public inquiry on 24th March 2026. Cllr Grant (as applicant for the appeal), Cllr Gardner, Cllr Johnston and the Clerk attended the hearing. Decision awaited.

Lancashire County Council Reference: LSG4.AS002.888.2749

PROW DMMO at Whitleys Lane was determined on 26th March 2026, in LCC Regulatory Committee to be a footpath and bridleway, not open to all traffic. Councillors and the Clerk viewed the committee meeting online.

Application Number: 2026/0185/FUL

Location: 88 Hallbridge Gardens Up Holland Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 0ER

Proposal: Double storey side extension and single storey rear extension to existing residential property

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

The following applications were noted:-

Ref. No: 2026/0172/LBC

Location: Up Holland High School Sandbrook Road Orrell Wigan Lancashire WN5 7AL

Proposal: Listed Building Consent - Install an access panel in corridor floor to enable access to service duct to repair a leak to the hot water system

Ref. No: 2026/0222/LBC

Location: 6A Alma Hill Up Holland Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 0NW

Installation of a small external garden tap on the rear elevation of the property to serve the rear garden.

Ref. No: 2026/0212/PIP

Location: Land Adjacent 2A Lafford Lane Up Holland Lancashire

Proposal: Permission in principle. Residential development of one dwelling

The meeting heard that on the 19th March 2026, the following two applications for the former St Joseph's Conference Centre land had been refused.

Application Number: 2026/0065/CON

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by condition no 21 of planning permission 8/2002/0689 relating to Earth Movement.

Location: St Josephs Conference Centre, College Road, Up Holland, Skelmersdale,

Decision on the 19th March 2026:

Planning permission details required under Condition 21. REFUSAL OF DETAILS

Application Number: 2025/1091/NMA

Proposal: Non-material amendment(s) to planning permission 2002/0689 - Re-alignment of internal access road, updates to tree protection & tree removal, reconfiguration of practice green area.

Location: St Josephs Conference Centre College Road Up Holland Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 0QE

Decision on the 19th March 2026:

Non-material amendment – refused.

14. 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.

Cllr Sinnott left the meeting at 8:36 pm

15. Update on Morris Road/Delamere Way Plan for allotments

Sphere Architects have provided a quotation for a topographical survey at £675.00 plus VAT – (total £810.00). It was resolved to reject this quotation. The Clerk was instructed to contact Sphere Architects to identify the process more clearly, with a timescale, for seeking permission and creating allotments at this site.

It was agreed to permit the residents of [redacted] Morris Road access to site a skip on the field behind their fence to facilitate tree work in their rear garden. The Clerk is to point out that they must indemnify the parish council from any injury or damage resulting from this action and restore any damage to the field from the skip itself or vehicles bringing it into place.

16. Update on lease from LCC for land at walled garden outside The Good Catch Chip Shop

The Clerk confirmed receipt from Dootson's Solicitors of the lease and that their instructions include that a Statutory Declaration must be declared by the chairperson of the Council before an independent firm of solicitors. Following this the signed lease will be returned to Dootson's for completion.

17. Note completion of Clerk's annual appraisal

The Clerk's annual appraisal was completed on 13th April 2026.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

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

12th May 2026