Lea & Cottam
Parish Council

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on

Monday the 11th May 2026 at Cottam Community Centre Haydocks Lane commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Butler, Rayfield, McFarlane, Parker, Bielas -Barnes, Lambert, Harper, Smith and Coward

There was one member of the public present (Preston City Councillor)

34/26 To elect the Chairman for the next 12 months who will then sign the 'Acceptance of Office' form

Cllr Butler was elected as the Chairman for the next 12 months – he signed the 'Acceptance of Office form'

35/26 To elect the Vice Chairman for the next 12 months

Cllr Rayfield was elected as Vice Chairman for the next 12 months

36/26 To receive apologies

Cllr Whitham, Brown, O'Donnell and Jewell

37/26 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 30th March 2026 (enclosed)

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 30th March 2026 should be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record

38/26 To receive Declarations of Interest

None

39/26 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

The meeting was adjourned

The City Councillor present asked whether the Parish Council had any views on the forthcoming Preston City Play Strategy which had recently been under consultation. It was confirmed that no corporate response had ben made since it was a public consultation and each member had been encouraged to put forward their personal views. He went on to say that he would like to work closely with the Parish Council when final proposals were put forward.

Mention was also made about rat sightings in the area. It was confirmed that Preston CC were the appropriate authority to report such matters to however it was thought that Preston CC would respond only to such matters were incidents within properties were involved and not to open space sightings.

The meeting was reconvened

40/26 To approve the following payments:

09/03/2026	BARLOW FENCING JUBILEE REC GROUND CIL	157	13350.00
09/03/2026	GGS LENGTHSMAN TEAM	158	1427.80

09/03/2026	FRETFOIN BIN BAGS	159	132.80
18/03/2026	EON NEXT ELECTRICITY SUPPLY	160	15.32
24/03/2026	PARTRIDGE LENGTHSMAN TEAM	161	567.00
24/03/2026	W V MCWHIITTLE 4TH QTR SALARY	162	3046.95
24/03/2026	AT CROSS LENGTHSMAN TEAM	163	730.85
24/03/2026	GGS LENGTHSMAN TEAM	164	1424.80
24/03/2026	BARTLETT LENGTHSMAN TEAM	165	434.70
24/03/2026	HMRC 4TH QTR	166	2560.20
24/03/2026	FITZPATRICK LENGTHSMAN TEAM	167	567.00
31/03/2026	BANK CHARGES	168	8.50

It was resolved that the payments refereed to above should be approved

41/26 To approve the enclosed Financial Statement as at 31st March 2026

It was resolved that the Financial Statement as at 31st March 2026 should be approved

42/26 To receive and note the Internal Auditors Report for the year 2025/26

It was resolved that the Internal Auditors Report for the year 2025/26 should be received and noted

43/26 To approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 and Section 2 Accounting Statements 2025/26 (enclosed) being part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 and authorise the Chairman and Clerk/RFO to sign them on behalf of this Council.

It was resolved that the Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 and Section 2 Accounting Statements 2025/26 referred to above, being part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 should be approved and signed by the |Chairman and Clerk/RFO on behalf of this Council

44/26 To authorise repair to the War Horse damage due to anti-social behaviour at a cost of £550.00

It was resolved that the repair works outlined above should be undertaken as soon as practicable

45/26 To note that the next meeting is scheduled for the 29th June 2026

It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for the 29th June 2026