

GOOSNARGH PARISH COUNCIL

A **MEETING** of Goosnargh Parish Council was held on **Monday 26th Jan 2026** at Whitechapel Village Hall at 7.30pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Mick Scambler – Chairman
Cllr Andrew Butler
Cllr Rob Hayton
Cllr Steve Pike
Cllr Bill Platt
Cllr Mark Robinson

PUBLIC

City Cllr Daniel Guise
City Cllr Stephen Thompson
2 Police Community Support Officers
Helen Witter - Neighbourhood Watch
Ms Urquhart - agenda item **06/2025/1194**
Mr Meredith - agenda item Bowling Club CIL
10 other members of the public
Mrs Julie Buttle – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES

Cllr John Singleton was not present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members have a disclosable interest in setting the Precept because it relates to the amount of Council Tax paid by residents. The Clerk confirmed that dispensation forms were in place.

Cllr Hayton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application **06/2025/1194** as it relates to his business premises.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MIN 25/26.67 Members **resolved** to approve the 24th Nov 2025 Parish Council Minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INCLUDING POLICE MATTERS

MIN 25/26.68 Members **resolved** to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

The rural PCSOs had given apologies but a report was provided by Beth, a PCSO covering Deepdale. Incident logs included a nuisance call at Chingle Hall Crescent and reports of blocked driveways on Church Lane. The rural PCSO's are liaising with the Grapes and the School to see how the parking situation can be improved. 3 road traffic incidents were noted in the Inglewhite Road / Horns Lane area.

Ms Urquhart voiced objections to application **06/2025/1194** - extension to existing Ironworks, formation of access and associated landscaping at Eccles Moss Iron Works on Bleasdale Road. She stated that the application was for a substantial extension (43m x 7m high) which had been registered as major development by Preston City Council. Concerns included the visual impact of the building in a tourist area, which will be visible from Beacon Fell AONB and numerous public rights of way.

It was stated that the development would impact on highway safety as there would be an increase in HGVs using narrow rural lanes. It was also stated that whilst the Parish Council had previously commented on the number of HGVs using rural roads, the Parish Council had not objected to the application on highway grounds and it was disappointing that the response had been less detailed than other application responses, which often cited references to non-compliance with planning policies.

Ms Urquhart stated that they were not notified of the application and they had bought their home in a beautiful, greenfield area and as such they were devastated to realise a huge extension was proposed which may set a precedent for other industrial businesses to be developed. Such businesses could harm the flora and fauna of the area and they requested that the Parish Council reconsider their response to the application.

A local resident stated he had lived in the area for 3 years and had no issues with the existing business. Wagons already visit the premises and, in his opinion, creating a purpose-built facility would enable more materials to be stored on site which should lead to less deliveries and less traffic. He advised that Mr Hayton was 'a good neighbour', often ensuring that neighbours were informed of any potential issues in advance.

The Clerk explained that the Parish Council does not determine applications so objections and concerns about the lack of consultation should be referred to the City Council.

The application was received in early December and when considering a reply, weight was attached to the Design and Access Statement which stated *pre-application advice was sought in advance of the submission and the proposal was declared acceptable in principle, relating to the growth of an existing rural business* – consequently, a more detailed reply analysing and citing compliance with planning policies was not considered appropriate.

The Design and Access Statement also explained that the submitted application had been amended to address pre-application concerns regarding the height and massing of the building – and as such, the planning officer is best placed to assess if the submitted design addresses the points discussed.

Whilst the Parish Council has raised concerns regarding the number of HGVs, the Council's position is clearly explained in the 22nd Sept 2025 Minutes. The Minutes acknowledge that HGVs are essential to serve local businesses and confirm the County Council will be approached to see if 'Sat Nav' companies can deter HGVs from 'passing through'.

Cllr Hayton – who is entitled to speak during public participation - outlined the circumstances leading to the submission of the application. He explained that the site was purchased with Class B2 industrial use and he has operated from there for 23 years. Expansion plans were drawn up several years ago but have only just been submitted due to personal circumstances. He confirmed that existing neighbours were informed of the plans prior to submission and the application details have been changed in line with the pre-application advice.

He explained that whilst the fabric of the building will change, the building will not be of an agricultural design and wagons will be able to pull off the road. The operating hours are Mon – Fri 07.00 – 15.30 and any noise will be directed away from the road with the current building being used for storage. Cllr Hayton concluded by stating that as he lets holiday cottages locally, he is keen to ensure the premises do not impact on the local area.

As there were no further comments, public participation continued with other matters.

Cllr Thompson and Cllr Guise expressed concern that the May elections were to be cancelled. Cllr Thompson stated that Reform were seeking a Judicial Review to have them reinstated.

Mr Eaves stated that he lived in a property facing Inglewhite Village Green and as he has noticed a significant increase in traffic, pedestrians and cyclists, he has put CCTV on the outside of his garage. He hopes any footage may be of assistance in relation to collisions at the crossroads and he asked if a highway patrol could attend a meeting to understand local concerns. The PCSO stated that they will contact a highway patrol officer.

Helen from Neighbourhood Watch raised concerns about the amount of litter, the number of potholes and further damage to the Village Green.

The Clerk replied that as the City Council are responsible for litter issues, all complaints should go to them – with a copy to City Cllr Guise and City Cllr Thompson.

Potholes are the responsibility of Lancashire County Council and they should be logged individually on Love Clean streets – partly because the precise location can be recorded and partly because LCC will reply directly to whoever logged the report. Cllr Guise added that LCC will not investigate potholes less than 40mm and reports should be accompanied by a photo.

As there were no other comments, Members **resolved** to reconvene the meeting, bringing forward the application at Eccles Moss Iron Works. Cllr Hayton duly left the room.

Cllr Butler stated that whilst the concerns had been noted, the parish has been through a period where local businesses and pubs were closed and as such, the Parish Council is supportive of local businesses. Eccles Moss has been operating for 23 years and the family actively support events and help the local community. Hopefully a compromise can be reached but a bigger drive in will relieve parking and congestion concerns.

No proposals were put forward to amend the Parish Councils submission and Cllr Hayton rejoined the meeting.

CLERK'S RETIREMENT

Due to a combination of personal and professional reasons, the Clerk confirmed her decision to retire. The Clerk is required to give one month's notice but will continue in post until a replacement is appointed. Members **noted** this cannot be extended beyond the end of April.

MIN 25/26.69 Members **resolved** to approve the job description and advert, with a closing date of the 6th Feb. The vacancy will be advertised through SLCC and the Parish Council website.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 31st Dec 2025

MIN 25/26.70 Members **resolved** to approve the following invoices already paid in December

Clerk Dec Salary	J Buttle	£310.37	BACs
PAYE	HMRC	£77.40	BACs

The Chairman verified that the bank and finance statements have been reconciled.

REVIEW OF 3rd QUARTER ACCOUNTS 2025 / 2026

Following the completion of the 3rd quarter, Members considered expenditure against the budget, noting the previously approved unbudgeted expenses. Members also noted that the repairs to the church clock had been delayed.

MIN 25/26.71 Members **resolved** to approve the 3rd quarter analysis..

JANUARY ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

MIN 25/26.72 Members **resolved** to approve the following invoices for payment

Clerk Jan Salary	J Buttle	£310.17	BACs
PAYE	HMRC	£77.60	BACs
Oct – Dec mileage	J Buttle	£45.00	BACs
Oct – Dec home expenses	J Buttle	£97.50	BACs

CONSIDERATION OF 2026/27 PRECEPT

At the November meeting, Members approved a draft budget of **£8,981** for 2026/27 – subject to Nurture confirming the details of the grounds maintenance contract. Nurture have confirmed that the 2026/27 cost will be £1,940 + VAT payable over 7 months.

MIN 25/26.73 Members **resolved** to confirm the above amount and authorised the Clerk to sign the 2026/27 Nurture Service Level Agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.

MIN 25/26.74 After considering the budget and the amount in Reserves, Members **resolved** to set the 2026/27 Precept at **£6,850**.

CIL PROJECTS

The following updates were given regarding CIL items

- **Speed Indicators** – Cllr Scambler stated that it has been too wet to access the field and erect the second device on Inglewhite Road. As the second device is not being used, Members suggested temporarily erecting it on a new pole on Button Street.
- **Heritage Trails** – A cheese press has been donated and can be included with the sign board promoting the new heritage walks. A letter of thanks will be issued by the Clerk. Cllr Hayton, Cllr Butler and Cllr Singleton will liaise regarding the wording and final design of the sign which will be placed on the village green.
- **Whitechapel Village Hall Phase 2** – an email was received confirming that quotes are being sought for the floor and decorative surrounds and an update will be brought to the February meeting.
- **Village Hall access and parking** – Cllr Butler confirmed discussions have been held with the Village Hall Committee and feedback will be provided to the February meeting.

WHITECHAPEL BOWLING GREEN

Mr Meredith explained the work required to the edges of the bowling green as detailed in a report circulated to Members with the agenda. The report included a financial summary which explained the works will cost circa £10,000 with volunteers working on the project.

It was noted that the Bowling Club have not applied for CIL funding previously and they are funding £6,500 themselves, resulting in a shortfall of £3,500.

MIN 25/26.75 The Clerk confirmed additional CIL funds are expected in 2026/27 and Members **resolved** to approve the CIL request for £3,500. Funding will be released on the production of an invoice for the work.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

There were **no objections** to the following applications

06/2025/1302 Erection of outbuilding, following removal of existing building at White Lee Cottage, Bleasdale Road,

06/2025/1305 two single storey extensions to rear, new garage & alterations to access at Fell View, Goosnargh Lane - which is primarily in Whittingham parish.

06/2026/0003 removal of the energy efficient condition in relation to 06/23024/1177 at Butlers Farmhouse Cheeses, Button Street, Preston.

The Clerk explained that energy efficiency is scored according to BREAM sustainability criteria which covers water, energy and materials. Condition 12 of the planning consent requires the applicant to achieve a 'very good' BREAM rating.

It has been established that, given its unique build for the storage and maturation of cheese, the maturation shed is outside the scope of BREAM and the office, which is a small building, falls below the threshold requiring a 'very good' rating – hence the applicant has requested that the condition be withdrawn.

The following applications were received after the agenda had been issued.

06/2026/0047 Prior notification for change of use of 2no. agricultural buildings to provide 1 no. dwelling and **06/2026/0048** change of use of 1no. agricultural building to provide up to 2no dwellings with associated building operations at Cowells Farm, Eaves Green Lane.

Members noted that a 'prior notification' application means that the City Council will assess if the buildings can be converted to dwellings without the need for a full planning application. Members requested that the City Council consider the period of time that the buildings have been used for agricultural purposes.

Members **noted** that a resident has reported that The Field, Walmsley Bridge Lane, Whitechapel, is allegedly being used for a livery business with approximately 10 horses and a resultant increase in traffic. The concern has been forwarded to Preston City Council.

UPDATE ON EXISTING ISSUES / MATTERS OF CONCERN TO MEMBERS

Members **noted** the following items

- a) **Longridge Community Hospital** - Prior to Christmas, Maya Ellis MP replied that she was in contact with the NHS Estate Department regarding the temporary closure of wards. An update has been requested.
- b) **Telecommunication mast** - Following the November meeting, the Clerk contacted Cornerstone to see if they had any plans to resubmit an application for a telecommunication mast at Beacon Fell. They replied that they did not have any plans because the proposal was going to be funded by a government project which has since been withdrawn. Any network coverage concerns should be reported to existing network providers.
- c) **Walmsley Bridge Lane** - LCC will be consulting residents between the 21st Jan and the 18th Feb, on the proposed permanent closure of Walmsley Bridge Lane.

d) **Temporary road closures at**

- **Loud Bridge Road**, Goosnargh on 16/02/26 until 20/02/26 to enable water chamber repair works to take place.
- **Langley Lane**, Inglewhite on 13/03/26 to enable overhead structure works to take place.
- **Ashley Lane**, Goosnargh on 16/03/26 until 17/03/26 to enable telecom pole maintenance works to take place.

Members expressed concerns regarding the volume of traffic seeking to avoid the roadworks at Skew bridge and an accident was reported at Langley Lane.

The Clerk confirmed that the police had been contacted for more information regarding the accident and they replied - *as the case is still ongoing, we are not able to share the report into the incident or its recommendations / observations at this stage – however, the general advice with regards to that location, is that it is not suitable for pedestrians due to the lack of pavement and grass verge.*

Once the police report is available, the Parish Council can approach LCC Highways to act on any recommendations – particularly if the development at Swainson House Farm is approved on appeal.

The Clerk / Cllrs will report the following to LCC using Love Clean Streets

- the 30mph sign near Sandersons joiner's workshop on Silk Mill Lane has been knocked over
- chevrons are missing on the road leading up to the Scout camp
- the sign on Langley Lane advising that Barton Lane is unsuitable for HGVs is laying in the field.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 23rd February 2026 in Whitechapel Village Hall at 7.30pm.

END