



Longridge Town Council

Full Council - Agenda

To the Mayor and Members of Longridge Town Council, you are summoned to attend the meeting of the Town Council on Wednesday 11 June 2025 at 19:00 in the Council Offices, Station Buildings, Berry Lane, Longridge.

1. Welcome by the Chair.

2. To receive apologies.

3. Declarations of interests.

Councillors are responsible for declaring any personal/prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest **pertaining to matters on this agenda.**

If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest or there is a disclosable pecuniary interest, then the individual member should not participate in a discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting and not seek to influence a decision unless a dispensation request has been submitted in writing.

4. To consider and approve the minutes of the 15 May 2025, Annual Town Council Meeting.

5. Public Participation.

This 30-minute session (time limit of three minutes per item/per person) provides members of the public an opportunity to indicate interests in an agenda item and put questions to the Town Council. Such questions may be answered after the meeting or become an agenda item at a future Town Council meeting.

ITEMS for DECISION/DISCUSSION

6. Co-option of New Councillors

Report of the Clerk (enclosed) for members to consider the co-option of two new councillors.

7. Finance Report.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), for members to approve the:

- Accounts to date.
- Schedule of Payments as set out in the Report.

8. Appointment to the Longridge Civic Hall Management Committee.

Verbal report of the Clerk, for members to nominate a Council representative to sit on the Longridge Civic Hall Management Committee.

9. Grants and requests for funds and use of facilities:

Report of the Clerk (enclosed) for members to consider grant and other requests for funds and use of facilities from:

- a. u3a for £3,248 towards general costs and keeping the service available and affordable to Longridge residents, see Appendix 1.
- b. Royal British Legion – Longridge Branch, for £1,245 (ex VAT) as a contribution towards the funding of a Ceremonial Parade Standard and its accessories, see Appendix 2.
- c. The Thursday Group (children and siblings with autism) for £400, see Appendix 3.
- d. Friends of the Civic Hall for £3,000 to support the Longridge Dementia and Support Group. See Appendix 4.
- e. Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show for £2,000 towards the costs of installing a community marquee. See Appendix 5
- f. Longridge Field Day for £950, contribution to new banners. See Appendix 6.
- g. Royal British Legion – Longridge Branch:
Request:
 - Use of the Council’s conference room for Branch Meetings.
 - Use of the Town Council address for RBL Longridge post
 - As home to the RBL Longridge Standard.

10. VJ Day.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed) requesting members to consider commemorating VJ Day 2025 (15 August).

11. Civic Sunday Event.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed) requesting members to consider holding a Civic Sunday Event in February 2026.

12. Working Groups.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed) requesting members to nominate members to sit on the following new Working Groups:

- a. Remembrance Sunday 2025.
- b. Christmas Festivities 2025.
- c. Local Government Devolution

13. Framework for assessing the Council’s key objectives and performance.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), requesting members to consider adopting a framework for assessing the Town Council’s objectives and performance for its activities in 2025/26.

ITEMS for INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

14. Planning Applications.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), for members to consider planning matters since the last meeting.

15. Update on Actions from Previous Meetings.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), to update members on actions from recent Full Council meetings.

16. Ribble Valley Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), updating members on the Expressions of Interest submitted on behalf of the Town Council.

17. Local Government Devolution.

Report of the Clerk (enclosed), to update members on matters relating to Local Government Devolution and how it might impact Longridge Town Council.

18. Councillor Reports.

Reports (if any) enclosed.

19. Consideration of Matters not on the agenda.

An opportunity for the Town Clerk and Council members to suggest items for future meetings.

20. Future Meetings.

For members to consider the following dates in 2025 for Full Council Meetings:

Mike Hill

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Longridge Town Council.

Longridge Town Council
Council Offices
The Station Building
Berry Lane
Longridge
PR3 3JP



 clerk@longridge-tc.gov.uk
 01772 782461
 07495 473 845
 www.longridge-tc.gov.uk



Mission Statement

Endeavour through foresight and leadership, to enhance quality of life for residents and visitors.
Working to enrich and nurture opportunity to protect and improve the built and natural environment and improve community pride.



Longridge Town Council

Annual Meeting of the Town Council

Date:	15 May 2025		
Place:	Longridge Civic Hall, Calder Avenue, Longridge		
Present:	Councillors: S. Rainford (part Chair), L. Jameson (Chair from Agenda Item 3), J. Rogerson, P. Smith, R. Walker, K. Spencer and N. Stubbs.		
In attendance:	Town Clerk. Members of the public, Mayors and Deputy Mayors of Clitheroe Town Council and RVBC, Borough Councillors and friends and family of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elect.		
Meeting started:	19:00	Meeting closed:	19:28

250515/

1 WELCOME BY THE CHAIR.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the Town Clerk to introduce Agenda Item 2.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIR/MAYOR.

The Clerk reminded members that Longridge Town Council's custom is for the Deputy Mayor to succeed the outgoing Mayor and confirmed that the new Chair/Mayor for the 2025/26 civic year is Cllr. L. Jameson. Cllr. Jameson signed the Declarations of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Town Clerk. The Council's Civic regalia for the Mayor and the Mayor's consort were exchanged.

Cllr. Jameson assumed the role as Chair for the rest of the meeting.

3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR/DEPUTY MAYOR

The Chair reminded members that in line with the Council's Policy, the nominations for the Vice-Chair/Deputy Mayor took place at a Special Council held on 19 March 2025 where members unanimously nominated Cllr. Walker as the Deputy Mayor and Vice Chair for the 2025/26 Civic Year.

Cllr. Walker signed the Declarations of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Town Clerk and the Council's Civic regalia were exchanged.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Members accepted apologies from Cllrs. Eccles and Jackson. Cllr. Beacham was recorded as being absent.

5 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTEREST DISPENSATION.

There were no declarations

6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2024 AND THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2025.

Both sets of minutes were agreed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no public participation.

8 ANNUAL REVIEW AND REPORTS.

8.1 Outgoing Chair's Annual Report.

Cllr. Rainford presented a summary of the Council's activities and achievements during 2024/2025 and thanked members of the Council, the Deputy Mayor, the Town Clerk and gardener for their work during her time as Mayor.

8.2 Committee Reports:

Cllr. Walker provided a review of the Budget and Staffing Committees and the Chair provided an update on activities of the Estates Committee.

9 END OF YEAR FINANCE REPORT.

The Clerk set out the financial performance of Longridge Town Council for the financial year ending 31 March 2025. The Report outlined the total income, total expenditure, and the resulting balance of the accounts. The Clerk reminded members that the figures comply with the Local Government Transparency Code and are subject to internal and external audit.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Approve the report.

10 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES, AND REPRESENTATIVES TO EXTERNAL BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS FOR 2025-26.

10.1 Committee Memberships:

The following appointments were made:

- Budget Committee: Cllrs. Walker, Rainford, Stubbs, Rogerson and Eccles.
- Estates Committee: Cllrs. Stubbs, Rogerson, Walker, Jackson and Smith.
- Staffing Committee: Cllrs. Spencer, Rainford, Jackson, and Walker.

10.2 Appointment of representatives to external bodies:

- Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC): Cllrs. Spencer and Smith.
- Parish Council Liaison Meeting (PCLM): Cllr. Eccles.
- Longridge Civic Hall Management Committee.

As membership to this committee was missed off the agenda it will be discussed at the next Full Council meeting, noting that Cllr. Rainford is happy to continue in the role.

10.3 Appointment to Standing Working Group.

- Longridge Life Savers. Cllr. Jackson, Eccles and Smith.
- Longridge Loop: Cllr. Stubbs, Rainford and Jackson.
- Community Garden: Cllrs. Smith, Rainford and Walker.

10.4 Other Activities.

- Flag Master: Cllr. Stubbs.
- Routine checks on defibrillator and bleed kit: Cllr. Jackson.
- Planning matters and review of applications: Cllr. Walker with Cllr. Rogerson as Deputy
- Neighbourhood Alert (In the Know): Cllr. Jackson

11 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF CURRENT COUNCIL POLICIES:

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Re-adopt the following policies:

Standing Orders, Risk Register and Policy, Financial Regulations, Grants Policy, Policy for the appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Code of Conduct, Fire and Safety Policy, Lone Working Policy, CCTV Policy, Co-option Policy, Health and Safety Policy, social media Policy, Vexatious or Habitual Requests Policy, Reserves Policy.

12 PREVIEW OF THE YEAR AHEAD BY THE NEW CHAIR/MAYOR

The newly elected Mayor provided details of activities and events he had planned for the year ahead and stated that his charities would be Ribble Valley Dementia and Longridge Town Football Club and Juniors.

13 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS.

No matters were notified to the Clerk.

14 FUTURE MEETINGS.

- Annual Town Meeting (Meeting of Electors) - 28 May.
- Ordinary Town Council Meeting – 11 June.

SIGNED BY CHAIR FOR THE MEETING:

DATE:

A signed copy is on file.



Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Co-option of two new councillors
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider two applications from Longridge residents to become Town Councillors (see Appendix 1).

2. Introduction.

Members are reminded that there are currently two vacancies (Derby and Alston wards) for Town Councillors. Members are also reminded that they are not obliged to fill any vacancy and if the Council invites applications for co-option, they are not obliged to select anyone from the candidates who apply.

However, members should note that it is not desirable that electors in a particular ward are left partially or full underrepresented for a significant length of time. Neither does it contribute to effective and efficient working of the Council if there are insufficient councillors to share the workload equitably; or to provide a broad cross-section of skills and interests; or achieve meeting quorums without difficulty.

3. Co-option.

If the candidates are present at the 'co-option' Council meeting the following process could be followed

- Candidates are given five minutes to introduce themselves to Members, give information on their background and experience and explain why they wish to become a Member of LTC.
- The process would be carried out by adjourning the meeting to allow the candidate to speak.
- Where the Council wishes to discuss the merits of candidates and their personal attributes, the Council will resolve to exclude the members of the press and public.
- As soon as all candidates have finished giving their submissions, the Council would proceed to a vote on the acceptability of each candidate with each candidate being proposed and seconded by the councillors in attendance and a vote by a show of hands.
- The vote would be recorded to show whether each Councillor present and voting, gave their vote for or against the candidate.
- After the votes had been concluded, the Chairman would declare the successful candidate(s) duly elected and after signing their declaration of acceptance of office, could take their place immediately.

4. Members are recommended:

To consider the applications shown in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1a



Appendix C - CO-OPTION - ELIGIBILITY FORM

Anyone can be elected as a Town Councillor* if they are:

1. A British, Commonwealth, Irish, or European Union citizen.
2. At least 18 years old.
3. Either on the list of electors for the town, or during the whole of the previous 12 months have occupied land in the town as an owner or tenant or have a principal place of work in the town, or have resided in, or within three miles, of the town.

Please tick all the boxes which apply to yourself:

I am a British, Commonwealth, Irish, or European Union citizen.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Preceding the date of my co-option, I am at least 18 years of age.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I am on the list of electors for the town.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I have, during the whole of the twelve months preceding the date of my co-option, occupied as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the town.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
My principal or only place of work during those twelve months has been in the town.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I have during the whole of twelve months resided in the town or within 3 miles of it.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Please note that under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972 a person is disqualified from being elected as a Local Councillor or being a member of a Local Council if they:

1. Hold any paid employment or office in the local authority that they seek election to or
2. Is a person who has been adjudged bankrupt or has made a composition or arrangement with their creditors (but see below); or
3. Have within five years before the day of election, or since their election, been convicted in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man of any offence and has been sentenced to imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for not less than three months without the option of a fine; or
4. Is otherwise disqualified under Part III of the representation of the People Act 1983 for corrupt or illegal practices.

The disqualification for bankruptcy ceases in the following circumstances:

- I. If the bankruptcy is annulled on the grounds that either the person ought not to have been adjudged bankrupt or that the debts have been fully discharged;
- II. If the person is discharged with a certificate that the bankruptcy was caused by misfortune without misconduct on their part;
- III. If the person is discharged without such a certificate.

In I and II above, the disqualification ceases on the date of the annulment and discharge respectively. In III, it ceases on the expiry of five years from the date of discharge.

DECLARATION

I ANDREW WALLBANK hereby confirm that I am eligible for the vacancy of Longridge Town Councillor, and the information given on this form is true and accurate record.

Signature:

Date:

27/5/25

In line with the Council's General Privacy Notice, the information provided to the Council will remain Private and Confidential.



Appendix B - APPLICATION FOR CO-OPTION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Town Councillor. Please provide a little information about yourself.

Full Name and Title:	ANDREW J WALLBANK (MR)
Home Address:	APT 2 WHITE BULL MEWS. HIGHER ROAD LONGRIDGE PR3 3SX
Home phone:	
Mobile phone:	0770 887 4328
Email:	awallbank@longridge.lanes.sch.uk

Please provide the Council with some background information about yourself.

I have been a longridge resident all my life. I have worked on many Projects with LTC in the Past. I am a Past President of longridge + north preston rotary club and Past President of longridge field day

Please provide the Council with your reasons for wanting to become a Town Councillor.

I am now in a Position to offer my time to LTC and to offer my knowledge to make a positive change for longridge

Your application requires signatures of 2 registered electors (known as a proposer and seconder) from the town area.

	Proposer	Secunder
Name:		
Address:		
Signature:		

In line with the Council's General Privacy Notice, the information provided on this application will remain Private and Confidential.

Appendix 1b



Appendix C - CO-OPTION - ELIGIBILITY FORM

Anyone can be elected as a Town Councillor* if they are:

1. A British, Commonwealth, Irish, or European Union citizen.
2. At least 18 years old.
3. Either on the list of electors for the town, or during the whole of the previous 12 months have occupied land in the town as an owner or tenant or have a principal place of work in the town, or have resided in, or within three miles, of the town.

Please tick all the boxes which apply to yourself:

I am a British, Commonwealth, Irish, or European Union citizen.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Preceding the date of my co-option, I am at least 18 years of age.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I am on the list of electors for the town.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I have, during the whole of the twelve months preceding the date of my co-option, occupied as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the town.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
My principal or only place of work during those twelve months has been in the town.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have during the whole of twelve months resided in the town or within 3 miles of it.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Please note that under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972 a person is disqualified from being elected as a Local Councillor or being a member of a Local Council if they:

1. Hold any paid employment or office in the local authority that they seek election to or
2. Is a person who has been adjudged bankrupt or has made a composition or arrangement with their creditors (but see below); or
3. Have within five years before the day of election, or since their election, been convicted in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man of any offence and has been sentenced to imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for not less than three months without the option of a fine; or
4. Is otherwise disqualified under Part III of the representation of the People Act 1983 for corrupt or illegal practices.

The disqualification for bankruptcy ceases in the following circumstances:

- I. If the bankruptcy is annulled on the grounds that either the person ought not to have been adjudged bankrupt or that the debts have been fully discharged;
- II. If the person is discharged with a certificate that the bankruptcy was caused by misfortune without misconduct on their part;
- III. If the person is discharged without such a certificate.

In I and II above, the disqualification ceases on the date of the annulment and discharge respectively.
In III, it ceases on the expiry of five years from the date of discharge.

DECLARATION

I DAVID HINDLE hereby confirm that I am eligible for the vacancy of Longridge Town Councillor, and the information given on this form is true and accurate record.

Signature:	<u>David Hindle</u>
Date:	<u>7/5/25</u>

In line with the Council's General Privacy Notice, the information provided to the Council will remain Private and Confidential.



Appendix B - APPLICATION FOR CO-OPTION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Town Councillor. Please provide a little information about yourself.

Full Name and Title:	MR DAVID HINDLE
Home Address:	5 DERBY ROAD LONGRIDGE PR33NP
Home phone:	
Mobile phone:	07841838434
Email:	TMK2@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Please provide the Council with some background information about yourself.

50 YEARS OLD AND HAVE LIVED IN LONGRIDGE FOR 19 YEARS.
FAMILY LIVE IN LONGRIDGE AND I WORK IN CHANGE CONTROL FOR A MANUFACTURING COMPANY IN LEYLAND.

Please provide the Council with your reasons for wanting to become a Town Councillor.

HAVING LIVED IN LONGRIDGE, BEEN A BUSINESS OWNER HERE AND BROUGHT TWO DAUGHTERS UP HERE I WANT TO BE ABLE TO BE INVOLVED IN HELPING OUT AND GIVING BACK.

Your application requires signatures of 2 registered electors (known as a proposer and seconder) from the town area.

	Proposer	Seconder
Name:		
Address:		
Signature:		

In line with the Council's General Privacy Notice, the information provided on this application will remain Private and Confidential.

Agenda Item 7
Report For Decision



Longridge
Town Council

Full Council

Meeting Date: 11/06/2025

Title: Finance Report

Submitted by: Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Purpose of the report:

To update members of the Council's financial position and to seek approval of the accounts to date and agree any payments to be made.

Recommendations:

1. Approve the Report and specifically the:
2. Schedule of Payments.

Schedule of Payments to be considered for approval.

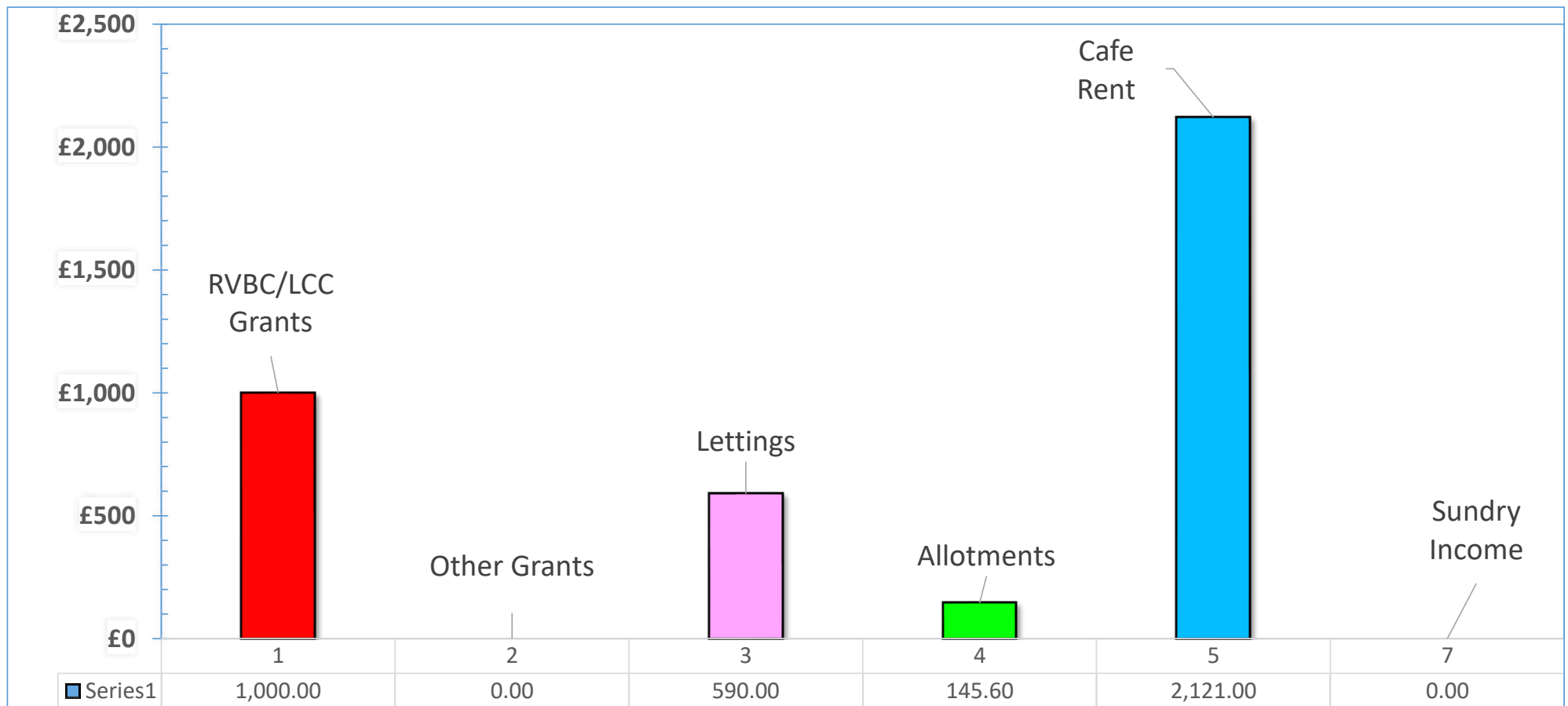
#	Ref.	Payee	Description	Gross £	Vat £	Net £	Due Date	Date Paid
1	89958563	Fulwood Insurance	Council Building	1,636.05	-	1,636.05	Paid	
2	3646439	Zurich Municipal	Council liability etc. insurance	1,614.10	-	1,614.10	Paid	
3	IVI 186502	Aurora Manged Service	Print consumables	92.18	15.37	76.82	Paid	
				3,342.33	15.37	3,326.97		

Note: Approval is not usually sought for Direct Debits and people or organisations where the Town Council has a contractual relationship.

Receipts for the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.

Bank			Income Streams										
Date	Reference	Details	RVBC Precept	VAT Repay	RVBC/LCC Grants	Other Grants	Lettings	Allotment	Old Station		Sundry	Reserve Interest	Totals
									Rent	Utilities			
01/04/25	DD	Café Rent							707.00				707.00
07/04/25	accy055762	Precept	98,195.00										98,195.00
08/04/25	G-05/25	The Gatherings (Andrew)					100.00						100.00
09/04/25	..104219	HMRC VAT		3,865.51									3,865.51
14/04/25	legl005069	VE Day Grant			500.00								500.00
22/04/25	CAG-85	Comm.Art Group					200.00						200.00
01/05/25	DD	Café Rent							707.00				707.00
13/05/25	U3A	Various u3a groups					90.00						90.00
27/05/25	09250	Festive Lights Grant			500.00								500.00
02/06/25	DD	Café Rent							707.00				707.00
02/06/25	G 06/25	The Gatherings (Andrew)					100.00						100.00
03/06/25	G 07/25	The Gatherings (Andrew)					100.00						100.00
04/06/25	Plot A	Burdet						72.80					72.80
05/06/25	Plot B	R. Stother						72.80					72.80
Total as at 07/06/2025:			98,195.00	3,865.51	1,000.00	0.00	590.00	145.60	2,121.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105,917.11

Revenue Streams



Total £ 3,856.60

Summary of Receipts and Payments at 07/06/25

£

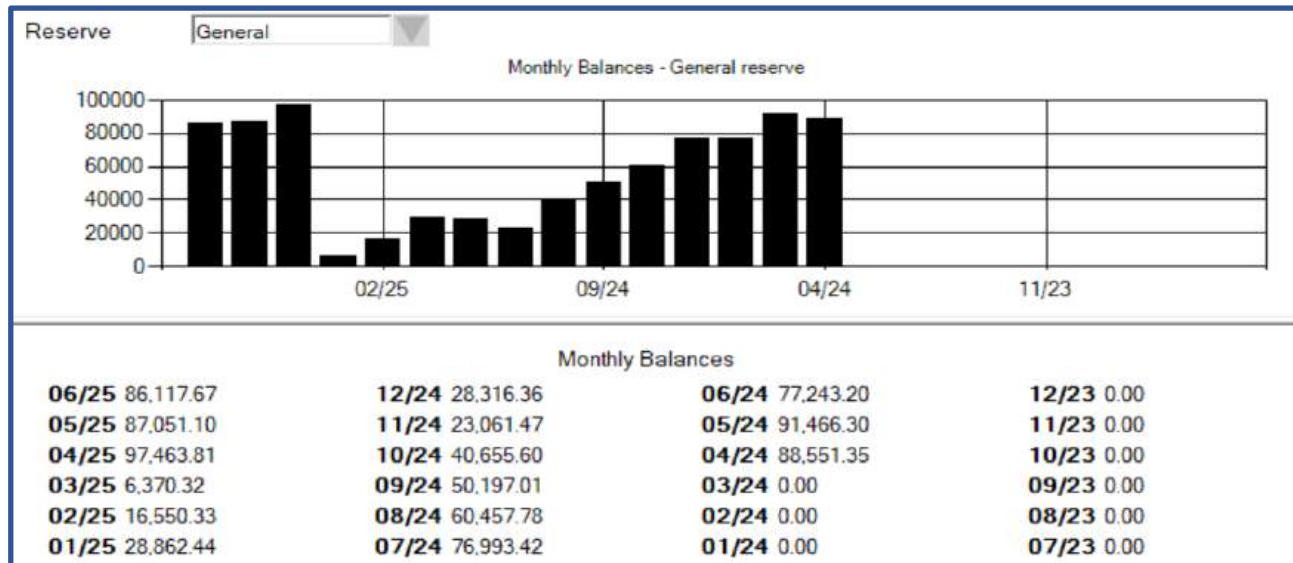
Balance carried forward 1 April 2025:	6,370.32
Add total receipts to date:	105,917.11
Less total payments to date:	-26,169.76
Balance:	86,117.67

From Council's Accounting System

If these two figures are different an explanation is required.

£

Unity Bank Account Balance at 07 June 2025:	86,117.67
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Nat West - Account No. 1

£

Balance carried forward April 2025:	88,202.46
Balance 30 April 2025:	88,290.90

Nat West - Longridge Town Council

£

Balance carried forward 1 April 2025:

5,000.00



Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Grants and requests for funds and use of Council facilities
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider grant and other requests for funds and use of Council facilities from:

- a. u3a for £3,248 towards general costs, and keeping the service available and affordable to Longridge residents, see Appendix 1. *Considered favourably by the Budget Committee.*
- b. Royal British Legion – Longridge Branch, for £1,245 (ex VAT) as a contribution towards the funding of a Ceremonial Parade Standard and its accessories, see Appendix 2. *Considered favourably the Budget Committee.*
- c. Thursday Group, (children and siblings with autism) for £400, see Appendix 3.
- d. Friends of the Civic Hall for £3,000 to support the Longridge Dementia and Support Group. See Appendix 4.
- e. Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show for £2,000 towards the costs of installing a community marquee. See Appendix 5
- f. Longridge Field Day for £950, contribution to new banners. Appendix 6
- g. Royal British Legion – Longridge Branch. See Section 4 Below.

I have carried out initial vetting of the above applications and they have all provided their constitution or similar relevant documents.

Note - since April 2022:

- The u3a has received £330 (March 2023).
- The Thursday Group have received £1,044 in three separate payments.
- Friends of the Civic Hall have received £4,200 in 6 separate payments.
- GLAS have received £3,500 in two payments both for a marquee.
- Longridge Field Day have received £5,443 in 4 applications, mostly towards traffic management costs.

2. Financial Considerations:

Members will recall that in November 2024, they allocated a budget for grant applications in 2025/26 of £20,000. To date the Town Council has approved grants to the value of £3,550.

3. Background.

Members are reminded that each application should be considered on its individual merits, and if it is not possible for the Town Council to meet the request in full, an award of a lesser amount may be offered.

4. Royal British Legion (RBL).

Cllr. Eccles has sent in a request on behalf of the Longridge Branch of the RBL:

- For use the Council's conference room for Branch Meetings (without charge).
- For use of the Town Council address for RBL Longridge post
- As home to the Longridge RBL Standard.

Request in full (below) as emailed to the Town Clerk by Cllr. Eccles:

Currently myself and David Urie are in the process of re-establishing Longridge Branch of the Royal British Legion (BR1475).

As of yet we do not have a 'home' site for the Longridge Branch and wanted to request permission to use your conference room as our base. This would be used for branch meetings no more than every two months regularly but flexible to yourselves along with a breakfast club once per month on a Saturday morning only when the branch is established – we will use the café until then.

We seek your permission for the following:

Regular use of the conference room for Branch Meetings (every 2 months)

To use a c/o Longridge Town Council address for any RBL Longridge Branch post

Home the RBL Standard in the corner of the LTC conference room

If members are agreeable to RBL Longridge Branch residing in LTC conference room, could we also request space for the advertisements of any events and RBL information? We would mark the board clearly as RBL.

As of yet Longridge Branch (BR1475) does not have access to any funds or bank accounts. We have started the process of signing over access of the bank accounts with Nat West and this is ongoing. We are aware there is a small balance on the account but have not seen any documented figures. The figures verbally provided during our initial meeting with RBL Lancashire was £4395.85.

As we have yet to purchase necessary equipment and clothing for parades, we are also requesting that any costs are waived until we have established the Branch. This can be reviewed regularly.

We are not anticipating a large number to attend the meetings, and after talking to other branches anticipate just the committee and one or two others although we would like to see this grow.

We would not need any special equipment for the meeting however, would like to use a kettle for drinks.

We believe that re-establishing RBL Longridge branch aligns with the council's goals of fostering community engagement.

We are committed to ensuring the conference room is maintained in excellent condition and will adhere to all facility usage policies. Please let us know if there are any forms or additional requirements needed to finalise this request.

5. Members are recommended:

- a. To consider each application.
- b. Authorise the Clerk to inform the applicants of the Council's decision and if appropriate make the necessary arrangements for payment.

Appendix 1

Longridge u3a

Longridge Town Council Grant Application - 2025

Name of Organisation	Longridge u3a
Address Where Most Activities are Carried Out	Civic Hall 1 Calder Avenue, Longridge PR3 3HT
Constitution Attached	Yes
Copy of Accounts	Yes
Charity Number	1180102
Contact Name	Pat Gardner - Publicity
Contact Address	1 Dovedale Gardens, Lower Lane Longridge PR3 3SF
Telephone	07531210319
Email	publicity4longridgeu3a@gmail.com

Description of Objectives and How It Benefits Longridge Residents

The objectives of Longridge u3a is to foster lifelong learning and community engagement in older people and those who have retired from full time work. It has been in place in Longridge since 2014 and is affiliated with the National u3a Trust. It provides an environment where people can come together socialise, make friends and have fun. There are currently over 300 members with 33 groups running each month as well as other events, workshops and courses. Longridge u3a actively contributes to building a happy community of members, promoting social connections, wellbeing and lifelong learning, fostering a thriving community across Longridge and the surrounding area, making a lasting difference for people in their third age.

Purpose of Financial Support

- Expenses towards general social gatherings and meetings, for example, monthly social meetings, convenors lunch, volunteers get together and Christmas party. Rent for the monthly Trustees meetings. Rent and resources for new groups just setting up.
- Publicity and printing costs including newsletters, information packs for new trustees and group convenors and group printing for members. Advertising for Goosnargh and Longridge Show. Stationery and sundries etc.
- Expenses for new groups and a new venture just starting in April 2025 which will provide one-off Activities, Courses, Events and Workshops (ACE WORKSHOPS). The money will help fund some room rent and some resources.

Keeping our service accessible to everyone means keeping cost as low as possible. Membership fees have remained the same for a number of years now allowing more affordable access to everyone at a time when everyday living is getting more expensive.

Amount Requested	£3,248		
Details:			
Social Gatherings/ Meetings			
	Monthly Meetings with a speaker	Room Hire – Civic Hall @ £100 x 12	£1,200
		Speakers @ average of £80 x 12	£960
	Trustees Meetings	Room Hire – Council Room @ £20 x 12	£400
	Annual Convenors lunch	Room Hire – Christ Church £10 x 4 hours	£40
	Volunteers get together	Room Hire – Cricket Club £10 x 2 hours	£20
		Sub-Total	£2,620

Publicity	Advertising	Longridge & Goosnargh Show - ADV Print	£100
	Printing	Newsletters @ £17.50 x 4 times\year	£70
		Christmas Cards	£148
		Information Packs	£130
		New Trustees Packs	
		Convenors Packs	
		Sub Total	= £448
Support for New Groups and ACE WORKSHOPS		Room Hire / Resources (projected figure)	£180
		Subtotal	=£180
		Total	= £3,248

Confirmation:

We agree that we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant has been awarded does not take place. I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Name of Applicant

Pat Gardner

Signature of Applicant:

[Signed copy on file](#)

Date:

[16 05 2025](#)

View Mini Statement

Account: 0892996719882900

Balance Details

Available balance: £ 2,818.32

Current balance: £ 2,818.32

Overdraft limit: £ 0.00

Remaining overdraft: £ 0.00

Your balance as of: 30/04/2025

Transactions list:

Transaction date	Bank reference	Customer reference	Type of payment	Credit amount (GBP)	Debit amount (GBP)	Balance (GBP)
30/04/2025	Longridge Cricket	Cricket Club	Standing Order		£ -150.00	£ 2,818.32
30/04/2025	Third Age Trust Tr	TATTL-9818	Standing Order		£ -872.00	£ 2,968.32
29/04/2025	J Clark and J Coar	CLARK JA	Faster Payment	£ 30.00		£ 3,840.32
28/04/2025	guitar venue fees	ROBERT KEMP	Faster Payment	£ 65.00		£ 3,810.32
28/04/2025	DOREE & GEOFF PORTER	PORTER G & D	Faster Payment	£ 40.00		£ 3,745.32
28/04/2025	TATTL-9037	Third Age Trust Tr	Standing Order		£ -300.00	£ 3,705.32
28/04/2025	TATTL-10639	Third Age Trust Tr	Standing Order		£ -50.00	£ 4,005.32
24/04/2025	Yvonne Heaney	YVONNE HEANEY	Faster Payment	£ 30.00		£ 4,055.32
24/04/2025	BENTE LOUDON	Loudon Bente	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 4,025.32
24/04/2025	S WELLS	S Wells	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 4,005.32
23/04/2025	Carol Ann Pell	C Pell	Faster Payment	£ 30.00		£ 3,985.32
23/04/2025	WALKER-GRIFFITHS	Walker Teresa	Faster Payment	£ 30.00		£ 3,955.32
23/04/2025	MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL	J Atkinson	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 3,925.32
23/04/2025	R Parry single	PARRY R & J	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 3,905.32
23/04/2025	4988243029068248 CARD	8248 AMZNMktplace*	Purchase		£ -26.49	£ 3,885.32
22/04/2025	2025-26 ANNUAL	GEOFFREY WOODS	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 3,911.81
22/04/2025	J. Matthews	MATTHEWS J&I	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 3,891.81
22/04/2025	Deb Cowles art	S Cowles	Faster Payment	£ 20.00		£ 3,871.81
22/04/2025	DW HARRISON FRENCH	HARRISON DW	Faster Payment	£ 16.50		£ 3,851.81

22/04/2025	Cricket Club	Longridge Cricket	Standing Order		£ -550.00	✓ £ 3,835.31
22/04/2025	U3A	Longridge Civic Ha	Standing Order		£ -230.00	✓ £ 4,385.31
22/04/2025	Inv 3580	Advanced Print Sol	Standing Order		£ -150.00	✓ £ 4,615.31
✗ 11/04/2025	GEORGINA MARSDEN	Marsden Georgina	Faster Payment	£ 16.00	✓	£ 4,765.31
10/04/2025	inv202510	AJ V Designs	Standing Order		£ -100.00	✓ £ 4,749.31
10/04/2025	4988243029068248 CARD	8248 THE OLD STATI	Purchase		£ -19.60	✓ £ 4,849.31
09/04/2025	4575501281880000	000000 CREDIT	Own Account Credit	£ 310.00		£ 4,868.91
08/04/2025	L F PARKINSON	LESLEY PARKINSON	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00	✓	£ 4,558.91
07/04/2025	CARD 4988243029068248	8248 PO 11:37APR05	National Giro Credit	£ 2,030.00		£ 4,538.91
07/04/2025	36314 U3A	LINOTYPE SERVICES	Standing Order		£ -15.00	£ 2,508.91 ✓
04/04/2025	R Touray	TOURAY R	Faster Payment	✓ £ 16.50		£ 2,523.91
04/04/2025	U3A	Mrs E Cussans	Standing Order		£ -23.22	£ 2,507.41 ✓
03/04/2025	C J RAVENHILL	RAVENHILL C J	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,530.63
03/04/2025	Tattersall R & P	SUSAN TATTERSALL	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,500.63
02/04/2025	Carole Brown	BROWN CAROLE	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,470.63
01/04/2025	R B LYONS 2025	B Lyons	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,450.63
01/04/2025	Kemp membership	ROBERT KEMP	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,420.63
01/04/2025	T and M Sherry	SHERRY MWP	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,390.63
01/04/2025	K YATES	Yates Anne	Faster Payment	✓ £ 30.00		£ 2,360.63
01/04/2025	Joyce Westwell	Joyce Westwell	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,330.63
01/04/2025	Beeby AE	ANN BEEBY	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,310.63
01/04/2025	S M H TAYLOR	Taylor Susan	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,290.63
01/04/2025	SCARBOROUGH D U3A	Scarborough Diane	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,270.63
01/04/2025	KEITH HASSALL	Hassall Keith	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,250.63
01/04/2025	BJ SINGLETON	SINGLETON BJ	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,230.63
01/04/2025	JI FARADAY	FARADAY MT & JI X	Faster Payment	✓ £ 20.00		£ 2,210.63



Thank you for applying for a grant from Longridge Town Council. Your application will be considered by a small Committee of Councillors who will make recommendations to Full Council.

The Committee will carefully consider your application, so please provide all the information requested. Please also supply any additional information you think will help Councillors understand your need for financial support. If you wish to discuss your application please contact Mike Hill, the Town Clerk, using the telephone number or email address below.

Name of Organisation	Royal British Legion (RBL) – Longridge Branch		
Address of Organisation. This should be the base if you have, or the venue where your activities are usually carried out.			
Currently in the process of securing a meeting venue			
Charity Number (if applicable). If you are not a registered charity please enclose a copy of your constitution, and a copy of your most recent accounts.			
Constitution attached	Y	Copy of accounts attached	Y/N
Charity Number	219279		
Contact Name. Person completing this form. Please indicate your role within the organisation or group e.g. Secretary, Treasurer.			
Natalie Eccles - Secretary			
Contact Address. Of the person completing this form including post code.			



Cloggers Farm,
Stanalee Lane
Whitechapel
Preston
PR3 2EQ

Telephone:	07964661787	Mobile:	07964661787
Email:	Natalie.eccles@btinternet.com		

Briefly describe the objectives of the organisation or group and how it benefits the residents of Longridge.

Longridge once had an active RBL branch, which dissolved by 2016 due to declining membership and an aging demographic – common challenges for RBL branches nationwide.

The branch's Standards were ceremonially laid up at Longridge High School, reflecting a community desire to preserve its legacy.

The history of Longridge suggests both a past connection to the Armed Forces community and a potential foundation for its revival.

The process to re-establish RBL Longridge branch has begun, branch number BR1475. Building on the town's historic ties to the RBL we believe a new Longridge Branch can thrive focusing on both remembrance and social engagement ensuring Longridge once again hosts a vibrant hub for the Armed Forces community.

The RBL Ceremonial Parade Standard is a significant visual symbol and reminder of the sacrifices made by those who served. It is used as part of



the Opening and Closing Ceremony of the Branch meetings, used for Formal parade occasions including Remembrance Services and Funerals for example.

RBL Longridge Branch will integrate into the community and provide:

1. **Remembrance Role:** Leading local Poppy Appeal efforts and Remembrance Sunday Services, partnering with Longridge Town Council and fostering community involvement and a sense of shared remembrance growing the parade to reflect a growing Longridge.
2. **Social Hub:** Hosting events like quizzes or veterans' breakfasts to foster camaraderie, appealing to Longridge's community-oriented culture
3. **Welfare Outreach:** Promote RBL's free helpline (0808 802 8080) and support services, addressing loneliness or financial needs among local veterans.

As of yet Longridge Branch (BR1475) does not have access to any bank accounts. We have started the process to sign over access of the bank accounts with Nat West and this is ongoing. We are aware there is a small balance on the account but have not seen any documented figures as of today however the figures verbally provided during our initial meeting with RBL Lancashire was:

General Account (for purchasing) - £4395.85



Purpose for which any financial support is requested.

Establishing a new RBL Longridge Branch will require a new Ceremonial Parade Standard.

The Standard serves as a visual symbol of the branch's identity and a place for members to gather and connect.

Any monies received from this grant will go towards the funding of the Ceremonial Parade Standard and its accessories.

Note: Uniform and training costs for a Standard Bearer will be requested through RBL and money raised independently.

Amount Requested:

Please describe the level of financial support requested from the Council, and supply details of costs, including copies of invoices, quotations, price lists, or any additional information to show how you have arrived at the sum requested.

Amount Requested	£ 1,245.00 (excluding VAT)
-------------------------	-----------------------------------

Details:

Normal Weight Branch Standard detailing Longridge Branch	£ 750
Ceremonial Parade Pole	£160
9ft long GOLD Cords and Tassels	£45
Brown leather sling with carrying bucket	£65
Small Standard stow away	£75
Pole Base for displaying Standard and Union Jack	£150
Total (Excluding VAT)	£1,245.00

**Confirmation:**

I/we agree that I/we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant has been awarded does not take place.

I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Name of Applicant (please print)

Natalie Eccles


Signature of Applicant:

Date: 01-05-25


Mike Hill

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Longridge Town Council.

 clerk@longridge-tc.gov.uk

 01772 782 461

 07855 183 444

 www.longridge-tc.gov.uk



00196087
01945 0001/0001

 NatWest

Current Account

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
31 Dec 2012	BROUGHT FORWARD			1,661.34
23 Jan 2013	Credit No. 100945 010524		97.50	1,758.84

Account Number 74925946
313 Branch sort code 01-05-24
National Westminster Bank Plc

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
LONGRIDGE BRANCH

00196085
01945 0001/0001

 NatWest

Business Reserve Account

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
31 Oct 2012	BROUGHT FORWARD			2,636.74
31 Dec	Interest 31DEC-NET 24296147		0.27	2,637.01

Account Number 24296147

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION LONGRIDGE
BRANCH

53

Branch sort code 01-05-24

National Westminster Bank Plc

00407920
2
00142 01

NatWest

Current Account

Branch details
Longridge Branch
8 Berry Lane
Longridge
Preston
Lancs
PR3 3LB

Summary 13 Jan 2010 to 13 Jan 2011
Sheet 89

Previous balance	325.95
Withdrawn	0.00
Paid in	0.00
New balance	325.95

L25110/00407920/F 010524/00142



MR G MAYNE
75 CHAIGLEY ROAD
LONGRIDGE
PRESTON
PR3 3TQ

For Bank use

CONFIRMED
[Signature]

If you have changed your address or telephone number,
please let us know.

Account Number 74934023
Branch sort code 01-05-24
National Westminster Bank Plc

LONGRIDGE BRANCH BRITISH
LEGION LOCAL BENEVOLENT FUND
BIC NMBK GB 2L
IBAN GB05 NMBK 0105 2474 9340 23

00407919
00142 0001/0001

NatWest

Business Reserve Account.

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
13 Oct 2010	BROUGHT FORWARD			5,952.81
31 Dec	Interest		0.60	5,953.41

31DEC-NET 24236330

CORRECT
[Signature]
D Hely

Account Number 24236330
Branch sort code 01-05-24
National Westminster Bank Plc

LONGRIDGE BRANCH BRITISH
LEGION LOCAL BENEVOLENT FUND

00431157
00150 0001/0001

NatWest

Business Reserve Account

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
13 Jul 2011	BROUGHT FORWARD			5,954.58

CORRECT
[Signature]
D Hely

24236330

LONGRIDGE BRITISH LEGION

Longridge Town Council

Council Offices, The Station Building
Berry Lane, Longridge
Preston PR3 3JP

Telephone: 01772 782461
Email: clerk@longridge-tc.gov.uk



Grant Application Form

Thank you for applying for a grant from Longridge Town Council. Your application will be considered by a small committee of Councillors who will make proposals to full Council about the award of grants. The Committee will consider carefully the information you provide so please supply the information requested on this form to assist this process. Please also supply any other information you think will help Councillors understand your need for financial support. If you wish to discuss your application please contact Andrea Pownall, the Town Clerk, using the telephone number or email address above.

Name of Organisation or Group: Thursday Group (Autism Group)

Address of Organisation:

This should be the base if it has one, or the venue where its activities are usually carried out.

St Pauls Church, Church Street, Longridge, Preston. PR33WA

Charity number (if applicable):

If you are not a registered charity please enclose a copy of your constitution, and a copy of the most recent accounts.

We are not a registered charity.

The church have given us loan of the building and insured the group as a church group

We have no funding.

Contact name (Person completing this form):

Please indicate role within organisation or group e.g. Secretary, Treasurer.

Emma Turver – Group Leader
Jackie Laker – Assistant Leader

Contact address (Person completing this form):

**ReachoutASC
Office 1
Trafford Buildings
East St
Leyland
Lancashire**

Telephone number:	Mobile telephone: 07890 221250
E-mail address: emma@reachoutasc.com	
<p>Describe the objectives of the organisation or group and how what it does benefits the residents of Longridge:</p> <p>We meet once a week to chat, play games, do craft, play table tennis have snacks etc. and enjoy the company of each other each Thursday from 3.30pm until 5.00pm, term time only. Many pupils with autism benefit from a social facility where they can meet others who have the same condition in a calm and supportive environment.</p> <p>All members have neurodiversity and their siblings are welcome too.</p> <p>Current members are from local primary, high schools and special needs schools.</p> <p>We have 8 regular members currently plus 6 parent/staff/helpers .</p> <p>Parents are asked to stay with younger or more vulnerable group members/primary age and are encouraged to join in with activities and have a brew etc.</p> <p>Emma Turver - have been teaching pupils with autism for 30 year and am currently a consultant to parents and families. I am able to give further support to those who ask.</p>	
<p>Purpose for which financial support is requested:</p> <p>Weekly consumables – Juice, teabags, coffee, hot chocolate, milk, sugar.</p> <p>Bread, cakes, crisps to provide after school snacks.</p> <p>Craft essentials – paper, felt tips, glue, arts and craft resources (to make slime, fidget toys)</p> <p>Updating/purchasing games and activities for the children to play. (of which will be responsibly sourced e.g., charity shops).</p> <p>Occasional food making activities.</p> <p>Sensory items:</p> <p>Requiring more sensory products such as rocking board, tactile boards etc as some of the needs have diversified.</p> <p>Would like a new tent, torches and some outdoor play toys.</p>	
<p>Amount requested:</p> <p>Please describe the level of financial support requested from the Council, and supply details of costs, including copies of invoices, quotations, price lists, or any additional information to show how you have arrived at the sum requested.</p> <p>36 weeks /year – Term time only</p> <p>Snacks/milk/refreshments – weekly £4.00 (To include tea coffee, milk, butter, crisps or biscuits and Bread).</p>	

Refreshments £150
Crafts /Games/activities £150
Sensory items. £100

Total £400.00

I/we agree that I/we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant was awarded for does not take place. I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Signature of applicant

Name (please print) Emma Turver (Mrs)

Date 22/5/2025



The best way to call or chat with us is via the ['Support'](#) section of the Chase app.

Alternatively, you can call on **0800 376 3333** (or **+44 203 493 0829** if you're abroad) or write to us at PO Box 17507, Edinburgh, EH12 1PX

Emma Turver
3 Ennerdale Road
Longridge
Preston
PR3 3FX

Emma's Account statement

Account number: 94649390
Sort code: 60-84-07

01 April 2025 - 30 April 2025

Opening balance		Money in		Money out		Closing balance
£37.41	+	£0.00	-	£0.00	=	£37.41

Date	Transaction details	Amount	Balance
01 Apr 2025	Opening balance		£37.41
You didn't make any transactions in this time			
30 Apr 2025	Closing balance		£37.41

Some useful information

Some transactions may take a few days to finalise. This means that they may appear on your statement at a later date than when you made them.

Foreign currency transactions

When you make foreign currency transactions, we'll show you the conversion rate we used at the time the transaction was finalised.

Interest

The AER is 0% (variable). AER is the rate of interest you earn from us on any balance above £0. It's short for Annual Equivalent Rate and shows how much interest you'll earn on your balance each year, including any prior interest payments.

Your deposit is eligible for protection by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). The information sheet and exclusions list are available to view in the app. For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at <https://www.fscs.org.uk/>

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Thank you for applying for a grant from Longridge Town Council. Your application will be considered by a small Committee of Councillors who will make recommendations to Full Council.

The Committee will carefully consider your application, so please provide all the information requested. Please also supply any additional information you think will help Councillors understand your need for financial support.

If you wish to discuss your application please contact Mike Hill, the Town Clerk, using the telephone number or email address below.

Name of Organisation	Friends of Longridge Civic Hall on behalf of the Laughter and Lunch Group		
Address of Organisation. This should be the base if you have, or the venue where your activities are usually carried out.			
Longridge Civic Hall, Calder Avenue, Longridge			
Charity Number (if applicable). If you are not a registered charity please enclose a copy of your constitution, and a copy of your most recent accounts.			
Constitution attached	Yes	Copy of accounts attached	Yes
Charity Number	--		
Contact Name. Person completing this form. Please indicate your role within the organisation or group e.g. Secretary, Treasurer.			
Jean Hill (hon sec.)			
Contact Address. Of the person completing this form including post code.			
2 Cherry Grove, Longridge, Preston PR3 3EY			



Telephone:	01772 780520	Mobile:	07814149126
Email:	jeanhillwalking@gmail.com		
Briefly describe the objectives of the organisation or group and how it benefits the residents of Longridge.			
<p>The Longridge Dementia and Support Group seeks funding from Longridge Town Council to maintain its weekly meetings, which provide essential support for individuals living with various stages of dementia and their carers. The group meets weekly at Longridge Civic Hall to offer a safe, welcoming environment for social interaction, activities, and peer support. Funding is requested to cover operational costs, including venue hire, refreshments, activity materials, and volunteer training, ensuring the group's sustainability for 2025/26.</p>			
Purpose for which any financial support is requested.			
<p>Dementia affects approximately 1 in 14 people over 65 in the UK. Based on national prevalence rates, an estimated 200–300 Longridge residents may be living with dementia, many supported by unpaid carers. The Longridge Dementia and Support Group addresses the social isolation, emotional strain, and practical challenges faced by these individuals and their carers, filling a critical gap in local services.</p> <p>The weekly group delivers significant benefits to attendees, tailored to the needs of those at various stages of dementia and their carers.</p>			
Amount Requested:			
Please describe the level of financial support requested from the Council, and supply details of costs, including copies of invoices, quotations, price lists, or any additional information to show how you have arrived at the sum requested.			
Amount Requested	£3,000		
Details:			
<p>Yearly Cost of food, and resources for activities £2,160</p> <p>Yearly cost of hall hire £3,960</p> <p>We expect to obtain £3,480 from donations during a year</p>			
Confirmation:			



We agree that we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant has been awarded does not take place.

I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Name of Applicant (please print)

Jean Hill

Signature of Applicant:

J. Hill

Date: 03/06/2025

Friends of Longridge Civic Hall
PARK VIEW
FLEET STREET
LONGRIDGE
PR3 3ED

Your Account

Sort Code 30-98-97
Account Number 52822363

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT

01 May 2025 to 25 May 2025

Money In	£2,491.39	Balance on 01 May 2025	£10,998.76
Money Out	£1,484.01	Balance on 25 May 2025	£12,006.14

Your Transactions

Date	Description	Type	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)	Balance (£)
06 May 25	FRIENDS OF LONGRID 309950 28131662 04MAY25	TFR	437.50		11,436.26
06 May 25	FRIENDS OF LONGRID 309950 28131662 04MAY25	TFR	436.00		11,872.26
06 May 25	LOGRIDGE SOCIAL EN 400000001558804419 INV 254	FPO		437.58	11,434.68
06 May 25	ROSEMARY AND TIME 400000001558804565 1335	FPO		436.00	10,998.68
09 May 25	500050	DEP	500.00		11,498.68
09 May 25	ROBERT DYAS ECOM CD 1516	DEB		38.36 ✓	11,460.32
12 May 25	FRIENDS OF LONGRID YOUNG FARMERS 11MAY25	TFR		500.00	10,960.32
19 May 25	SERVICE CHARGES REF : 454020762	PAY		10.14 ✓	10,950.18
20 May 25	P.O. 24 BERRY LANE	DEP	1,090.00		12,040.18
21 May 25	ROBERT DYAS ECOM CD 1516	DEB	27.89 ✓		12,068.07
22 May 25	AMAZON* H34JI37U5 CD 1516	DEB		61.93	12,006.14

Transaction types

BGC Bank Giro Credit	BP Bill Payments	CHG Charge	CHQ Cheque
COR Correction	CPT Cashpoint	DD Direct Debit	DEB Debit Card
DEP Deposit	FEE Fixed Service	FPI Faster Payment In	FPO Faster Payment Out
MPI Mobile Payment In	MPO Mobile Payment Out	PAY Payment	SO Standing Order
TFR Transfer			

Longridge Town Council

Council Offices, The Station Building
Berry Lane, Longridge
Preston PR3 3JP

Telephone: 01772 782461
Email: clerk@longridge-tc.gov.uk



Grant Application Form

Thank you for applying for a grant from Longridge Town Council. Your application will be considered by a small committee of Councillors who will make proposals to full Council about the award of grants. The Committee will consider carefully the information you provide so please supply the information requested on this form to assist this process. Please also supply any other information you think will help Councillors understand your need for financial support. If you wish to discuss your application please contact Andrea Pownall, the Town Clerk, using the telephone number or email address above.

Name of Organisation or Group: Goosnargh & Longridge Agricultural show

Address of Organisation:

This should be the base if it has one, or the venue where its activities are usually carried out.

Lower Lane Showfield Site Longridge c/o Vicki Hardacre 14 Hoghton Road Longeidge

Charity number (if applicable):

If you are not a registered charity please enclose a copy of your constitution, and a copy of the most recent accounts.

1008284

Contact name (Person completing this form):

Please indicate role within organisation or group e.g. Secretary, Treasurer.

Vicki Hardacre

Contact address (Person completing this form):

14 Hoghton Road Longridge Preston PR3 3UA

Telephone number:
07568601912

Mobile telephone:
07568601912

E-mail address:

Describe the objectives of the organisation or group and how what it does benefits the residents of Longridge:

The aims and objectives of The Goosnargh & Longridge Agricultural Show Society are the promotion and general advancement of the science of agriculture and horticulture in their widest sense.

The show brings together the towns and villages and countryside of the Ribble Valley to showcase the best of what we've got and educate people in aspects of modern countryside.

Purpose for which financial support is requested:

The show has a community marquee and this which is open to local businesses and community groups in the Longridge area. They will be invited to display and demonstrate their businesses and activities eg Scouts & Guides, Heritage Society, Local Food Bank, Sports & Fitness, U3A, Age Uk.

The grant will enable us to provide this facility free of charge while they can promote the local groups in our area.

Amount requested:

Please describe the level of financial support requested from the Council, and supply details of costs, including copies of invoices, quotations, price lists, or any additional information to show how you have arrived at the sum requested.

£2000.00 to help towards the Marquee.

I/we agree that I/we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant was awarded for does not take place. I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Signature of applicant Vicki Hardacre

Name (please print)

Vicki Hardacre

Date 14.01.25

--



MR G KELSALL
316 BLACKPOOL ROAD
FULWOOD
PRESTON
LANCASHIRE
PR2 3AE

Current Account

Summary	
Statement Date	30 DEC 2024
Period Covered	30 NOV 2024 to 30 DEC 2024
Previous Balance	£1,867.16
Paid In	£335.00
Withdrawn	£320.53
New Balance	£1,881.63
BIC	NWBKGB2L
IBAN	GB53NWBK01052474930346

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Date	Description	Paid In(£)	Withdrawn(£)	Balance(£)
30 NOV 2024	BROUGHT FORWARD			1,867.16
02 DEC	Automated Credit FP RETURN 02/12/24 22014543556962000N RET CODE 00000003	35.00		1,902.16
	Standing Order BIG HITS DIGITAL M LONGRIDGE SHOW FP 02/12/24 30 22014543556962000N		35.00	1,867.16
10 DEC	Automated Credit BOYD DONALD CARAVAN RALLYS FP 10/12/24 0823 FP24345O00947171	200.00		2,067.16
	OnLine Transaction Big hits digital m Longridge Show VIA MOBILE - PYMT FP 10/12/24 10 17082544422963000N		35.00	2,032.16
17 DEC	Direct Debit E.ON NEXT LTD A-F0440B97-001		169.36	1,862.80
23 DEC	Automated Credit YOUNG TS T/A TAYAH TAYS YOUNG BESPOKE	100.00		1,962.80
24 DEC	OnLine Transaction WATER PLUS 4077234658 VIA MOBILE - PYMT		81.17	1,881.63

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Statement Abbreviations

N-S TRN FEE = Non Sterling Transaction Fee

VRATE = Variable Payment Scheme Exchange Rate

OD = Overdrawn

How to contact us

Message Us via the mobile app

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www.natwest.com

24hr Lost/Stolen Cards:

0370 600 0459

If you're a Business Customer:

24/7 Business banking support - 0345 711 4477 (Outside the UK +44 870 511 4477)

Find useful contact information visit on our 'contact us' page:

<https://www.natwest.com/business/support/contact-numbers.html>

Reporting online banking transactions, payments or scams - 0345 711 4477 (Outside the UK - +44 345 711 4477)

Or, if you're a Commercial, Corporate & Institutional customer:

Please contact your local sector service team or your relationship manager.

To use Relay UK, add 18001 in front of the numbers above.

Branch Address: **Preston (C) Branch, 97 Fishergate, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 2AE.**

Important information about compensation arrangements

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If you receive paper statements, a FSCS Information Sheet and list of exclusions will be provided to you on an annual basis.

If you receive paperless statements, you can access the FSCS Information Sheet and list of exclusions:

www.natwest.com/document-fscs-information-sheet

If you can't open this link, please type the above URL into your web browser (ideally from a secure device in a private location).

For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the website:

www.FSCS.org.uk

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If you have a problem with your agreement, please try to resolve it with us in the first instance. If you are not happy with the way in which we handled your complaint or the result, you may be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service. If you do not take up your problem with us first you will not be entitled to complain to the Ombudsman. We can provide details of how to contact the Ombudsman.

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- Message Us via the mobile app
- Visit www.natwest.com/complaints
- Telephone 03457 888 444 (to use Relay UK add **18001** in front of the number)

**For a Braille, large print or audio versions of your statement
call 03457 888 444 or contact your local branch
(to use Relay UK add 18001 in front of the number).**

Longridge Town Council

Council Offices, The Station Building
Berry Lane, Longridge
Preston PR3 3JP

Telephone: 01772 782461
Email: clerk@longridge-tc.gov.uk



Grant Application Form

Thank you for applying for a grant from Longridge Town Council. Your application will be considered by a small committee of Councillors who will make proposals to full Council about the award of grants. The Committee will consider carefully the information you provide so please supply the information requested on this form to assist this process. Please also supply any other information you think will help Councillors understand your need for financial support. If you wish to discuss your application please contact Andrea Pownall, the Town Clerk, using the telephone number or email address above.

Name of Organisation or Group:

Longridge Field Day Events

Address of Organisation:

This should be the base if it has one, or the venue where its activities are usually carried out.

C/O 2 Kestor Lane
Longridge
Preston
PR3 3JX

Charity number (if applicable):

If you are not a registered charity please enclose a copy of your constitution, and a copy of the most recent accounts.

N/A

Contact name (Person completing this form):

Please indicate role within organisation or group e.g. Secretary, Treasurer.

Andrew Leonard (President / Director)

Contact address (Person completing this form):

As above

Telephone number:

07484800324

Mobile telephone:

07484800324

E-mail address: l-f-d@outlook.com

Describe the objectives of the organisation or group and how what it does benefits the residents of Longridge:

We organise and run the annual Longridge Field Day event. This is a big event showcasing the best of Longridge, its community and its groups. We are a not for profit organisation and all money raised gets put back into future events for the benefit of Longridge and its wider community.

Purpose for which financial support is requested:

This year we would like help to cover the costs of the new banners and their installation onto lamp posts. We have had them designed and printed. Installation of them should be in the next few days depending on the weather.

Amount requested:

Please describe the level of financial support requested from the Council, and supply details of costs, including copies of invoices, quotations, price lists, or any additional information to show how you have arrived at the sum requested.

This year we are requesting £950

This would cover the initial costs of the new banners and their installation and removal.

I/we agree that I/we will repay to the Council any grant awarded if the project for which the grant was awarded for does not take place. I confirm that the information given above is correct.

Signature of applicant

A Leonard Director

Name (please print)

A Leonard

Date

03/06/25

Agenda Item 10

For Decision/Discussion



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	VJ Day – August 2025
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider commemorating VJ Day 2025.

2. Background.

The 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan (VJ) Day on 15 August 2025 marks a significant milestone in commemorating the end of the Second World War. The goal is to honour the sacrifices of the Second World War generation, particularly those who served in the Far East, while fostering community engagement and remembrance in Longridge.

Members will be aware that the Town Council acknowledged the significance of the 80th anniversary of VE Day (8 May 2025) by arranging a range of activities and events.

3. Members are recommended:

- To consider commemorating VJ Day 2025.
- If necessary, request the Clerk to set up a working group to consider what events and activities could take place and any associated costs.

Agenda Item 11

For Decision/Discussion



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Reinstating Civic Sunday
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider holding a Civic Sunday event in February 2026.

2. Background.

Longridge Town Council's Civic Sunday was an annual event that traditionally featured a procession and a church service, bringing together the mayor, councillors, local organisations, and schools in a display of community unity.

In 2016, the Town Council decided to discontinue the Civic Sunday parade and formal church service. This decision was influenced by factors such as the costs associated with road closures and marshalling the parade, as well as declining public attendance.

Additionally, 'Longridge Churches Together' suggested that there might be more effective ways for the council to engage with the community than through a dedicated service on an already busy Sunday schedule.

As an alternative, during the 2016/17 civic year, the newly elected mayor, Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, planned to attend regular Sunday services at each of the Longridge churches by arrangement with the clergy. Furthermore, the Town Council participated in the Field Day procession on June 11, 2016, as a means of maintaining a visible presence in the community.

The Town Council continues to engage with the community through various initiatives and events, such as the Remembrance Day Parade, 'Longridge Does Christmas' and VE Day celebrations.

3. Financial Considerations.

Members are reminded that in November 2024 they allocated a budget of £6,000 for Civic Events including remembrance services and that the cost in 2024 for closing the road on Remembrance Sunday was £3,091.

4. Members are recommended:

- To consider reinstating the Town Council's Civic Sunday Event
- If approved, set a date and budget.

Agenda Item 12

For Decision/Discussion



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Setting up three additional Working Groups
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider setting up three additional Working Groups.

2. Introduction.

Members are reminded that they currently have three standing working groups:

- **Longridge Life Savers:** Cllrs. Eccles, Smith and Jackson
- **Longridge Loop:** Cllrs. Stubbs, Rainford and Jackson.
- **Community Garden:** Cllrs. Smith, Rainford and Walker.

3. New Groups.

This report recommends that the Town Council establish three new Working Groups to address key priorities in 2025:

- Remembrance Sunday 2025:** Commemorating the sacrifices of the armed forces, particularly in the context of the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII.
The working group should include council members and could include representatives from the Longridge Civic Hall, Longridge veterans, RBL, local churches and the Longridge Heritage Centre.
- Christmas 2025:** Organising festive events and decorations to boost community spirit and support local businesses.
The working group should include council members, and could include local business owners, community volunteers to plan events like a Christmas market, tree lighting, and school choir and Longridge Band performances.
- Local Government Devolution:** To prepare Longridge Town Council for potential changes in local governance resulting from devolution discussions.
A working group can ensure Longridge's unique needs such as rural connectivity, housing, and economic development, are voiced in negotiations with Lancashire County Council and other stakeholders.
The working group should include council members, and community representatives to review devolution proposals, hold public consultations, and submit feedback to Lancashire County Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council by key deadlines.

Each group will focus on planning, coordinating, and delivering initiatives that align with community needs, national significance, and emerging governance opportunities. Establishing these groups will enhance the council's ability to deliver impactful events, strengthen community engagement, and navigate the complexities of devolution effectively.

4. Members are recommended:

- a. To approve the formation of the three working groups.
- b. Appoint members to each of the groups.
- c. Direct each group to develop detailed plans and budgets by September 2025.
- d. Promote group activities through the council website and social media to encourage community participation.

Agenda Item 13

For Decision/Discussion



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Framework for assessing the Council's key objectives and performance.
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

For members to consider setting up a framework for assessing the Council's key objectives and performance for its activities in 2025/26.

2. Introduction

This framework outlines how the Town Council will assess its objectives and performance for activities in the current financial year, incorporating the possible completion of six expressions of interest (EOIs) submitted to Ribble Valley Borough Council in June 2025.

It establishes objectives, defines measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and provides a structured process for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting outcomes. The framework focuses on four key areas: Remembrance Sunday 2025, Christmas 2025, Local Government Devolution, and the EOIs, alongside general council operations. By implementing this framework, the council aims to ensure accountability, enhance community engagement, and achieve strategic goals effectively.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this framework is to:

1. Align council activities with community needs and strategic priorities, including the successful delivery of the six EOIs.
2. Measure the success of specific initiatives (e.g., Remembrance Sunday, Christmas, devolution, EOIs) and ongoing operations.
3. Provide transparent reporting to residents, Ribble Valley Borough Council, and other stakeholders.
4. Identify areas for improvement to enhance future performance.

4. Objectives for 2025/26

Based on the Town Council's priorities, the proposed working groups, and the six EOIs submitted to Ribble Valley Borough Council, the following objectives guide the 2025/26 activities:

4.1 Remembrance Sunday 2025:

- Deliver a respectful and inclusive commemoration on 9 November 2025, honouring veterans and engaging the community.
- Educate residents, particularly the younger generations, about the two World Wars and later conflicts.

4.2 Christmas 2025:

- Organise vibrant festive events to foster community spirit and support local businesses.
- Ensure events are accessible, sustainable, and financially viable.

4.3 Local Government Devolution:

- Advocate for Longridge's interests in Lancashire's devolution discussions.
- Engage residents in consultations to shape governance changes.

4.4 Expressions of Interest (EOIs):

Successfully complete the six EOIs submitted to Ribble Valley Borough Council in June 2025.

- **Longridge Loop £15,000:** The project will enhance accessibility for disabled individuals and parents with children and prams by upgrading paths, adding accessible infrastructure, and incorporating sustainable features.
- **Longridge Sports & Social Club £100,000:** To restore the disused building on Towneley Road, into a vibrant community hub.
- **Community Garden £25,000:** To transform a waste plot of land off Drivers Walk, into a Well-Being Community Garden to serve as a sustainable, inclusive, and community-driven space.
- **Heritage Centre £75,000:** Total refurbishment.
- **Towneley Gardens £100,000:** Requests funding to complete the project, including physical planting, landscaping, and construction works.
- **Regeneration of Berry Lane and Stoneridge £100,000:** Funding to support a transformative greening and regeneration project for Berry Lane and Stonebridge the commercial and cultural heart of Longridge.

4.5 General Council Operations:

- Maintain high-quality services (community gardens and planning responses).
- Improve communication and engagement with residents.
- Ensure financial sustainability and compliance with regulations.

5. Performance Assessment Framework

5.1 Assessment Process

The council will assess its performance through a structured process:

- **Planning:** Set clear objectives and KPIs for each activity.
- **Monitoring:** Track progress quarterly.
- **Evaluation:** Analyse outcomes against KPIs at key milestones.
- **Reporting:** Share results with residents, and stakeholders.
- **Review and Improvement:** Use findings to refine strategies for 2026/27.

5.2 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The following KPIs are tailored to each objective, ensuring measurable, specific, and community-focused outcomes. They include both quantitative and qualitative metrics, with specific indicators for the EOIs.

Remembrance Sunday 2025

Objective	KPI	Target
Deliver a respectful and inclusive commemoration	Attendance at Remembrance Sunday service and parade.	100+ attendees
	Participation of veterans and community groups	5+ organisations involved (e.g., RBL, schools, Scouts)
	Positive feedback on event organisation and respectfulness	80%+ positive responses in post-event survey
Educate residents about the two World Wars and later conflicts.	Number of schools participating in educational activities	3+ local schools attend
	Heritage Centre exhibition	100+ attendees sign a Visitors Log.

Christmas 2025

Objective	KPI	Target
Foster community spirit through festive events	Attendance at Christmas events (e.g., tree lighting, market)	200+ attendees across events.
	Number of community groups or businesses involved.	10+ groups/businesses participating
	Positive feedback on event quality and inclusivity.	80%+ positive responses in post-event survey
Support local businesses	Increase in reported footfall for local retailers.	10%+ increase during December 2025 vs.2024
Ensure financial viability	Event costs offset by grants/sponsorships.	10%+ of costs covered by external funding
	Events and new festive lighting delivered within budget.	100% adherence to approved budget

Local Government Devolution

Objective	KPI	Target
Advocate for Longridge's interests.	Contact RVBC requesting that the Town Council are involved in the Devolution Working Group.	1+ formal submission to RVBC by September 2025
Engage residents in consultations.	Attendance at devolution consultation events	25+ residents attending across all events

General Council Operations

Objective	KPI	Target
Improve communication with the public	Social media engagement.	20%+ increase in social media interactions vs. 2024/25. Issue Summer and Autumn (2025), and Winter and Spring (2026) Newsletters
	Number of public meetings/events held	Hold 2+ Civic Events
Ensure financial sustainability	Budget adherence	80% of expenditure within approved budget
	Successful external audits	Zero major audit findings

Expression of Interest (EOIs)

Objective	KPI	Target
Complete EOIs submitted in June 2025	Number of EOIs progressed to funding stage	Completed all EOIs approved by Ribble Valley Borough Council by March 2026
	Timely submission of required documentation	100% of follow-up documents submitted to RVBC by deadlines
	Match funding	80% of match funding requests approved.
Align EOIs with community priorities	Community support for EOI projects	75%+ positive responses in consultation surveys.
	Number of public consultations held for EOIs	2+ consultation events or surveys by September 2025
	Diversity of stakeholder involvement	4+ stakeholder groups (e.g., residents, businesses, community organisations) engaged per EOI
Ensure effective project planning	Development of project plans for approved EOIs	Detailed plans (timelines and budgets) for all approved EOIs by October 2025

6. Monitoring and Reporting Schedule

- **Quarterly Reviews** (October 2025, January 2026 and April 2026):
 - Working groups report progress on KPIs to the Full Council.
 - Identify any challenges (e.g., low attendance, budget overruns) and adjust plans.
- **Post-Event Evaluations:**
 - Remembrance Sunday: November 2025.
 - Christmas: January 2026.
 - Devolution: Ongoing, with a major review in November 2025 after key submission deadlines.
- **Annual Report** (April 2026):
 - Summarise outcomes against KPIs, including successes and areas for improvement.
 - Publish on the council website and present at a public meeting.
- **Community Feedback:**
 - Share results via the council website, social media and newsletter.
 - Hold a public meeting in May 2026 to discuss outcomes and gather input for 2026/27.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Council Clerk and RFO:** Oversee framework implementation, coordinate data collection, and compile reports. Monitor budget-related KPIs and provide financial data.
- **Working Groups:** Track KPIs specific to their area (Remembrance, Christmas, Devolution) and report quarterly.
- **Nominated members:** Manage surveys, website updates, and social media metrics.
- **Full Council:** Review reports, approve adjustments, and ensure accountability.

8. Risks and Mitigation

- **Low Community Engagement:** Promote events and consultations early via social media, local media, and community networks.
- **Data Collection Challenges:** Simplify surveys and use multiple channels (online, paper) to ensure accessibility.
- **Budget Overruns:** Monitor finances quarterly and secure sponsorships/grants to offset costs.
- **Devolution Uncertainty:** Stay informed through regular updates from Lancashire County Council and engage proactively in consultations.

9. Conclusion

This performance assessment framework provides the Town Council with a robust tool to evaluate its 2025/26 activities. By setting clear objectives and measurable KPIs, the council can track the success of Remembrance Sunday, Christmas, devolution efforts, and general operations including delivery of the EOIs. The framework ensures accountability, fosters community engagement, and supports strategic decision-making.

1. Adopt the framework at the next council meeting (June/July 2025).
 2. Assign responsibilities to working groups and council officers by July 2025.
 3. Begin data collection infrastructure (e.g., survey tools, analytics setup) by August 2025.
 4. Schedule quarterly reviews and ensure public reporting mechanisms are in place by April 2025.
- governance changes effectively.

10. Members are recommended:

To adopt the framework.



Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Planning Matters - Relating to Longridge
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

To inform members of planning matters since the last meeting.

Members are reminded that the weekly lists of applications registered and decided are available to view on the RVBC website: https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/weekly_lists

Note. The following types of applications are not for consultation and are therefore excluded from the lists below: Agricultural Determinations, Discharge of Conditions, Certificates of Lawfulness, Observations to another authority and Screening Options.

2. Applications Registered by RVBC since the last Full Council Meeting.

Application:	3/2025/0142 – 11 April 2025 Applications for full consent
Proposal:	Proposed change of use to nail bar.
Location:	36 Inglewhite Road Longridge PR3 3JS

Application:	3/2025/0219 – 11 April 2025 Applications for full consent
Proposal:	Proposed single-storey extension to side.
Location:	5 Thirlmere Drive Longridge PR3 3LE

Application:	3/2025/0274– 25 April 2025 Alter or Extend a Listed Building
Proposal:	Listed Building Consent for replacement of rear porch, external steps and railings.
Location:	12 Higher Road Longridge PR3 3SX

Application:	3/2025/0276 – 25 April 2025 Application for Tree Works in a conservation area
Proposal:	Planning Permission to regularise past alterations including insertion of two roof lights in south eastern (rear) roof; formation of first floor window openings in the north eastern (side) wall and part replacement of external window and door frames
Location:	Whitefold House Barn Birks Brow Longridge PR3 2TD

Application:	3/2025/0245 – 2 May 2025 Application for full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed new front porch and rebuilding of existing bay window. Alterations to include amendments to external materials, alterations to fenestration and replacement of windows.
Location:	56 Chaigley Road Longridge PR3 3TQ

Application:	3/2025/0254 – 2 May 2025 Application for full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed single storey extension to rear
Location:	Silver Grove Chapel Brow Longridge PR3

Application:	3/2025/0330 – 2 May 2025 Application for full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed new agricultural machinery building.
Location:	Land to the south of Lower Road Longridge PR3 2YL

Application:	3/2025/0331 – 2 May 2025 Application for full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed single storey extension to rear
Location:	47 Lower Lane Longridge PR3 3SQ

Application:	3/2025/0336 – 2 May 2025 Prior Notification
Proposal:	Prior notification for proposed single-storey rear extension under Part 1 Class A of the GDPO 4.7m long, 3.6m high (max) 2.5m high to eaves. To include demolition of existing conservatory
Location:	20 Willows Park Lane Longridge PR3 3HJ

Application:	3/2025/0302 – 9 May 2025 Technical Details
Proposal:	Technical details following permission in principle for the erection of one self-build dwelling.
Location:	The Stables Chaigley Road Longridge PR3 3TQ

Application:	3/2025/0234 – 16 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed removal of existing offices and storage containers and construction of new single-storey cheese processing area and new roof over external storage areas including solar panels
Location:	Mill Farm Preston Road Longridge PR3 3AN

Application:	3/2025/0324 – 16 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Planning Permission for replacement of rear porch, external steps and railings.
Location:	12 Higher Road Longridge PR3 3SX

Application:	3/2025/0390 – 16 May 2025 Tree Works
Proposal:	Fell dead ash tree.
Location:	3 King Street Longridge PR3 3RQ

Application:	3/2025/0300 – 23 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed replacement windows, additional velux windows, adjustment to four window openings, provision of pigeon hole vents to gable wall. Glazed link to and conversion of garage to art studio, including timber cladding, infilling of door and replacement of vehicular door. Installation of Air Source Heat Pumps.
Location:	The Barn Preston Road Longridge PR3 3BL

Application:	3/2025/0311 – 23 May 2025 Alter or Extended Listed Building
Proposal:	Replacement of existing doors and windows and installation of three new conservation style roof lights.
Location:	Writtenstone Farm Writtenstone Lane Longridge PR3 2ZN

Application:	3/2025/0369 – 6 June 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed dormer extension to front and rear.
Location:	5 Darwen Close Longridge PR3 3TP

Application:	3/2025/0447 – 6 June 2025 Prior Notification
Proposal:	Prior approval for a larger home extension, proposed sun room - 8m long, 3.35m high (max) and 2.46m high to eaves. To include demolition of existing conservatory.
Location:	3 Alston Court Lower Lane Longridge PR3 2XD

3. Applications decided by RVBC since the last Full Council Meeting.

Application:	3/2025/0039 – 28 March 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new two-storey detached dwelling with rooms in the roof space. Installation of Air Source Heat Pump and Solar Panels.
Location:	Dilworth Cottage Ward Green Lane Longridge PR3 2ZL
Decision	Refused

Application:	3/2024/1020 – 17 April 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed enlargement of Car Park B to create 15 additional designated parking bays; Remove planting bed adjacent to existing disabled parking bay to provide two side-by-side disabled parking bays; Provision of three new cycle shelters, providing space for 18 bicycles along the main school entrance walkway.
Location:	St Cecillas RC High School Chapel Hill Longridge PR3 2XA
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2024/0140 – 17 April 2025 Prior Notification
Proposal:	Proposed enlargement of Car Park B to create 15 additional designated parking bays; Remove planting bed adjacent to existing disabled parking bay to provide two side-by-side disabled parking bays; Provision of three new cycle shelters, providing space for 18 bicycles along the main school entrance walkway.
Location:	St Cecillas RC High School Chapel Hill Longridge PR3 2XA
Decision	Prior Approval Granted

Application:	3/2024/0858 – 25 April 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Application for retrospective planning permission for external alterations to and change of use of Backcastle Works from storage (B8) to exercise/yoga studio; rehabilitation studio; bicycle repair workshop and storage
Location:	Backcastle Works Pendle Court Little Lane Longridge PR3 3WY
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2025/0159 - 25 April 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed change of use of residential care home (use class C2) to a children's home (use class C2). Erection of covered cycle storage
Location:	Alston Lodge Lower Lane Longridge PR3 2YH
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2024/1030 – 2 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Variation of Condition 1 (approved plans) of planning permission 3/2021/0010 (for Variation of condition 1 of 3/2018/0975 proposed plot substitutions and house types) to regularise finished floor levels as built
Location:	Land east of Chipping Lane Longridge
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2025/0217 – 2 May 2025 Tree Works
Proposal:	Reduce sycamore tree. Reduction of 3-4 metres. Crown thin by 10%
Location:	13 King Street Longridge PR3 3RQ
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2025/0233 – 2 May 2025 Tree Works
Proposal:	Fell pine tree.
Location:	Station Buildings Berry Lane Longridge PR3 3JP
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2024/1029– 16 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed construction of two agricultural workers dwellings with access and parking.
Location:	Bolton Fold Farm Alston Lane Longridge PR3 3BN
Decision	Refused

Application:	3/2025/0142 – 23 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed change of use to nail bar.
Location:	36 Inglewhite Road Longridge PR3 3JS
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2025/0219 – 23 May 2025 Full Consent
Proposal:	Proposed single-storey extension to side
Location:	5 Thirlmere Drive Longridge PR3 3LE
Decision	Approved with conditions

Application:	3/2025/0336 – 30 May 2025
Proposal:	Prior notification for proposed single-storey rear extension under Part 1 Class A of the GDPO 4.7m long, 3.6m high (max) 2.5m high to eaves. To include demolition of existing conservatory.
Location:	20 Willows Park Lane Longridge PR3 3HJ
Decision	Prior approval given

4. Members are recommended to:

- a. Note the report.
- b. Set out any actions relating to the planning matters set out in the report.

Agenda Item 15

For Information



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Update on Actions from Recent Meetings.
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

To update members on actions from recent meetings.

2. Update on Actions from 15/05/2025 (Annual Council Meeting).

Minute 250305/	Action	Who	Update
10.2	Nominate a representative of the Longridge Civic Hall Management Committee.	Clerk	This meeting

3. Update on Actions from 9/04/2025 Council Meeting

Minute 250409/	Action	Who	Update
6.c	Find an alternative bank to NatWest that offers Internet Banking.	Clerk	Noted
15b	Submit the report to officers at RVBC and LCC.	Clerk	Complete
16b	RVBC to amend the mins. of 1 April Policy and Finance Committee to state that only Cllrs. Walker and Rogerson had seen the concept design.	Clerk	Complete
16c	Contact RVBC regarding issues relating to John Smith's Park and litter picking in General.	Clerk	Complete

4. Update on Actions from 5/03/2025 Council Meeting

Minute 250305/	Action	Who	Update
7b	Get written assurance from LCC that any liability resulting in an accident arising as a consequence of water running off the proposed garden plot and flowing down Drivers Walk would rest with them.	Clerk	Complete. No assurance provided.
8	Seek written nominations from Council members for the office of Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2025-2026.	Chair/Clerk	Complete

11d	Include Local Government Devolution as a regular agenda item for Full Council meetings.	Clerk	Complete
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5. Update on Actions from the 12/02/2025 Council Meeting

Minute 250212/	Action	Who	Update
7a	Make minor changes to the revised Grants Policy that address how the Council deals with requests for funds in appreciation of activities carried out on behalf of the Town Council.	Clerk	Noted
7b	Revise the Grant Application Form to accommodate applications for 'small' grants.	Clerk	Noted
7c	Submit the amended Grants Policy and application form to the next Budget Committee.	Clerk	Noted
8	Produce a Mayoral Handbook	Clerk	Noted
9	Submit a revised licence agreement to the next meeting of the Estates Committee.	Clerk	Ready for submission
11	Setup a working group tasked with looking at VE Day activities.	Clerk	Complete
15	Add an agenda item on 'Local Government Devolution' for future Council meetings.	Clerk	Complete (This Meeting)
18	Broaden the scope of the Environment Officer job specification and submit to the Staffing Committee for approval.	Clerk	Ongoing

6. Update on Actions from 11/12/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 241211/	Action	Who	Update
7a	Contact Little Green Bus Company and ask to complete the Grant Application Form, explain their level of reserves and provide the benefits the residents of Longridge receive.	Clerk	Complete
7b	Re-draft the Council's current Grants Policy with particular reference to sponsorship and annual patron fees.	Clerk and Cllr. Spencer	Complete
8	Seek clarity on the Micro Woodland at John Smiths Recreation Ground.	Cllr. Jameson	Complete
9a	Work with LEG on improving the Longridge Town Centre for people and nature.	All members and Clerk	Complete

9b	Submit a report to the next meeting of the Estates Committee on the charging policy for users of the Council's Conference Room.	Clerk	Noted
10b	Prepare a report to a meeting of the Estate Committee regarding the adoption of other phone boxes in Longridge, if and when they become available for adoption.	Cllr Jackson and the Clerk	Ongoing
10c	Prepare a report to the Budget Committee seeking approval of expenditure for the purchase and installation of a defibrillator for the adopted 'Kestor Lane' phone box.	Clerk	Complete
12.b	Inform RVBC of the Council's planning considerations.	Clerk	Complete
15a	Submit a 'lessons learnt' report on all things related to Christmas festivities to a future meeting of the Estates Committee.	Clerk	Ongoing
15b	Submit a report to a future meeting of the Estates Committee on the relationship between the Town Council and the Civic Hall.	Clerk	Noted
17	Arrange a convenient time when the applicant can be interviewed by current councillors	Clerk	No longer required

7. Update on Actions from 13/11/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 241113/	Action	Who	Update
8a	Investigate re-sitting the defibrillator cabinet on the Café wall near the Bleed cabinet.	Clerk	Complete
8b	Set up a Working Group, including Cllrs. Smith and Jackson to investigate the establishment of a 'Longridge Lifesavers' group.	Clerk	Complete
8c	Look into the adoption of decommissioned phone boxes and report back to the Full Council	Cllr. Jackson	Complete
9	Contact RVBC stating that the Town Council's is interested in the creation of a taxi stand(s) in Longridge near Co-op supermarket on Berry Lane.	Clerk	Complete
12	Contact RVBC's Director of Economic Development and Planning, noting that the Town Council would be able to engage with contractors who may be able to provide design quotes.	Clerk	Complete and no response

14	Contact the previous clerk on an employment matter regarding training.	Clerk	Complete and no response.
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8. Update on Actions from 09/10/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 241009/	Action	Who	Update
7b	Agree to remove action 10c from the 14/08/24 Council meeting.	Clerk	Complete
7c	Agree to change action 11.b from the meeting on 17/07/24 to Noted.	Clerk	Complete
9.1a	Contact LCC and ask them to consider: Extending the lease period of the plot to 5 years	Clerk	Complete
9.1b	Contact LCC and ask them to consider: Visiting the site and investigate the longstanding drainage issue.	Clerk	Complete
9.1c	Contact LCC and ask them to consider: Granting permission to allow representatives of the Town Council to enter the site.	Clerk	Complete
9.2b	Arrange the purchase and installation of brackets on columns that had passed the LCC column test.	Cllr. Walker and Clerk	Complete
9.2c	Identify columns for phase 1 lighting	Cllr. Rainford and Rogerson	Complete
9.2d	Notify LCC of the locations from c. above and instruct them to fit the necessary electric sockets.	Clerk	Complete
9.2e	Provide a policy on the use of banners and festive lights on columns where the council had installed brackets and electric sockets.	Clerk	Noted
9.3	Discuss Townley Gardens with RVBC and Borough Councillors and report back to the Town Council.	Cllr. Jameson	No longer required
9.5	Inform Café of the outcome of the recent rent review.	Clerk	Complete
9.6	Heritage Centre – License Review. Provide a full report to the next meeting of the Estates Committee.	Clerk	Complete
11	Report on the use of accounting software to the next Budget Committee.	Clerk	Complete
12	Submit the LSEC grant application to the next meeting of the Budget Committee	Clerk	Complete
14	Report back to the Full Council on the Part 2 employment issue.	Clerk	Complete

9. Update on Actions from 11/09/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 240911/	Action	Who	Update
11	Inform RVBC of the Council's planning considerations.	Clerk	Complete
13	Send a donation £100 to NW Ambulance Service	Clerk	Complete
	Letter of thanks to the Community Liaison Paramedic	Clerk	Complete

10. Update on Actions from 14/08/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 240811/	Action	Who	Update
Public	Update on Pump Track and Townley Garden projects	Clerk	Complete
10b	Contact Townley Arms regarding the siting of a 'Bleed' and Defib. cabinet on the wall near the noticeboard.	Cllr. Smith	Complete
13b	Inform RVBC of the Council's planning considerations	Clerk	Complete
15a	Set up a Remembrance Sunday Working Group	Clerk	Complete
15c	Prepare a Risk Register for the next FC meeting	Clerk	Complete

11. Update on Actions from 17/07/2024 Council Meeting.

Minute 240717/	Action	Who	Update
7	Inform 'Love Loingridge' and the Thursday Group of the Council's decision.	Clerk	Complete
	Get quotes for column testing, banner mounts and installation.	Clerk	Complete
	Complete LCC paperwork for column testing.	Clerk	Complete.
	Contact Whittingham Parish Council regarding making a contribution to the cost of fixing banner mounts to light columns.	Clerk	Noted
8	Investigate the use of a shared calendar	Clerk	Complete
9	Donate Mayoral Allowance to Girl Guides	Cllr. Rogerson	Complete
11a	Contact RVBC regarding notifying the Council on event, licensing/gambling applications and decisions.	Clerk	Complete.
11b	Contact RVBC regarding inserting the council ward on planning applications and decisions.	Cllr. Jameson	No longer required
11.c	Review comments made by Town Council on planning app. 3/2024/0316 and re-submit to RVBC.	Cllrs. Jameson, Rainford and Walker	Complete
13	Provide quotes for a Bleed Kit to a future Council meeting	Cllr. Jackson/Clerk	Complete

14	Invite the applicant for the councillor vacancy to an interview with Cllrs. Jackson, Walker and Jameson.	Clerk	Complete
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12. Members are recommended:

To note the report, the ongoing actions and actions not yet completed.



Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	RVBC – Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

To update members on the Expressions of Interest (EOIs) submitted by the Town Clerk to RVBC.

2. Introduction.

Members will recall that EOIs for grants from the Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund had to be submitted to RVBC by 30 May 2025. The Clerk submitted the following EOIs:

- **Longridge Loop £15,000:** The project will enhance accessibility for disabled individuals and parents with children and prams by upgrading paths, adding accessible infrastructure, and incorporating sustainable features.
- **Longridge Sports and Social Club £100,000:** To restore the disused building on Towneley Road, into a vibrant community hub.
- **Community Garden £25,000:** To transform the waste plot of land off Drivers Walk, into a Well-Being Community Garden to serve as a sustainable, inclusive, and community-driven space.
- **Heritage Centre £75,000:** Total refurbishment of the Heritage Centre Office (including a new kitchen), new computers and printers, additional outside storage and the installation of solar panels and air conditioning.
- **Towneley Gardens £100,000:** Funding to complete Phase 2 of the project, including physical planting, landscaping, and construction works.
- **Regeneration of Berry Lane and Stoneridge £100,000:** Funding to support a transformative greening and regeneration project for Berry Lane and Stonebridge the commercial heart of Longridge. This initiative aims to enhance the public realm through improved pavements, street lighting, and the installation of eco-friendly planters and benches, fostering a vibrant, sustainable, and accessible environment for residents, businesses, and visitors.

3. Members are recommended:

To note the report.

Agenda Item 17

For Information



Longridge
Town Council

Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting Date:	11 June 2025
Title:	Local Government Devolution
Submitted by:	Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report.

To update members on matters relating to Local Government Devolution as set out in Appendix 1 attached.

2. Members are recommended:

To note the report.

Appendix 1

1. Background on Local Government Devolution in Lancashire

The UK Government's English Devolution White Paper, published in December 2024, outlines a significant reform program aimed at transferring powers from central government to local authorities and reorganizing local government structures in two-tier areas, such as Lancashire, into unitary councils. This initiative is part of a broader effort to streamline services, enhance local decision-making, and drive economic growth through devolution. In Lancashire, this process involves transitioning from the current two-tier system—comprising Lancashire County Council, 12 district/borough councils (including Ribble Valley Borough Council, which encompasses Longridge), and two existing unitary authorities (Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen)—to a new structure of unitary councils, potentially led by a directly elected mayor under a Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA).

2. Key Developments in Lancashire Devolution (as of June 2025)

Devolution Priority Programme and Timeline:

Lancashire is part of the Government's Devolution Priority Programme, which aims to establish mayoral devolution **by May 2026**. The Government has encouraged areas to submit initial views on reorganisation by March 21, 2025, with detailed proposals due by November 28, 2025. Lancashire is reviewing its existing Level 2 devolution deal, agreed in November 2023, which established a non-mayoral Combined County Authority (CCA) with £20 million in capital funding and control over the Adult Education Budget. This review will consider options for deepening devolution, including adopting a mayoral model.

Local Government Reorganisation:

The White Paper proposes replacing the current two-tier structure with unitary councils, each ideally serving populations of around 500,000, though exceptions may be considered. Proposals in Lancashire include various models, ranging from one to five unitary authorities. For example, Hyndburn Borough Council has advocated for a "Pennine Lancashire Authority," while other proposals suggest a "Central Lancashire" unitary covering areas like Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, and West Lancashire. There is no consensus yet on the preferred model, with political leaders divided on the number and boundaries of new unitary councils.

Election Postponements:

To facilitate reorganisation and devolution, the Government allowed councils to request postponement of May 2025 local elections to May 2026. In Lancashire, the county council elections proceeded on May 1, 2025, with Reform UK gaining majority control of Lancashire County Council, a historic shift from traditional Conservative or Labour dominance. This political change may influence ongoing devolution discussions, as Reform UK's stance on devolution could differ from previous administrations.

Opposition and Community Engagement:

There is significant local opposition to reorganisation, particularly in areas like Lancaster, where councillors have called for a referendum or extensive consultation

to ensure community input. Concerns include the potential loss of local identity and democratic representation in large unitary councils. The Government has emphasized community engagement, but public understanding of devolution remains low, and consultations are ongoing to address these concerns.

3. Longridge Town Council's Current Role

Longridge Town Council is a parish-level council, the first tier of local government within the Borough of Ribble Valley and Lancashire County. It comprises 12 councillors representing three wards (Alston, Derby, and Dilworth) and is responsible for local services such as managing certain open spaces, administering community grants, and acting as a statutory consultee for planning permissions. The council operates with a budget funded by a precept from council tax and collaborates with Ribble Valley Borough Council and Lancashire County Council on issues like infrastructure and community services.

4. Potential Impacts on Longridge Town Council

The proposed devolution and reorganisation could affect Longridge Town Council in several ways, though its status as a parish council suggests it may retain its core functions, as parish councils are typically preserved under reorganisation frameworks. Below are the potential impacts:

Retention of Parish Status:

The Government has indicated a commitment to “rewire” relationships between parish/town councils and higher-tier authorities to enhance local engagement. Longridge Town Council is likely to remain intact, continuing its role in delivering ultra-local services and representing community interests. The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) has emphasised the value of town councils in maintaining local identity during reorganisation, and Longridge could benefit from devolved assets or services from new unitary councils.

Changes in Higher-Tier Governance:

Longridge currently operates under Ribble Valley Borough Council (district) and Lancashire County Council (county). Reorganisation could see Ribble Valley merged into a larger unitary authority, potentially with Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, or other neighbouring areas. This could alter the administrative and funding relationships Longridge Town Council has with its district and county counterparts. For example, a new unitary authority might centralise services like waste collection or planning, potentially reducing the borough's role in these areas and affecting how Longridge interacts with the new authority.

Impact of Mayoral Devolution:

If Lancashire adopts a Mayoral Combined County Authority, a directly elected mayor would oversee strategic functions like transport, economic development, and skills training across a larger region. This could lead to improved funding and infrastructure projects benefiting Longridge, such as enhanced transport links or economic growth initiatives. However, it could also reduce local influence if decision-making becomes more centralised at the mayoral level. Longridge Town

Council's role as a statutory consultee on planning could ensure it retains a voice in local development decisions.

Community Engagement and Representation:

Concerns about losing local democratic representation in large unitary councils (serving 500,000+ people) could affect Longridge's ability to advocate for its specific needs. The town council's role in community engagement, such as public meetings and grant allocation, will be crucial in ensuring Longridge's interests are represented in any new unitary structure. The Government's push for stronger community voices suggests Longridge Town Council could play an enhanced role in consultations during the reorganisation process.

Financial and Service Implications:

Reorganisation aims to streamline services and reduce costs, with estimates like Leicestershire's projected £30 million annual savings from a single unitary model. However, financial pressures on local government, with 63% of councils cutting services in 2025, could limit resources available to parish councils like Longridge. The town council may need to seek additional funding or take on devolved services (e.g., managing more local assets) to maintain community services like parks or cultural programs.

5. Opportunities and Challenges for Longridge Town Council

Opportunities:

Enhanced Local Role:

The Government's focus on strengthening parish councils could allow Longridge to take on more devolved responsibilities, such as managing additional community assets or leading local engagement initiatives.

Economic Growth:

Mayoral devolution could bring investment in transport, skills, and economic development, potentially benefiting Longridge's local economy and infrastructure.

Community Advocacy:

As a statutory consultee, Longridge Town Council can influence planning and development decisions in any new unitary structure, preserving local identity.

Challenges:

Uncertainty in Governance:

The lack of consensus on unitary models in Lancashire creates uncertainty about which authority Longridge will fall under, potentially affecting service delivery and funding.

Reduced Local Influence:

Large unitary councils may prioritise broader regional needs over localised concerns, requiring Longridge Town Council to be proactive in advocating for its community.

Financial Pressures:

Budget constraints at higher tiers could limit support for parish-level initiatives, requiring Longridge to secure alternative funding sources.

6. Recommendations for Longridge Town Council

Engage in Consultations:

Actively participate in the Government's ongoing consultations to ensure Longridge's needs are reflected in reorganisation proposals. This includes advocating for boundaries that preserve local identity, such as inclusion in a unitary with nearby Ribble Valley communities rather than a distant urban centre.

Strengthen Community Engagement:

Leverage public meetings and existing community networks to gather resident input on devolution and reorganisation, ensuring Longridge's voice is heard in shaping new unitary structures. The council could model its approach on Lancaster City Council's call for a referendum or extensive consultation.

Prepare for Devolved Responsibilities:

Explore opportunities to take on additional services or assets (e.g., community facilities) as part of the Government's push to empower parish councils. The SLCC's ten-point plan for new local councils offers guidance on best practices for managing such transitions.

Monitor Political Developments:

With Reform UK's control of Lancashire County Council, the town council should monitor how the new administration's policies on devolution and reorganisation might affect local governance structures and funding.

7. Conclusion

Lancashire's local government devolution and reorganisation process is ongoing, with significant changes expected by May 2026, including the potential establishment of unitary councils and a Mayoral Combined County Authority. Longridge Town Council is likely to retain its role as a parish-level authority, but its relationship with higher-tier councils will evolve as Ribble Valley Borough Council and Lancashire County Council are replaced or restructured.

By actively engaging in consultations, advocating for local interests, and preparing for potential new responsibilities, Longridge Town Council can navigate these changes to maintain its community-focused role and capitalise on opportunities for enhanced local governance and economic growth.

Sources:

- : Lancashire County Council News, March 13, 2025
- : UK Parliament Written Statements, February 5, 2025
- : Local Government Chronicle, March 18, 2025
- : Lancashire Business View, December 17, 2024
- : Longridge Town Council Website
- : Local Government Chronicle, April 2, 2025

- : Wikipedia, 2019–2023 Structural Changes to Local Government
- : Essex County Council, February 5, 2025
- : POST, Community Engagement with English Devolution, January 9, 2025
- : SLCC, Establishing Strong Local Councils, March 6, 2025
- : Wikipedia, Lancashire County Council, May 3, 2025
- : Preston City Council, May 1, 2025
- : Beyond Radio, January 14, 2025

8. How will the 40 Ribble Valley Borough Councillors be impacted.

The ongoing devolution and local government reorganisation in Lancashire, as outlined in the UK Government’s English Devolution White Paper (December 2024), will significantly affect the 40 Ribble Valley Borough Councillors, who currently serve within the two-tier system of Lancashire County Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council. The transition to unitary councils and potentially a Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA) by May 2026 will reshape their roles, responsibilities, and potentially their positions.

Below is an analysis of how these councillors may be impacted, with specific reference to the context of Longridge and the broader Ribble Valley area.

Potential Loss of Borough Council Seats

Reorganisation into Unitary Councils:

The White Paper proposes replacing the current two-tier system (county and district councils) in Lancashire with unitary councils, ideally serving populations of around 500,000. Ribble Valley Borough Council, with a population of approximately 61,000 (2021 Census), is unlikely to remain a standalone authority. Proposals under consideration include merging Ribble Valley with neighbouring areas (e.g., Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, or a “Pennine Lancashire” model) to form larger unitary councils. If Ribble Valley Borough Council is dissolved or merged, the current 40 councillor positions may be eliminated or significantly reduced.

Reduction in Councillor Numbers:

Unitary councils typically have fewer councillors than the combined total of district and county councillors in a two-tier system. For example, a new unitary authority covering Central Lancashire (potentially including Ribble Valley) might have 50–70 councillors, compared to the current 40 borough councillors in Ribble Valley alone, plus additional county councillors. This could result in fewer elected positions overall, meaning some Ribble Valley councillors may lose their seats or need to compete for roles in the new unitary authority.

Election Postponements and Timing:

The Government allowed councils to postpone May 2025 elections to May 2026 to align with reorganisation. While Lancashire County Council elections proceeded in May 2025 (with Reform UK gaining control), Ribble Valley Borough Council’s next elections, originally scheduled for 2023, were extended under the reorganisation process. Councillors may serve until 2026, but their roles could end or change significantly when new unitary councils are established.

Changes in Roles and Responsibilities

Shift to Unitary Council Functions:

If Ribble Valley merges into a unitary authority, councillors elected to the new authority will take on broader responsibilities, combining current borough functions (e.g., planning, housing, waste collection) with county functions (e.g., education, social care, transport). Current Ribble Valley councillors who secure seats in the new authority may need to adapt to a wider scope of governance, potentially covering a larger geographic area and population.

Reduced Local Focus:

The larger scale of unitary councils (e.g., a Central Lancashire unitary serving 500,000 people) could dilute the local focus that Ribble Valley councillors currently have. Areas like Longridge, Clitheroe, or Whalley may have fewer dedicated representatives, as wards in the new unitary authority will likely be larger. This could reduce councillors' ability to address hyper-local issues, such as those specific to Longridge Town Council's community initiatives.

Impact of Mayoral Devolution:

If Lancashire adopts a Mayoral Combined County Authority, strategic decisions on transport, economic development, and skills may shift to a directly elected mayor, potentially reducing the influence of individual councillors on these matters. However, councillors in the new unitary authority would still play a key role in local service delivery and could influence mayoral priorities through consultation processes.

Political and Electoral Implications

Competitive Elections:

The creation of new unitary councils will likely involve new ward boundaries and electoral contests in May 2026. Current Ribble Valley councillors will face increased competition, potentially from former county councillors or candidates from merged areas (e.g., Preston or South Ribble). Political dynamics, such as Reform UK's control of Lancashire County Council (May 2025), could influence candidate selection and voter preferences in the new unitary elections.

Political Realignment:

The shift to unitary councils may alter political representation. Ribble Valley has historically leaned Conservative, but the broader unitary authority may encompass more diverse political areas (e.g., Labour-leaning Preston). Councillors may need to appeal to a wider electorate, potentially affecting their campaign strategies or political affiliations.

Loss of Local Identity:

Councillors representing Ribble Valley wards, including Longridge's Alston, Derby, and Dilworth, have expressed concerns about losing the borough's distinct rural identity in a larger unitary structure. This could create tension, as councillors may need to balance local advocacy with the broader priorities of a new authority.

Impact on Longridge-Specific Representation

Longridge's Current Representation:

Ribble Valley Borough Council includes councillors representing Longridge's wards, who work closely with Longridge Town Council on local issues like planning, community grants, and open spaces. If Ribble Valley merges into a larger unitary, Longridge may have fewer dedicated councillors, as ward sizes increase to cover larger populations. For example, a unitary ward might combine Longridge with parts of Preston, reducing the number of councillors focused solely on Longridge's needs.

Collaboration with Longridge Town Council:

The Government's emphasis on strengthening parish/town councils suggests Longridge Town Council could take on a more prominent role in local advocacy. Ribble Valley councillors who transition to unitary roles may need to work more closely with Longridge Town Council to ensure local issues are addressed, especially if unitary wards are less localised .

9. Opportunities and Challenges for Councillors

Opportunities:

Broader Influence:

Councillors who secure seats in a new unitary authority could gain influence over a wider range of services and larger budgets, potentially shaping regional priorities like transport or economic development that benefit Ribble Valley and Longridge.

Community Advocacy:

Councillors can leverage the Government's focus on community engagement to advocate for Ribble Valley's rural interests during consultations. (

Devolution Benefits:

A Mayoral Combined County Authority could bring investment in infrastructure or skills, providing councillors with opportunities to champion projects that benefit their communities.

Challenges:

Job Security:

The reduction in councillor positions due to reorganisation threatens job security for many of Ribble Valley's 40 councillors, as new unitary councils will have fewer seats overall.

Learning Curve:

Adapting to unitary council responsibilities will require councillors to develop expertise in new areas, such as social care or education, which were previously handled by Lancashire County Council.

Public Opposition:

Significant local opposition to reorganisation, as seen in areas like Lancaster, could create political pressure for councillors. They may face criticism if residents

perceive a loss of local identity or democratic representation in larger unitary structures.

10. Recommendations for Ribble Valley Borough Councillors

Engage in Reorganisation Consultations:

Actively participate in the Government's consultation process (initial views due detailed proposals due by November 28, 2025) to advocate for a unitary model that preserves Ribble Valley's interests, such as a structure that aligns with similar rural areas rather than urban centres.

Build Alliances:

Collaborate with councillors from neighbouring areas (e.g., Preston, South Ribble) to influence the design of new unitary boundaries and ensure Ribble Valley's voice is heard in regional decision-making.

Strengthen Ties with Parish Councils:

Work closely with Longridge Town Council and other parish councils to maintain local representation and support community-led initiatives, especially if unitary wards reduce localised representation.

Prepare for Elections:

Begin preparing for competitive 2026 elections by engaging with constituents on devolution issues and aligning with political trends, such as Reform UK's growing influence in Lancashire.

11. Conclusion

The 40 Ribble Valley Borough Councillors face significant changes due to Lancashire's devolution and reorganisation into unitary councils by May 2026. The dissolution or merger of Ribble Valley Borough Council could lead to fewer councillor positions, broader responsibilities, and a potential shift in local representation, particularly for areas like Longridge.

While opportunities exist to influence regional priorities and leverage devolution benefits, councillors must navigate challenges such as job security, public opposition, and adapting to new governance structures. Proactive engagement in consultations and collaboration with parish councils like Longridge will be critical to maintaining local influence during this transition.

Sources:

Lancashire County Council News, March 13, 2025
UK Parliament Written Statements, February 5, 2025
Local Government Chronicle, March 18, 2025
Lancashire Business View, December 17, 2024
POST, Community Engagement with English Devolution, January 9, 2025
SLCC, Establishing Strong Local Councils, March 6, 2025
Wikipedia, Lancashire County Council, May 3, 2025
Ribble Valley Borough Council Website
Beyond Radio, January 14, 2025