



Longridge Town Council

Full Council – Minutes

Date:	11 June 2025		
Place:	Station Buildings, Berry Lane, Longridge.		
Present:	Councillors: L. Jameson (Chair), S. Rainford, J. Rogerson, R. Walker, D. Jackson and N. Eccles.		
In attendance:	Town Clerk. LCCA Cllr. Ian Duxbury and two members of the public		
Comments:	The Town Clerk informed all present that the meeting was being recorded.		
Meeting started:	19:00	Meeting closed:	20:57

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1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and provided an update on the Mayoral duties he had recently undertaken which included attending the North West Camping and Caravan Club, the South Ribble Civic Sunday and the presentation of trophies to the youth teams at Longridge Football Club. The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor (Cllr. Walker) for presenting prizes at the local Royal British Legion awards event.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Members accepted apologies from Cllrs. Spencer and Smith.

Cllr. Beacham was recorded as being absent.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Request Cllr. Jackson to contact Cllr. Beacham regarding her non-attendance at Council meetings.
- Authorise the Clerk to formally write to Cllr. Beacham, if the outcome of the conversations between Cllrs. Jackson and Beacham are not forthcoming.

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

- Cllr. Eccles declared an interest in Agenda Item 9b and 9g
- Cllr. Rogerson declared an interest in agenda Item 9e.

4. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 15 MAY 2025.

The minutes were agreed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no public participation as such. However, the two applicants who had applied for being co-opted onto the Council were in attendance and spoke under Agenda Item 6.

6. CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS.

The Clerk submitted a report asking members to consider the co-option of two new councillors.

The meeting was adjourned while the two nominees addressed the Council.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Unanimously approve the co-option of David Hindle and Andrew Wallbank as members of Longridge Town Council.
- Authorise the Clerk to inform RVBC of the two new appointments and submit the required paperwork.

David and Andrew signed the Acceptance of Office Forms and joined the meeting as Town Councillors.

7. FINANCE REPORT.

The Clerk submitted a report seeking approval for the accounts to date and the Schedule of Payments.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Approve the accounts to date.
- Remind the Clerk of a previous request to find an alternative bank to NatWest that offers Internet Banking.
- Request the Clerk to look at the costs associated with running the Station Building, compared to the income it receives.
- Approve the Schedule of Payments as set out in the Report and in Table 1 below.

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.

8. APPOINTMENT TO THE LONGRIDGE CIVIC HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Approve the nomination of Cllr. Rainford to be the Council's representative on the Longridge Civic Hall Management Committee.

9. GRANT APPLICATIONS.

The Clerk submitted a report asking members to consider grant applications from; u3a for £3,248 towards general costs, and keeping the service available and affordable to Longridge residents, Royal British Legion Longridge Branch (RBLLB), for £1,245 as a contribution towards the funding of a Ceremonial Parade Standard and its accessories, the Thursday Group, (children and siblings with autism) for £400, Friends of the Civic Hall for £3,000 to support the Longridge Dementia and Support Group, Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show (GLAS) for £2,000 towards the costs of installing a community marquee and Longridge Field Day for £950, contribution to new banners.

In addition, the RBLLB requested the use the Council's conference room for Branch Meetings (without charge), use of the Town Council's postal address, and use of the Town Council's premises as home to the RBLLB Standard.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Approve a grant of £3,088 to the u3a.
- b. Approve a grant of £1,245 towards the cost of a ceremonial parade standard and its accessories for the RBLLB. Note: *The Town Council agreed to purchase the standard and Cllr. Eccles did not vote on the matter.*
- c. Approve a grant of £400 to the Thursday Group.
- d. Approve a grant of £3,000 to the Friends of the Civic Hall, Longridge Dementia and Support Group, subject to the Group providing the Clerk with a breakdown of their anticipated expenditure.
- e. Approve a grant of £1,000 to GLAS, subject to the latest bank statements being provided and that the application be re-submitted to the Budget Committee for approval. Note: *Cllr. Rogerson did not vote on this Item.*
- f. Reject the application from Field Day, on the grounds that the application was for an item that had already been purchased (retrospective application) which is in not in line with the Town Council's Grant Policy.
- g. Approve the use of the Conference Room by the RBLLB at the prevailing reduced 'Charity' rate.
- h. Reject the use of the Council's postal address by the RBLLB.
- i. Approve the use of the Council Offices as home for the RBLLB standard.
- j. Request the Clerk to contact those organisations that regularly submit grant applications reminding them to submit application in as early as possible and that retrospective applications will not be considered.
- k. Request the Clerk and Chair of the Budget Committee to submit a report to each Town Council Meeting, setting out the grants they have considered since their last meeting and the outcome of their considerations.

10. VJ DAY 2025.

The Clerk submitted a report requesting members to consider commemorating VJ Day 2025.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Agree to commemorate VJ Day 2025.
- b. Request the Clerk to set up a working group to consider what events and activities could take place and any associated costs.

11. REINSTATING CIVIC SUNDAY.

The Clerk submitted a report asking members to consider holding a Civic Sunday event in February 2026.

The Report noted that until 2026 the 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 unit.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Request Cllr. Jameson and the Clerk to discuss the matter outside the meeting and report back to Full Council.

12. ADDITIONAL WORKING GROUPS

The Clerk submitted a report requesting members to consider setting up three new Working Groups; Remembrance Sunday 2025, Christmas 2025 and Local Government Devolution.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Agree a Remembrance Sunday Working Group consisting of Cllrs. Stubbs, Eccles, Rainford and Wallbank.
- b. Agree a Christmas 2025 Working Group consisting of Cllrs. Walker, Jackson, Hindle and Wallbank
- c. Agree a Devolution Working Group consisting of Jackson, Smith, Eccles, Rainford and Stubbs.

13. FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING THE COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE.

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

The Clerk stated that the framework would allow the Town Council to assess its objectives and performance for activities in the current financial year.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Agree to adopt the Framework as set out in the report.

14. PLANNING MATTERS – RELATING TO LONGRIDGE.

The Clerk submitted a report requesting members to consider planning matters since the last meeting.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Note the Report.
- b. Request the Clerk and Cllr. Walker to consider an improved method for soliciting councillor comments.

15. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on actions from recent meetings.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the Report.

16. RIBBLE VALLEY SHARED PROSPERITY FUND.

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on the Expressions of Interest submitted on behalf of the Town Council.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the Report.

17. LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVOLUTION.

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on how the Government's plans for Local Government Devolution could impact the Town Council and town and borough councillors.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the Report.

18. COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Cllr. Rainford noted that a street lamppost on Inglewhite road has not been reinstated after being removed and the hedges on Willow Park Lane need cutting back as they are encroaching onto the pavement. Members were reminded that Love Clean Streets can be used to report a range of issues.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Note the verbal reports.
- b. Request the Clerk to remind all Councillors including; Town, Borough and LCCA that if they engage in any activity in Longridge, they should inform the Town Council.

19. CONSIDERATIONS OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Cllr. Jameson updated members of the events he was looking to organise which included a Quiz Night and a 'Curry' Night.

20. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Agree that the next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday July 9.
- b. Agree to cancel the August meeting for summer recess.

SIGNED BY CHAIR FOR THE MEETING: *R. Walker*

DATE: *11/06/2025*

A signed copy is on file.