

Tatham Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 15th July 2025
The Old School, Lowgill, LA2 8PS
7.30 pm – 9.03 pm**

Present:

Cllr Wilson (Chair), Cllr Osborne, Cllr Parker, Cllr Wattam, Cllr Taylor.
Cllr Crimmins. (Lancashire County Council)
Cllr Pritchard, Cllr Jackson. (Lancaster City Council)
2 members of the public
Clerk. M Brady

Fire Evacuation and Safety

Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes per member of the public and 30 minutes maximum*).

As item 10 on the agenda was to address matters relating to public concerns, it was agreed this matter also be discussed by moving public participation to later in the agenda, between items 10 and 11.

25/064. Apologies for Absence.

None

25/065. Declarations of interest and dispensations.

None

25/066. To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th May 2025.

The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 20th May 2025 were approved.

For Decision

25/067 To review and approve the policies published on the Parish Council website.

- Code of Conduct
- Co-option

It was resolved to approve the Code of Conduct Policy and the Co option Policy as published.

25/068 To review works or projects to be delivered under the Local Delivery Scheme funding.

Cllr Wilson read out a report to Council that 2 new kissing gates are awaiting installation at Lowgill when landowner is ready. A new kissing gate at Craggs is awaiting installation, 2 new kissing gates to be requested from LCC to replace broken stiles on Cowkins Coppice path, subject to landowner agreement. Footpath works by LCC required near Foss Bank at Crossdale Beck. Cllr. Wilson to liaise with landowners and LCC, and to organise volunteer work. It was resolved that Council thank Cllr Wilson and the volunteers for their continuing works to maintain and improve access to footpaths in the parish.

25/069. To discuss a proposal to alternate the venue for Parish Council meetings. The proposal is for meetings to be held at The Old School in November, March and July, at St James the Less in September, January and May.

It was resolved that future Council meetings will alternate between venues as proposed. The next meeting due to be held on Tuesday September 16th 2025 will be at St James the Less Church.

25/070. To receive and agree a proposal for funding the purchase of BeeBox using the LCC Environment Grant received by Tatham Parish Council.

It was resolved the Parish Council use the LCC Biodiversity Small Grant to purchase BeeBoxes from Lancaster University and invite local groups to submit applications for a BeeBox.

25/071. To receive and agree the proposals that Lowgill Village 1m ahead sign be removed, that the road signs in and around Lowgill are reviewed and removed where redundant, that the use of recycled plastic sign posts be reviewed.

It was noted the Lowgill Village 1m ahead sign was redundant because the road had been widened. It was resolved the Parish Council note other redundant signs and write to Lancashire County Council (LCC) for them to action removal.

The Parish Council has previously received £500 per year from LCC to fund improved access and signage to footpaths, this funding is not guaranteed. While the volunteers do repair and re-use timber posts where possible, when new posts are required, they are supplied by LCC and are made of recycled plastic. It should be noted the cost of a new timber post is approximately £300.

Public participation. Council moved out of committee.

A member of the public had contacted the Parish Council, City Councillors and County Councillor raising concerns about speeding through Lowgill despite warning of a school, flashing lights when the school is open, lack of enforcement of the 20mph zone by police and road safety unit, lack of maintenance and removal of vegetation on and adjacent to verges, lack of a safe walking space to the school. for pedestrians and schoolchildren. The resident had reported through the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership

A lively discussion ensued with County and City Councillors also taking part. The key points identified were understanding who has statutory responsibility and budget, how and where residents could report issues and whether the Parish, City and County Councillors could

facilitate a 'joined up' approach to the concerns expressed at this meeting and those which have been previously reported by residents and Parish Council.

The member of the public, City and County Councillors were thanked for their attendance and contribution. The Parish Council will take this forward as an agenda item at the next meeting. **Council moved back into Committee.**

25/072. To request Highways provide signage at ends of Ringstones and Craggs Lanes warning 'unsuitable for long vehicles except for access'.

It was noted the bridge parapets had been damaged by a large vehicle, repaired and damaged again. Councillors commented it could be more cost effective to provide signage warning long vehicles and resolved to write to Highways at LCC advising damage to be repaired and provision of signage.

25/073. To continue the dialogue with Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council started in 2023 with the Highways District Lead to start restoring the road widths on all roads in the Parish by initiating a program of regular road sweeping and road verge scraping.

It was resolved that the Clerk write again to Highways at Lancashire County Council asking them to carry out road scraping to restore carriageway widths and to liaise with Lancaster City Council. Council will also revisit the provisions of the Lancashire Council Charter.

25/074. To review the response from Highways at Lancashire County Council regarding a request to meet parish councillors to address and rectify issues raised by residents and councillors and the actions still outstanding from previous requests.

Councillors expressed their disappointment with the reply from Highways and resolved to inform the residents affected.

25/075. To review quotations for the repairs to the Green at the Lowgill War Memorial and to seek financial assistance from the Harold and Alice Bridges Charity or the War Memorial's Trust if deemed necessary.

No further quotation received, resolved to carry forward to the September agenda.

25/076. To reply to Consultation on Pan-Lancashire draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025.

Councillor Osborne had read the consultation documents, it was agreed Councillor Osborne reply on behalf of the Parish Council.

25/077. Recent Planning Applications

25/0114/TCA. Yew-Reduce by 30% to crown raise, 2 x Conifer-reduce by 20%.

Supported

25/078. Finance

Resolved to approve the Receipts, Payments and Grants as presented.

Receipts

None

Payments to approve

• Tatham Fells Old School Room Hire (July)	£ 20.00
• Zurich Insurance Renewal	£304.00
• Salary June July	£361.66
• Lengthsman April	£200.00
• Lengthsman May	£153.33
• Lengthsman June	£175.00
• Defibrillator battery	£282.00

Review and approve the current budget position.

The budget position was reviewed and approved.

25/079. For Information

Public Rights of Way

Health

Highways

Reports from Councillors were noted.

25/080. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 7.30pm at The Church of St James the Less, Monks Gate,
Tatham, LA2 8NH

*see Standing Orders 3 (f) and 3 (g)

Signed: Chairman	Date:
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