

Priest Hutton Parish Meeting

Chairman and Clerk to the Meeting

Mr Nigel Adams

Bank House, Priest Hutton

Minutes of the Priest Hutton Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 7.30pm in Borwick & Priest Hutton Memorial Hall and following the A.G.M

Residents present: (15) – Lesley Fairclough, Iain Fairclough, Tony Johns, Jean Gudgeon, Lesley Southwart, Andrew Iveson, Mel Iveson, Martin Shuttleworth, Edward Shuttleworth, Eric Roney, Emma Stevenson, Steve Vaughan, Olivia Barraclough, Nigel Adams, and Diane Adams.

1. **Apologies for absence:** (8) - Richard Spencer, Phil Horsfield, Susan Tyldsley, Annalise Stoye, Ken Dunn, Leigh Astin, June Prew and Jean Johns.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st January 2025**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st January 2025 were distributed to those present and were proposed to be a true record of that meeting by Eric Roney which was seconded by Martin Shuttleworth and then unanimously approved by everyone at the meeting.

3. **Chairman's update on matters referred to in the Previous Minutes.**

Chairs comments: -

Item 3 (5b) – A further Parish representatives meeting will be held on 21st May 2025.

Update

Item 3 (7b) – Nigel stated unfortunately Whitebeck Lane had not been selected in this financial year's capital surface dressing programme, however, this work would be considered in future year's programmes.

Item 3 (7c) – The request for new grit bins would be deferred until the Autumn

Item 3 (7d) – Cars being parked in dangerous places had been referred to the “Traffic and Safety Team at LCC. **Update**

Item 3 (7e) – Regarding reducing the speed on the A6070 the Council had closed the matter without further information, however with the help of Phillippa Williamson the Council had agreed to place cameras on the stretch of road. Once Nigel has received the data he intended going back to LCC to discuss the matter further. **Update**

Item 3 (9) – Nigel had written to Stagecoach regarding the possibility of re-introducing a limited bus service through the village. Prior to this he had used the village WhatsApp group to ask if residents would be likely to use any such service. 10 replies were received, all stating that they thought it would be a good idea to have the bus service reinstated into the village. **Update**

Item 5 – Nigel was asked to update the meeting regarding the planning application for the barn on the A6070 adjacent to the Longlands hotel. Nigel provided a brief history of the application (mentioned in previous minutes) and said that a proposal for “prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building into flexible business use” had been refused on 7/2/25. The council’s notification gave the reasons for this, which he summarised for the meeting. Nigel commented that he has been asked about the matter after the last meeting and therefore on behalf of those residents, he had asked for an update from the planners. They stated that an Enforcement Officer has been appointed to the case and she was looking into the matter. Nigel was asked by one person attending the meeting to keep pressing Lancaster City Council. **Update**

Item 11 - Nigel reported he had received a reply from the Council regarding the flooding outside Twin Lakes, the Council stated they were aware of the problem and that an inspector would assess the site and raise the necessary works. **Update**

4. Any Other Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman’s and Clerks Report

Chair’s comments

Nigel distributed a schedule of all planning applications since the date of the last meeting which is attached to these minutes.

There were no other matters.

6. Community Action Plan

Nigel spoke about the village Action Plan and said he was trying to revive the discussion and actions around this. A lack of his time had been a factor. It was discussed that possibly a questionnaire should be sent round the village asking the Parish what they would like a CAP to include.

There followed a short discussion about matters to be included in CAP, in particular a car sharing scheme, the use of the village Green and, bus services. The LCC had emailed confirmation that the green was not Council Property, and they had no interest.

7. Possible Enlargement of Parish boundaries.

Nigel commented that permission for investigatory work into the possible merger between Borwick and Priest Hutton Parishes had been granted to both him and Richard Mellor (the Chairman of Borwick Parish) at the respective previous meetings.

As part of the investigation, Nigel Adams, Richard Mellor and Ken Dunn had met with Council members in Yealand, who had recently gone through a similar process, with Yealand Redmayne and Yealand Conyers merging in 2023 to form The Yealands. Their conclusion was that it had proved very successful.

Nigel, Richard and Ken had also met to discuss the possibility of a merger and discussed any pros and Cons. They had read into the subject of Community Governance.

Nigel outlined the basic procedure for a merger which involved providing residents of both villages with a “business plan”. Based on the current number of registered voters across the two villages, 113 or more residents (37.5% of the electorate) would need to sign a petition seeking the merger. The petition and the business plan would need to be submitted to LCC for their review. If the work around a merger was to advance, it was felt a joint meeting between the villages would be best where the business plan could be explained. The process for any merger would take time.

The next step would be to talk with Lisa Vines (Lancaster City Council Election Manager) and Nigel will provide and update at the next meeting.

Tony Johns spoke of his opposition to any merger explaining that Borwick and Priest Hutton had always been 2 separate villages for circa 1,000 years or more.

8. Any other business

There were no other matters arising and the Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

9. Next Meeting

It was proposed that the next meeting be held on the evening of 2nd September at 7:30pm –

Post script – the date of the next meeting has had to be changed to **16th September 2025**.

No	Application For	Ref No	Date
1	Mr and Mrs Cohen Permitted 17th March	25/00065/FUL	22 January
2	Mrs S Riding Permitted 20th February	25/0012/TCA	23 January
3	Westmorland Tree Care Ltd Permitted 6th March	25/0025/TCA	4 February
4	Mr F Brakewell Application Withdrawn 18th March	25/00119/PAC	5 February
5	Mr and Mrs H & N Clarke	25/00319	24 March
6	Miss Tracey Bamber Permitted 7th May	25/0062/TCA	8 April
7	Mr R Bryning	25/00333/FUL	25 April