

CABUS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Cabus Parish Council meeting held at Cabus Village Hall on Monday 12 May 2025 at 7:30pm

Record of members present: Parish Cllrs R Hastings, A Birchall-Farr, M Houghton, L Jackson and T Suart

In attendance: Wyre Borough Cllr Sir R Atkins; PC M Duff; L Banton (Clerk)

2 members of the public were present

2509. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Wyre Borough Councillors D Atkins and M Collinson

2510. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was resolved that the minutes of the last meeting of Cabus Parish Council (10.03.25) be approved.

2511. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Jackson declared a residential interest in agenda item 6.3 (Himalayan Balsam Working Party)

2512. CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS – PROACTIVE MEASURES – STANDING ITEM

Solar Panels on new build housing from 2027. A query was raised as to whether the Borough Council will implement this. Cllr R Atkins responded that the Borough Council was looking into this and implementation was dependent on government policy.

Poor housing design in England. A query was raised regarding what the Borough Council was going to do to improve housing design quality. Cllr R Atkins responded that the government was planning to cut the planning powers of local councils but he would raise this with Cllr D Atkins who sat on the Borough Planning Committee.

2513. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - The meeting was adjourned to allow for a period of public discussion including the receipt of reports from:

Police – the new PC for Garstang, PC Mike Duff, introduced himself and was welcomed. Nothing to report in Cabus although there were a couple of burglaries in the wider Garstang area along with driving offences and drug related problems. The dry weather had also contributed to an increase in fires. PC Duff was made aware of ongoing issues in Cabus and asked if he would be continuing the regular patrols of Woodfold Lane and Fowler Lane – which he confirmed would take place.

PC Duff left the meeting at 19:41

Wyre Borough Council – Cllrs R Atkins reported as follows:

The relationship between the Borough and the County might take some time to be re-established following the recent Local County Council elections. The election of the new Borough Mayor would take place shortly with the present Mayor taking the position of deputy Mayor. There was no timetable as yet for the Local Government Review - still pending further information from Government.

Lancashire County Council – noted that the incoming County Councillor for Wyre Rural East was James David Tomlinson and the Clerk would be in touch with Mr Tomlinson as soon as his email address became available.

Himalayan Balsam – public discussion

Mr Butcher (member of the public) confirmed that he had been busy clearing the Balsam from Fowler Wood and was keen to get started with a Balsam Bashing working party to tackle other areas within Cabus. Cllr Jackson confirmed that she would contact all individuals who had expressed an interest in this activity with forthcoming dates and locations for Balsam Bashing.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.55pm.

Cllr R Atkins and Mr Butcher left the meeting at this point.

2514. REPORTS/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1. VE Day Events at which Cabus Parish Council was represented**– Kepple Lane flag raising and Lighting of the Beacon (8 May); Blackburn Cathedral County Service (11 May).

2. **Website and Email Compliance** – Cllr Jackson reported on information shared by a Councillor from a neighbouring Local Council relating to email addresses and website domain name compliance. The Clerk confirmed that Cabus Parish Council was compliant for Governance Statement Audit Assertion purposes.
3. **Hangman's Lane Biodiversity Suggestions.** It was resolved that a working party be established to explore improvements and works required along Hangman's Lane. This would include the identification of a potential site for the planting of one or two oak tree saplings (raised from acorns collected from Hangman's Lane) which had kindly been offered to Cabus Parish Council from a local resident who regularly walked along Hangman's Lane. Cllr Jackson to confirm the date/time of the first site meeting.
4. **Grass Cutting Update.** The Clerk confirmed that LCC had been notified that the extension of the grass cutting contract for Cabus had been declined by the existing grass cutting contractor and a replacement contractor had not as yet been identified. LCC had undertaken a 'flail' cut within Cabus (which took place last week). The Parish Council asked the Clerk to contact Myerscough & Bilsborrow Parish Council for details regarding their grass cutting contractor.
5. **Himalayan Balsam Working Party.** See also Public Participation. Working Party established and Cllr Jackson to circulate details of forthcoming dates and locations for balsam bashing.
6. **Banner at Wildflower Area.** It was noted that attempts had been made to establish ownership of the banner and that whilst the Parish Council endorsed the banner's message to support local farming, the banner had been installed on the stakes for the wildflower area and was blocking out the light to the wildflowers. The Parish Council requested that the banner be taken down and be placed in a nearby space for recovery by the owner.

2515. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

It was resolved that the following be authorised for payment

PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	CHQ NO.
LALC	NALC/LALC subs 25-26	£340.07	001056
L Banton	Clerk's expenses: stamps/ink Cartridges/ Bband April-May/salary adj for April-May (£199.28)	£288.24	001057
George Banks	Payroll Admin Services 24/25	£50.00	001058
Lorna Murdoch	Internal Audit FY 24/25	£90.00	001059
Jon Cuff Electrical Ltd	Christmas Lights Installation	£60.00	001060
HMRC	1st Qrt Tax inc Emp NIC (due 05 July 2025)	£284.24	001061
Zurich Municipal	Insurance 25/26	£264.00	001062
Catterall Parish Council	Lengthsman work in Cabus (4.5 hrs plus new gate catch)	£97.25	001063
Chris Rycroft	Website & Domain Renewal 25/26	£74.59	001064

THE FOLLOWING AUTHORISED PAYMENTS SINCE THE LAST MEETING WERE NOTED

Clerk's Salary - £260 (26 March 2025) and £260 (26 April 2025)

Boston Seeds Ltd – 100 snowdrops, 50 primroses - £117.99 inc vat (vat = £13.00) cq no: 001055

2516. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Application Number: 25/00294/LMAJ Proposal: Temporary planning permission for 40 years for change of use from agricultural land to shared agricultural land, proposed solar farm and ancillary development including access improvements, landscaping and ecological enhancements. Location: Snapewood Solar Farm Park Lane Cabus Garstang PR3 0JT.

It was resolved that comments be received via email to enable the clerk to make a response by the deadline of 16 May 2025.

2517. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 14 July 2025 at 7.30pm in Cabus Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signed:
Chair of Cabus Parish Council

Date.....