

## **Ansdell and Fairhaven Parish Council – Minutes**

Meeting held: Monday 23 February 2026 at 7.00 pm  
Venue: St Paul's Church Hall  
Chair and Interim Clerk: Cllr P Wilkinson  
Also present: Cllrs J Frith-Williams, D Wilkinson, D Perkins, Cllr S Millar, Cllr C Dixon, Cllr M Morris County Cllr J Singleton and 8 members of the public.  
Apologies: Cllrs E Taylor and P Spilsbury  
Minutes taken by: Cllr D Perkins

### **Public Participation**

The council was asked whether it had the authority to repair and improve around the trees on the footpath. It was advised that, unfortunately, that responsibility lies with LCC.

The precept increase was queried and answered by Chair Cllr P Wilkinson.

It was queried why Cllr Barnes had decided to stand down, but the council knows little more other than she decided on that course of action.

It was confirmed that the parish boundary stops at the foot of Skew Bridge.

### **Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **Note that Cllr Perkins was taking the Minutes**

Noted

### **Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 1 December 2025**

Proposed: Cllr J Frith-Williams  
Seconded: Cllr D Wilkinson  
Signed: Cllr P Wilkinson – Chair

### **To consider planning applications**

Cllr C Dixon advised that the proposed siting of the phone mast had now moved to opposite the corner of Smithy Lane and Church Road – again agreed to be totally unacceptable and he confirmed it would be refused.

## **Financial considerations - SPID Update – including rise in cost for pole erection**

Cllr P Wilkinson outlined the costs of using LCC and the potential saving of up to £1,200 plus VAT by using our own contractors – for which we needed a permit from LCC which, as yet, was not forthcoming.

## **Printing Cost for newsletter/flyer Parish Council**

It was proposed that a newsletter/flyer should be produced for distribution to residents and handed out at the stand at Fylde Community Day on 29 March. It would also go on the website and notice boards. It was agreed that if at all possible, we should attempt to deliver leaflets direct to households. The costs have been confirmed as £456 for 8,000 double sided A4 leaflets, £39 for 100 single sided A4 and £61 for 300 A5 single side - £74 for 400. It was agreed to proceed, proposed Cllr D Perkins, seconded Cllr Frith Williams and passed unanimously.

## **Update for the Memorial Garden**

There was a concern over who actually owned the land in front of the Institute, Cllr S Millar to liaise with Cllr D Wilkinson and send details.

## **To discuss safeguarding policy for the Council**

Cllr J Frith-Williams confirmed that with events coming up, it would be necessary to hold training for Councillors and the (yet to be announced) clerk. Risk assessments for all events would be necessary.

## **Proposal for the positioning of new notice boards at Fairhaven Lake and the Railway Station**

The parish council is awaiting permission to site boards were required – as above. The council to check with FBC to see whether grants might be available and Cllr D Wilkinson to liaise with Friends of Ansdell Station over the use of their board at that location.

## **Update on Clerk's position**

Cllr P Wilkinson provided a detailed update and confirmed that he had attempted to contact the Penwortham clerk but had no reply. It had previously been thought that the clerk and assistant from Bryning with Warton would be interested but they were unwilling to commit beyond 6 months which was not acceptable. Kevin Martin, an ex clerk for St Annes has been enrolled to assist with the search but he has declined the offer to serve as interim clerk. This proposal was proposed by Cllr D Perkins and seconded by Cllr M Morris. Carried unanimously.

## **Neighbourhood Plan**

This would be produced under guidance from FBC and is a lengthy process to give all parties a chance to provide input. It was suggested that a specialist firm be brought in to produce the plan and the council's behalf and Cllr C Dixon agreed to investigate who other councils had used. It was proposed that the savings from having no clerk for 6 months be used to pay for this and an allowance of £10,000 had been included in the budget to cover this. Proposed by Cllr M Morris and seconded by Cllr C Dixon. Carried unanimously.

## **Fylde Art Gallery**

This is on display at Lytham Hall with Richard Ansdell and other local artists displayed. Cllr D Wilkinson to check whether it would be possible for the council to hold a private viewing with Peter Anthony from the Hall in favour. This would be a daytime event and Cllr D Wilkinson would provide further details in due course.

## **Finance Update**

The precept had been submitted and was awaiting approval.

The bank balance is healthy, in excess of £85,000 and it was agreed that a savings account should be opened to obtain a better return on the money.

It was agreed that Cllr M Morris be added to the Finance Committee – proposed by Cllr P Wilkinson and seconded by Cllr D Perkins. All in favour, apart from Cllr S Millar who voted against.

## **Exclusion of Press and Public**

Following the departure of the public, a breach of the code of conduct was discussed by the council, including unfounded accusations made against the Chair, Cllr P Wilkinson, by a fellow Councillor, as well as illegal recordings of previous council meetings having been made by the same councillor.

There were also accusations that free tickets had been handed out for the November fundraising Ball, whereas in fact the only complimentary tickets provided were for the Mayor and his wife out of courtesy, the official photographer for the event and the entertainer.

Cllr S Millar left the meeting prematurely at 8.00 pm.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on Monday 30 March at St Paul's Church Hall.

Signed

Dated