

Ansdell and Fairhaven Parish Council – Minutes

Meeting held: Monday 26 January 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, E Taylor, P Spilsbury, D Perkins, County Cllr J Singleton and 12 members of the public.
Apologies: Cllrs S Millar, C Dixon and M Morris
Minutes taken by: Cllr D Perkins

Public Participation

A request was made that financial information be updated more regularly.

There was a query as to why some Christmas lights hadn't worked. The Chair replied that there had not been the chance to test them properly in advance, that the electrician who had put them up without charge had been in hospital and that with more time we would ensure no problems in 2026.

Speeding on Woodlands Road was raised again and the Chair referred to the later item regarding the Spids and confirmed that the link for reporting speeding would be uploaded to the Parish Council website.

It was also pointed out that there had been a business survey, but not one for residents and the Chair advised that this would form part of the upcoming Neighbourhood Plan.

There was an update re the neighbour dispute that had been ongoing for several years and Cllr Dixon was thanked for his help. The situation had improved slightly following a community protection notice, but not fully resolved.

A request was made to the Parish Council for help regarding the state of Skew Bridge on Blackpool Road, presented by the father of the young man who died in the crash there in September 2023. This followed a previous fatality a few years earlier, yet the county council did not agree that improvements needed to be made. The Parish Council agreed to make representations on their behalf – but also on behalf of all residents using the 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 D Wilkinson

Seconded: Cllr J Frith-Williams

Signed: Cllr P Wilkinson – Chair

To consider planning applications

In the absence of Cllr C Dixon, this was not possible.

Financial considerations for approval – proposal of Budget for Parish Council precept 2026-2027

The Chair, Cllr P Wilkinson outlined the proposed budgetary increases for 2026/2027. There are a number of uncertainties, not least surrounding the local government reorganisation, but the spreadsheet and proposed costings were recommended to the Parish Council. They represented an increase in precept to approximately £119,370 which represented an increase of 20% this

Cllr J Frith-Williams gave a vote of thanks to the Chair for all his hard work as interim clerk, including the work on the budget. A copy of the proposed precept is attached to the Minutes.

The proposed budget was proposed by Cllr J Frith-Williams and seconded by Cllr D Wilkinson. Voting passed unanimous

To handover a cheque to Friends of Fairhaven Lake from the community Day 2025

A cheque for £220 was handed over to Alan Pedder and Jane South, the Chair and Secretary of Friends of Fairhaven Lake. The money was raised during our inaugural Community Day and a huge vote of thanks was given to everyone who had supported

the day. Alan thanked us for the cheque and confirmed that the second annual food festival was due to take place at the Lake on 4 May 2026.

Update for the Memorial Garden

Nothing particularly to share except that it had been confirmed that the relevant piece of land belonged to Fylde Borough Council.

The Chair, Cllr P Wilkinson, also took the opportunity to read out a thank you letter from Alan Roe of Ansdell in Bloom, thanking the Parish Council for the recent grant.

To discuss safeguarding policy for the Council

Cllr J Frith-Williams gave a detailed presentation regarding the Council's safeguarding duties and provided a detailed report which is attached to the Minutes. Whilst the Council is not a Statutory Safeguarding Authority, the Council does have a duty to provide a safeguarding policy for when members of the public, or volunteers, contributors or entertainers are involved in any council activities. Cllr J Frith-Williams will liaise with the new clerk (when appointed).

Proposed by Cllr D Perkins and seconded by Cllr P Wilkinson.

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

It was agreed that, notwithstanding the existing Fylde Borough Council notice board, the Parish Council should erect two more boards at the above strategic locations to advise and inform residents and visitors alike. It was also agreed that there was an inordinate amount of difficulty accessing the key to the existing notice board and Alan Roe and Cllr D Wilkinson undertook to establish its whereabouts and obtain a copy/copies.

Proposed by Cllr D Wilkinson and seconded by Cllr P Spilsbury.

Update on Clerk's position

The Chair, Cllr P Wilkinson, provided an update regarding contact that he had made with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk of Bryning with Warton Council, and it is hoped that they will agree to serve 8 hours each. They have forwarded job descriptions and Cllr P Wilkinson hopes to have a further update shortly.

Report on Events for 2026 from Community Enrichment Chair Cllr D Wilkinson

It is proposed that the Parish Council has a stall at the Fylde Borough Council day at Fairhaven Lake on Sunday 29 March to operate as a meet the council, Councillor Day. Proposed by cllr d Wilkinson seconded by cllr spillsbury passed unanimous
There will also be the following events:

Holistic and Wellbeing week from	6 to 12 April
Blue Skies Dragon boat race on	May 16
Local Community Day	22 August
Christmas Lights switch on	21 November

Update on SPIDS – new quote received

Firstly, a vote of thanks for County Cllr J Singleton for all his hard work on this matter. The Chair, Cllr P Wilkinson, then provided updated costings for 2 SPIDS that are the Bluetooth version with Data Capture. The cost is £12,800. It is a further £150 for each post to be installed on top of the original cost of £400 plus vat .

Unfortunately, Paul Connell from LCC has been off work due to illness but is now back, so it is hoped that we can now move forward quickly with these.

Proposed by Cllr D Perkins and seconded by Cllr D Wilkinson.
Passed unanimous

Storage Unit update

The Parish Council now has access to the storage unit and volunteers will be needed to move various items into storage.

Finance as of 17/02/2026 balance at bank £86,574.63 in credit

Exclusion of Press and Public

There being no business under this category, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 23 February at St Paul's Church Hall.

