

To be confirmed at the next meeting

NORTH TURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1 June 2026
In The Library, The Barlow, Edgworth

Present: Councillor J Rowley (in the Chair)
Councillors A Highton, D Wild, D Hey, K Harrison, D Crompton and J Rigby

Also present: J Smith (Clerk), D Rowley (Lengthsman/Litterman) and 3 members of public

Apologies: None

Prior to the meeting members of the public were given an opportunity to speak.

A resident was concerned about the developments at Edgworth Cricket Club. He had e-mailed the Chair previously expressing his concerns and asking the Parish Council to look into the license terms of the cricket club and a review of the finances as our role as Trustee of the charity. He was concerned that a large sum of money had been donated to the cricket club by one person and it had been used solely on the development of the building. Cllr Crompton explained that the donation could only be spent on the cricket club and could not to be used for anything else. Cllr Rowley explained that the statutory role of the Parish Council as Custodian Trustee is not to influence the day to day running of the charity but to hold the title deeds in trust for the volunteer Trustee Board, to which the Parish Council no longer appoints members. The resident was also concerned that trees had been cut down to extend the car park and the trees had TPO's on them. Cllrs Rigby and Wild both confirmed that planning permission had been given for these trees to be cut down.

Another resident at the meeting was also concerned about the development of the car park and felt that the children's play area would be surrounded by car parks and large buildings. Again, the Parish Council was sympathetic to her concerns but felt that the Barlow AGM would be the place to discuss these issues.

Another resident also asked if the Deed of Transfer for The Barlow is available to look at. The Parish Council were in agreement that it would be available but explained he would need to ask The Barlow to see it as the Parish Council does not hold any legal documents for The Barlow.

The resident also wanted to discuss the planning application at the top of Grane Road and the impact this could have on traffic through Edgworth. The Parish Council explained that this application was out of our area and as such we would not be notified about it. The resident felt that the Parish Council should make some official response, but Cllr Rowley explained that any response the Parish Council made would not affect any decision and would only have the same impact on the decision as a response from a resident. The Parish Council, however, did agree to collect some information and would consider making a response at the next meeting.

The Chair thanked the residents for attending and appreciated their concerns in relation to The Barlow and the Cricket Club and would take their views into consideration. The residents then left the meeting.

8501 Matters Arising from previous minutes

Belmont toilets – the rendering of Belmont toilets has been completed. The caretaker has asked for additional funds to complete the painting of the toilets and also to repair the dry stone wall at the entrance to The Moss. **Agreed:** he can purchase the materials needed to complete the painting and could have up to £150 to repair the wall.

Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements 2025-26 – the AGAR has been sent to the external auditor and the accounts will be available for inspection from Wednesday 3 June until Tuesday 14 July 2026.

Insurance for 2026-27 – insurance arranged with Zurich on a 3 year long term agreement.

Chapelton Community Garden – clerk has asked for a copy of the plans before any work commences as we need to ensure that none of the work that was completed as part of the grant is disturbed.

Entwistle and Wayoh reservoirs – the clerk invited a representative from United Utilities to attend this meeting to discuss the proposed project but they replied to say they were unable to attend but were hoping to attend the next meeting. Clerk sent through the details of the July meeting.

8502 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8503 Minutes of the Annual meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the Annual meeting held on 11 May 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8504 Declarations of Interest

Noted: None

8505 Planning Applications

Resolved: That the Parish Council submit comments (as below) on planning applications 10/26/0402, 10/26/0229, 10/26/0436 and 10/26/0192

8506 Planning Decisions

Noted: Blackburn with Darwen Council's decisions on planning applications.

8507 Accounts to Pay

Resolved: That cheques be signed to pay the following accounts:

Lengthsman May		£1,466.66
Caretaker Salary May		£469.30
Clerk salary May	Including expenses	£1,146.42
E.on Next	Electricity @ Belmont toilets May	£21.04
LG Plastering Services	Rendering at Belmont toilet block	£1,280.00
BVRA	Contribution towards planters in Belmont	£200.00

Resolved: The following direct debits have been paid:

Gocardless	Easy Websites monthly fee	£55.44
Nest	Pension	£106.26
Virgin Money	Bank charges	£9.10

8508 Standing Orders/Financial Standing Orders

Reviewed: The Standing Orders/Financial Standing Orders were reviewed and approved for a further 12 months.

8509 Correspondence

Noted: Correspondence received since the last meeting was read and noted including

- Statements from Virgin Money
- E-mail regarding the governing structure of The Barlow
- E-mail request for suitable land within the Turton/Bolton area for a long-term project designed to support children, young people and adults through calm, nature-based experiences

8510 Any Other Business

E-on contract renewal – current fixed rate finishes 11 August – discussed whether to fix for 1, 2 or 3 years – agreed on 2 years fixed business plan.

Regalia valuation – as part of the insurance renewal it was agreed that the Chair's chain of office would be valued as it has not been done for many years. Clerk contacted 3 companies to find out how much they would charge for the valuations. Cllr Rigby to find out who values the regalia at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Cllr Hey to speak to a specialist jeweller that he knows to find out how much they would charge. Once all the quotes have been received the Parish Council will decide on who to instruct. Quotes so far have ranged from £300 to £2,500.

Request from BVRA for contribution to planters – BVRA have made a request to the Parish Council for a contribution towards the costs involved in improving the various planters across Belmont. After a brief discussion the Parish Council agreed to contribute £200 and a cheque was signed on the night and given to Cllr Harrison to hand over to the BVRA.

Waste at Lower Pastures Farm - Cllr Wild again brought up the issue of the bins at the top of the land leading down to Lower Pastures Farm. The Lengthsman is still having to regularly pick up litter around that area that has been blown around due to the inadequate refuse disposal system at the school. They did move their residential bins further down the private road initially, but they are back at the top of the road. Both the clerk and Cllr Rigby had requested that the school be given commercial waste bins instead of residential and it was agreed that they would e-mail Environment Dept to make the request again.

Grass cutting in North Turton – there have been some enquiries from residents as to why greens and grass verges have not been mowed. Cllr Rigby explained that Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council had sacked the company they used last year and the new company are not performing their job and by now they should have been on their 2nd or 3rd cutting but they have not done any. Cllr Rigby advised that BwDBC are looking at going back to the original company, but in the meantime, unfortunately, none of the greens or verges are being mowed, but once they have sorted out a company to do this work then they will start the process and catch up with what is outstanding.

Planning applications received by 27 May 2026

10/26/0402 Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) Proposal: Conversion of garage to habitable room at The Nook, 1 Hill Street, Edgworth

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development

10/26/0229 Full Planning Application Proposal: Part single part double storey rear extension at 54 Station Road, Turton

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development

10/26/0436 Non-Material Amendment Proposal: Non-material amendment pursuant to planning application 10/23/0888 "Demolition of existing Commercial / Industrial Storage Unit and Construction of new dwelling" - Changes to building line to north and the introduction of glazing to the two gables at Lower Edge Barn, Broadhead Road, Edgworth

The Parish Council has received the notification and has no objection

10/26/0192 Full Planning Application Proposal: Proposed two-storey extension to the western elevation with first floor balcony at Hob Lane Barn, Blackburn Road, Edgworth

The Parish Council objects to this development for the following reasons:

- Lack of access to proposed building site
- Potential impact on nearby listed building
- Overdevelopment of the whole curtilage
- Concerns the development is being built outside of the curtilage into green belt land

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 6 July 2026 starting at 6.45pm at St Peter’s Church, Belmont. The public and press are invited to attend and to listen.

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Signed - Chair

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Dates of next meetings:

3 August	St Anne’s Church, Chapeltown
14 September	The Barlow, Edgworth
5 October	St Peter’s Church, Belmont
2 November	St Anne’s Church, Chapeltown
7 December	The Barlow, Edgworth