

To be confirmed at the next meeting

NORTH TURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 August 2025

In The Library, The Barlow, Edgworth

Present: Councillor D Wild (in the Chair)
Councillors J Rigby, K Harrison, A Highton, J Rowley and D Hey
Also present: J Smith (Clerk) and 6 members of the public
Apologies: Councillor D Crompton

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

A resident informed the Parish Council that Phil Broughton from Edgworth & District Horticultural Society (EDHS) had not heard from the Chair as agreed at the last meeting. The Chair explained that he had given Phil his number and was under the impression that Phil was going to contact him to arrange to meet up and other Councillors agreed. The Chair again apologised that the planters had been removed without consulting with EDHS but explained that the Parish Council had been receiving complaints from residents about the poor state of the planters. The removed planters are with the Lengthsman, and the plan was they would be grouped together in certain areas rather than rely on individuals. The resident agreed to speak to Phil and ask him to contact the Chair to arrange to meet up to discuss the way forward.

A couple of residents were in attendance to discuss planning application 10/25/0438. They live at the side of the property in question and wanted to bring the Parish Council's attention to an issue they are having regarding access to the back of their property. They live in a row of cottages and when they originally bought their property there was an empty barn behind that in 2021 was converted to a private dwelling. Within the deeds to their property is a document confirming they have right of access across the farmyard but since the conversion this access has been blocked off by the owners. The residents have also been in touch with lots of different organisations to try and get some help, but nobody is able to help them. They put an application in to the Land Registry in December 2024, which normally takes 12-18 months to be dealt with, but has been expedited due to further issues that have taken place recently. The planning application submitted to Blackburn with Darwen includes the erection of boundary fencing which would not be in keeping with the surrounding area and the residents asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do to help. The Parish Council agreed to take this into account when discussing the planning application later in the meeting.

A couple of residents were in attendance to object to the dog poo bin that had been placed at the top of Harbour Lane. They had written to the clerk regarding their objections previously and were in attendance to discuss possibly moving the bin to a different location. They explained that where the bin has been placed is causing an issue for a resident on a mobility scooter who is struggling to get past the bin so the Parish Council agreed that it would be better to move it to a different position. The residents suggested moving it to the Horrocks Fold entrance where there is already one bin as this is used frequently and is often overflowing. It was agreed that the Chair would meet with the

Lengthsman, and the residents if they wanted to, and look where the bin would be better placed.

A resident from Chapeltown wanted to discuss the lights on Green Arms Road for the school children. They are not automated so need to be switched on manually by means of a fob but will switch off automatically after an hour. He has asked for volunteers from parents of children who attend the school to switch the lights on using a fob, but nobody has come forward. There is an app that would control the lights remotely and the resident has contacted Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (BwDBC) for funding for this, but they have said it is too expensive and they do not have the money to pay for this (approx. £2k) He has also looked into putting a locked box on the light pole in the hope that somebody passing would open the box and use the fob to activate the lights but there would be cost involved in this together with the purchase of additional fobs. The Parish Council agreed to fund the cost of a locked box and a couple of additional fobs up to a limit of £100 so the resident agreed to look into purchasing them and would send the necessary paperwork through to the clerk for reimbursement.

8397 Matters Arising from previous minutes

Ryecroft Lane – Still no update from Martin Kelly at BwDBC and no work has started at the school. Clerk to again e-mail Martin Kelly and copy in Cllr Rigby.

Insurance – Clerk has arranged for the sum insured on Belmont toilet block to be increased with no change to the premium.

Telephone Kiosks – Clerk has approached the North West Ambulance Service to enquire about two defibrillators – waiting to hear from them.

Maria Square – Clerk wrote to the registered owner of the land to ask them to make the area safe. Received a reply to say he does not own the land even though the Land Registry says he does. Cllrs Harrison & Hey to meet with the Chair and decide what can be done about the situation.

Belmont Toilet block – the hand dryer and light fitting have been fixed.

Moorside Road, Edgworth – Clerk has put through a request to BwDBC to move the National Speed Limit sign as requested.

Rivington Road, Belmont – Clerk wrote to the Chief Constable, the local Sergeant, Andy MacNae MP and BwDBC about the speeding issues. BwDBC replied to say they do not deal with speeding. The local Sergeant replied but offered no helpful suggestions. No reply received from the MP or Chief Constable. Clerk to send the letter to Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw.

Tower Street – Clerk has contacted the Lengthsman to remove the tree shoots. A request has also been submitted through the tree portal on BwDBC website.

8398 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8399 Declarations of Interest

Noted: None

8400 Planning Applications

Resolved: That the Parish Council submit comments (as below) on planning applications 10/25/0438, 10/25/0699, 10/25/0670, 10/25/0747, 10/25/0716, 10/24/1020, 10/25/0557 and 10/25/0784

8401 Planning Decisions

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

8402 Accounts to Pay

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

Lengthsman July		£1,466.66
Caretaker Salary July		£451.80
Clerk salary July	Including expenses	£1075.40
The Barlow	Room hire June	£25.50
St Peter's Church, Belmont	Room hire July	£40.00
MJL Electrics NW Ltd	Belmont toilets repairs	£205.00
E.ON Next	Electricity @ Belmont toilets	£19.79

Resolved: The following direct debits have been paid:

Gocardless	Easy Websites monthly fee	£55.44
Nest	Pension	£101.01
Virgin Money	Bank charges	£14.10

8403 Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025/26

Noted: The new pay award was noted and backpay for the Clerk agreed.

8404 Peak & Northern Footpaths Society (PNFS) Inspector for North Turton

Noted: Cllr Hey has completed his training as a PNFS inspector for North Turton. 27% of the footpaths in the Blackburn district are in North Turton (275 in total but this also includes Egerton). All footpaths should be inspected every three years. There are 49 in Belmont and Cllr Hey is expecting that all of them will have had recent inspections by the end of September. There are a number of footpaths in both Edgworth and Chapelton that have not been inspected for over three years and he is proposing that these are split

between other inspectors and completed as soon as possible. None of the 159 footpaths in Edgworth have been inspected in the last two years and 63 have never been inspected.

8405 Correspondence

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

- Statements from Virgin Money
- Statement of Accounts from CCLA
- Reminder from Society for Local Council Clerk (SLCC) that the membership is due for renewal on 1 October 2025

8406 Any Other Business

Super-Fast Broadband in Belmont – Cllr Harrison had been informed that super-fast broadband was being installed in Belmont and was querying whether there would be any masts installed without consultation. Other areas have had super-fast broadband installed with no issues as the work has been done underground, however masts can be installed without prior consultation due to a planning law known as “permitted development.”

Planning applications received by 29 July 2025

10/25/0438 Full Planning Application Proposal: Replacement of the glass in link on the Eastern elevation (courtyard side) to stone work to match the existing building and replace the glass roof with stone slate on both the Eastern and Western elevations, erection of boundary fencing and installation of two flues on the Western and Northern elevation at Hob Lane Barn, Blackburn Road, Edgworth

The Parish Council has no objection to the replacement of the glass in link on the Eastern elevation (courtyard side) to stone work to match the existing building or to replacing the glass roof with stone slate on both the Eastern and Western elevations or the installation of two flues on the Western and Northern elevation.

The Parish Council does object to the erection of boundary fencing due to the detrimental impact this will have on the neighbouring listed building. The Heritage Statement states that there is already an existing fence in place (fig2) however this is inaccurate as this is a temporary Heras fence, and the erection of a boundary fence would impede the heritage status of the property.

10/25/0699 Full Planning Application Proposal: First floor rear extension with rooflight at 46 Station Road, Turton

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

10/25/0670 Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) Proposal: Siting of caravan for ancillary residential use at Chetham Farm, High Street, Chapeltown

The Parish Council has received the notification and has no objection to this proposed development.

10/25/0747 Full Planning Application Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and alterations to windows at 13 Greenthorne Close, Edgworth

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

10/25/0716 Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) Proposal: Construction of storage/workshop building, construction of detached garage and use of caravan ancillary to White Lodge Farm at White Lodge Farm, Blackburn Road, Edgworth

The Parish Council has received the notification and has no objection to this proposed development.

10/24/1020 Full Planning Application (Amendment) Proposal: Demolition of catering hut, storage building and open air practice nets enclosure. Erection of catering hut; practice nets with scoreboard; viewing platform; bottle / storage building; pergola; alterations to existing clubhouse building including entrance colonade and external cladding; and alterations to clubhouse access ramps at Edgworth Cricket Club, Bolton Road, Turton

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

10/25/0557 Variation/Removal of Condition/Minor Material Amendment Proposal: Variation of Condition no 1 "approved drawings" pursuant to planning application 10/22/0911 "Erection of 3 new dwellings, change of use and single storey extension to existing outbuilding to form dwelling and associated external works including new road, parking and landscaping (part retrospective)" - amendments to: Plot 1 to allow for the construction of single storey extension, Plot 2 to reduce height of dwelling and Plot 3 to allow for a rear dormer, omit rear balcony and include area in master bedroom at Meadowcroft Barns, Land to Rear of 114 High Street, Turton

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

10/25/0784 Full Planning Application (Retrospective) Proposal: New garden room/outbuilding in rear garden and erection of pergola on levelled garden area to the rear of the property (Retrospective) at 5 Greenacres, Edgworth

The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 1 September 2025 starting at 6.45pm in the Broadhead Room at St Anne's Church, Turton. The public and press are invited to attend and to listen.

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Signed - Chair

The meeting closed at 8.58pm

Future meetings:

6 October – St Peter's Church, Belmont

3 November – The Barlow

1 December – The Barlow

5 January 2026 - St Anne's Church