

Briercliffe with Extwistle Parish Council

Thursday 11th September 2025 at 5pm at Briercliffe Community Centre.

Present: Councillors, Michael McFarlane (Chair), Pippa Lishman, Carrie Halstead.

In Attendance: One member of the public. R Greenwood (Clerk)

The Chair opened and welcomed all to the meeting.		
	Actions	Cllr
	by Clerk	Support
25/26/00406 Apologies for absence		
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Lishman and Frost, County Councillor Poulton and PCSO Hudson		
25/26/0407 Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	•	•
No Councillor declared a Pecuniary Interest		
25/26/0408 Minutes of the last two Parish Council Meetings.		
The minutes of the meeting held 14 th August 2025 were accepted and signed as a true record.		
25/26/0409 Matters outstanding from the previous Minutes	•	•
There were no matters outstanding.		
25/26/0410 Planning Working Group.		
FUL/2025/0480 Waste Transfer Site. 1. Cllr Frost has raised concerns and will be monitoring the planning application process. He has made enquiries with similar sites in the area that have failures in their waste disposal processes and policies. 2. Borough Councillors stance is tabled below under Borough Council Report.		
25/26/0411 Communication Working Group		

The deadline for article submission for the Christmas Newsletter is 10 th November, anyone wishing to add anything can do so by contacting Cllr Pippa Lishman or the clerk.		PL
A photography competition is to be run for photographs to feature on our website. Details will be in the newsletter and any local resident will be eligible to submit photographs of the local area.		
Noticeboards – it was suggested that the notice boards need to be reviewed and updated with one Councillor taking responsibility for one board each.		
The parish council is to look at using a Sharepoint package. The Clerk to research prices and workability of different packages.	RG	PL
25/26/0412 Allotment and Garage Working Group		
Waiting lists – lots of interest and requests for applications recently Allotments - Total of 11 waiting (4 on hold) plus 6 out of area - 2 livery, 10 gardens, 5 pens		
Terminations / Deposit info — G1 just received — to be reviewed		
Allocations - G1 as above – offered to view (emailed)		
Vacant plots Allotments – 0 required to let		
Committee All tenants invited to initial (informal meeting) to discuss how it will work. 1st meeting to be set up for mid-October. Livery policy – to be reviewed with Committee		
Other info Bonfire social – 8th November from 5pm?		
Volunteer Work Completed – 2 tap repairs completed		
To do:		
Dead Hedge and clearing brambles and waste for parking Vehicle gate to be changed to Ped gate Gates to be made and installed Fence post to be renewed mid fence Fencing near new parking Fencing grant – quotes being sought		
Garages Waiting list – 3 waiting – inc 1 out of area (all want council structures – not currently available) 2 expressions of interest in containers Vacant – 12 vacant plots on Harrison St, 1 Council wooden garage on Harrison St – repairs		

	CH PL
	CH/PL
RG	
NO	
	RG

Questions were received regarding the auction of 20 Jubilee Street and the tenancy transfer of the garden extension.	
25/26/0420 Community Centre report and update.	
No report was received	
25/26/0421 C. Councillor Mark Poulton Report	
The report from County Councillor Mark Poulton is tabled below	
25/26/0422 Bowling Memorial Bowling Green	
The parish council has requested a new electric meter for the Bowling Green due to receiving a legal notice to do so. Cllr P Lishman has worked with members to look at funding opportunities for the greensman and for the improvement of the gardens. Consideration was given to the Parish Lengthsman undertaking some of the winter work when the scheduled Lengthsman work slows.	
25/26/0423 Briercliffe Gala	
There was a request that the parish council give more notice for the lease, insurance checks for the 2026 Gala. The Clerk to write to the Gala Committee regarding these and also the Gala Committee's policy on donations.	
25/26/0424 Clerks Report.	
Allotment and Garage - the majority of the clerk's time has been taken up with the allotment and garages this month, including rent collection and processing paperwork into Scribe.	
Following concerns regarding Scribe, and the allocation of receipts and payments to "Council owned garages" when some are not, only the land under is council owned. The clerk has been working to ensure that the correct allocations are used on Scribe Visits to the bank 7- Cllr P Lishman has been working to get the account ending 833 online to prevent these visits.	
Bowling Green as mentioned in the bowling green report.	
Archiving and scanning of historic files, we have had two interested volunteers who are interested in local history.	
FP1203081 – reported overgrown footpath.	
National Allotment Society, there has been a meeting with the legal team which the parish council has been advised that a Section 8 to be completed.	
The Parish Council is paying HMRC penalties via. Gov Gateway, the clerk has asked for a quote from KM Solutions n of £250+ vat, there are 9 penalties that have been appealed going back to 2021. It was proposed that the quote from KM Solutions be accepted, proposed MG seconded MM and AIF. It was resolved to engage K M Solutions at the cost of £250 plus VAT.	

ot 25						
penditure	Cheque no	General a/c	Allotment a/c	Income	General a/c 921	Allotment a/c 83
d	2057	0.00	Allothicitedye	Community Fund	17,635.00	
1RC	2058	100.00		Orchard Grant	1,293.63	
er	2059	146.35		adverts x 2	30.00	
ourfrog	2060	96.00		advert	15.00	
RC Paye	2061	57.00		Rent and deposits.	15.00	1722.06
wage	2062	772.2		nene una deposies.	18,973.63	1,722.06
Wuge	2063	0.00			10,575.05	1,722.00
estic Metals	2064	113.15				
hsman	2065	415.5				
i Sinan	2000	425.5				
sit refund	138		100.00			
Plus	139		822.09			
fix	140		61.40			
sman	141		277.00			
Stamps	142		8.70			
	A-7E	1,700.20	1,269.19			
			fark Poulton	are tabled below		
ere has bee	estions from	C. Cllr M		are tabled below. Kiddy Kids and n	oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee ite to them.	estions from en a complai	C. Cllr M	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee te to them. 26/0427 Da	estions from n a complaintes of the n	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que	estions from n a complaintes of the n	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee te to them. /26/0427 Da tes of meeti	estions from n a complaintes of the n	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que tere has beet to them. 26/0427 Dates of meeti	estions from en a complai ates of the n ings in 2025	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee e to them. 26/0427 Da es of meeti • Oct 2nd • Nov 6tl	estions from an a complainates of the natings in 2025 and 2025 and 2025	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
re has been to them. 6/0427 Dates of meeting Nov 6tl	estions from an a complainates of the natings in 2025 and 2025 and 2025	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee e to them. 26/0427 Da es of meeti • Oct 2nd • Nov 6tl • Dec 4tl	estions from an a complaintes of the natings in 2025 and 2025 and 2025 and 2025	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que tere has bee te to them. /26/0427 Da tes of meeti Oct 2ne Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8th	estions from en a complai ates of the n ings in 2025 d 2025 n 2025 n 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que te has bee te to them. 26/0427 Dates of meeti Oct 2no Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8th	estions from en a complai ates of the n ings in 2025 d 2025 n 2025 n 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee te to them. 26/0427 Dates of meeti Oct 2nd Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8th Feb 5tl	estions from en a complai ates of the n ings in 2025 d 2025 n 2025 n 2026 n 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que te has beet to them. 26/0427 Dates of meeti Oct 2no Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8th	estions from en a complai ates of the n ings in 2025 d 2025 n 2025 n 2026 n 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que te has bee te to them. 26/0427 Dates of meeti Oct 2nd Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8th Feb 5th Mar 5tl	estions from en a complaintes of the nations in 2025 in 2025 in 2025 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet	ed regarding		oise. The cle	erk to
e public que ere has bee ite to them. /26/0427 Dates of meeti Oct 2nd Nov 6tl Dec 4tl Jan 8tr Feb 5tl Mar 5tr Apr 2nd	estions from en a complainates of the nations in 2025 in 2025 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026 in 2026	C. Cllr M nt receiv ext meet 7/26	ed regarding			erk to

BRIERCLIFFE AREA 13th August – 10th September 2025					
INCIDE	INCIDENTS REPORTED - 89				
NO	TYPE OF INCIDENT	LOCATION	DETAILS		
0	Burglary				
2	Burglary non dwelling	Todmorden Road	Out building broken into – items taken		

		Balderstone Lane	Recycling centre broken into.
0	Criminal damage		
1	Theft	Balderstone Lane	Items of scrap taken and gate broken.
1	Vehicle crime	Croasdale Avenue	Vehicle broken into and items taken.
0	Theft of vehicle		
4	Nuisance	Burnley Road	Isolated incident
		Gilbert street	Isolated incident
		Widow Hill Road	Disused building whereby kids are going in causing a nuisance.
		Robin House Lane	Quad bike driving dangerously in the area.

A number of "come meet the Police" are in the diary

- Tuesday 9th September
- Sunday 21st September 14:00 14:30
 Wednesday 24th September 14:00 14:30

Others will be planned in soon for the following months.

If there is a location, date or time that you think would be beneficial please let me know.

If anyone would like to attend fabulous see you there \odot



Many thanks Jody Hudson PCSO 7738.

Borough Councillors' Report – August 2025

 As a reminder, our report on the proposed Waste Transfer Station on Heasandford Estate to the last Parish Council meeting is attached at the end of this report. It was discussed at a Borough Council Scrutiny Committee Meeting last night after which it will be discussed again by the Council's Executive. The Borough's legal officer confirmed that the Council has managed the process so far entirely properly.

The first stage in the proposed development is moving the depot for vehicles from the current site to a site off Widow Hill Road because the current depot is the site of the proposed Transfer Station at the far end of the estate. An application has been made for planning permission. Borough Councillors have expressed strong views to the Council Planning Department about noise and operating hours.

There is a possibility of using a site in Colne for Waste Transfer for a short period, which will have a significant cost for the Council and Council Taxpayers.

- 2. The issue has arisen again of yellow lines at the junctions of Burnley Road with Talbot Street, Duke Street and Townley Street. We could add Haggate, Granville Street and Jubilee Street. We can raise the issue again with the County Council. The biggest problem, however, is enforcement. Current double yellows are frequently disregarded and we are successful only infrequently in getting enforcement officers in Briercliffe from their other duties.
- 3. We have raised again the question of more litter bins in key sites. The challenge isn't the bins themselves; it is getting them built into the cycle for emptying regularly which is a direct extra cost. We are working on it!
- 4. Fly-tipping at Cockden has been addressed and a dump of nitrous oxide canisters on Halifax Road. We will be talking with the police about these and other issues shortly.
- 5. We are working with several local residents on individual planning issues
- 6. As a reminder, the Councillors have access to the Ward Opportunities Fund which can give small grants to local initiatives and we ask anyone interested to get in touch before the cash runs out.

Waste Transfer Station

The most substantial issue in the last month has been the recent furore about the proposed Waste Transfer Station on the Heasandford Industrial Estate. Following an inflammatory and inaccurate leaflet to some homes about a "waste dump", a number of residents have reasonably expressed concern. The proposal is to establish a site for a centre which would enable waste from Burnley bin collections to be transferred from Burnley to the LCC facility near Preston. This is as result of the impending closure of the landfill site at Huncoat near Accrington and the need for waste collected by Burnley Council to be transferred to LCC which has the responsibility for disposal.

The proposed site is 500 yards from the nearest residential area; it will be in an enclosed building with air-filtered extractors, and will be cleared each working day. Scare stories about rats, smells and substantially increased traffic are inaccurate.

The Borough Council Executive has proposed the arrangement, which will now be subject to the normal process of consultation for planning permission.

County Council Report

Highways

- Cocken, first phase of patch repairs completed.
- Cocken, second phase work to take place on single track road, waiting for traffic order for road closure allowing work to be carried out.
- Cockden, third phase its now LCC policy to prolong repairs made to large stretches of road through surface dressing (example being Casterton Avenue down to Turf Moor) hopefully next 6 months.
- Standen Hall roundabout submitted for repairs sinking in parts due to heavy vehicle traffic, supporting the new estate.
- Ridehalgh Lane, illegally closed and illegally placed no through road sign attached to local telegraph
 pole. Suspect closer due to cattle grid being blocked allowing animals to escape. Reported if not
 cleared and road opened it should be shortly.
- Potholes at Haggate crossroads marked for repair.
- Speeding through the village remains a concern, with another accident taking place only this morning in the early hours, I continue to push the police and highways for more support in prevention.

Planning

- LCC reports sent to Parish clerk.
- Walked the path around the turning circle to view the path fencing with the clerk, reported to LCC, report sent into clerk.

A.O.B

- A resident enquired about parish finances, spoken with the clerk thanks for the response. I will feed back accordingly.
- Residents are concerned about HMOs in the parish, my understanding is whilst certain wards around Burnley are currently under Article 4 direction both Harle Syke and Briercliffe are currently exempt, meaning small HMOs could be established by property owners without any additional planning regulation. Do the parish council agree with this current exemption or are they willing to support through the borough Article 4 direction applying in Harle Syke and Briercliffe?. Currently we have no data on the number of small HMOs in the parish due to article 4 not applying.
- LGR/devolution, this is a plan from the current Labour government it plans to replace the current two-tier government of district and county councils with new unitary authorities, Lancashire County Council Reform led are strongly opposed to the plan and proposed a legally binding referendum on

keeping two tier government. The government (Jim Mahon) indicated they would not honour any referendum, so no point in wasting Taxpayers money having one. LGR survey was launched last week and is open to all residents to have their say on the proposals. Currently several unitary options are available with discussions starting shortly, the issue is the 15 councils affected have differing views on the areas and size of the unitary. Lancashire County Council must submit first draft proposals by November. I suggest any residents requiring further information are guided towards the recent LGR survey.

 Would it be possible for the lengths man to cut back the land at the top of Milton Street and Maytree close. Residents still remarking the area is being neglected.

Response to Questions raised by County Councillor Mark Poulton on behalf of an anonymous resident

1. Why can I not see income and expenditure rather than just 'invoices paid'?

All expenditure is listed and from which account each cheque is paid.

Income into the main account is listed. No personal information is listed.

The annual budget is agreed in January each year and monitored by the Council's Finance Group.

2. How much income do the PC receive in rents from the allotments and how much is actually spent on allotments or allotment related issues?

£7336.44 to date income.

£3963.01to date expenditure.

This reflects direct expenditure and does not include any allocation for administrative time on allotment matters. The recent appointment of the Council's Lengthsman, which is separately budgeted, will affect figures in future.

3. How much do the PC now pay in ground rent for the community centre land and what percentage of this amount is offset from income generated by the community centre (as this is now part of PC)

The Community Centre has been owned by the Parish Council since it was built. It is managed by the Briercliffe Community Centre Association, which is an independent registered charity. The rent for the Community Centre is changing because the sale of the land by Lancashire County Council included the Community Centre building. The ground rent payment to LCC for 2024-5 was £290, this was partially refunded by LCC as they sold the land part way through the year. Negotiations about the new lease and rent levels concluded on September 5 2025 when the new lease was signed. The first payment (for 2025-6) will be made on 1 April 2026 at the rate of £2,510 per annum. It will increase in future years to £5,100 in the context of the new 25-year lease, which should guarantee the operation of the Parish's Community Centre until 2050.

Until now, the ground rent and other Community Centre outgoings have been paid by the Association. The Council is about to discuss with the Association future arrangements, including pricing of hires and maintaining the Centre's important position in our community.

4. How much per month is the new permanent clerk's salary?

The Clerk is paid on NJC Pay Scale 24 which is £18.35 per hour. This is in line with similar contracts in other Parish Councils in Lancashire and elsewhere.

5. Why even though the PC has a permanent clerk are they engaging the services of Croner (HR advisor) and is this costing £386 per month?

BPC has a service level agreement with Croner. This ends in April 2026. Croner only offer contracts for a year by year basis. Their advice has included employment and other matters including meeting the Council's obligations under health & safety legislation.

6. Cheque number 2013 in the amount of £252 made payable to 'reliable roofing repairs' for garage roof repair deposit and cheque number 2019 in the amount of £1008 not known who made payable to but allocated to 'roof repairs garage **. I wondered if this combined amount was for the repair to Garage ** and if so how much annual rent does this garage generate and how long will it take the PC to recoup the money?

The combined total does relate to this garage. This is part of the Council's obligations arising from the tenancy agreement. It is part of a continuing programme of repair and renewal as required. The Council does not publish information which identifies specific tenants.