

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 02 April 2026 6.00pm, SPRING COTTAGE

- 1. In attendance:** Chairman D, Jones, Vice Chairman V. McCully, Councillors J.B. Keenan, R.L. Harris, Councillor and Responsible Financial Officer, T. James-Ellett.

Apologies for absence: None received.

- 2. Minutes of meeting held 19th January 2026.**

Approved.

- 3. Declaration of Interest:** Councillors to declare any personal or pecuniary interest in respect of matters on the agenda or up to any point in the meeting:

None.

- 4. Public Time:** To invite/listen to matters raised by members of the public:

None in attendance.

- 5. Correspondence from members of the public:**

No new submission. Below are updates on on-going correspondence.

- a) Rising the pavement near the chapel: Paul Ashcroft says it's too big of a job for them. Chorley council have agreed to meet with the clerk to look at the area. A plan for work needs starting ASAP

Clerk to speak with council & plan work.

- b) Windy Ranett's, Horrobin Lane – Not received the timeline.

Clerk to email resident again for information.

- c) Hallbrook – Still no update for them with roads. This is part of our traffic/speed issue. All agreed to keep this within minutes to ensure their request doesn't go ignored.

- 6. Planning & Highways:**

- a) Road Closure on Rivington Lane during half term week. Residents have requested the parish council look to have this moved to ensure roads are passible.

Clerk to email highways to request a change of dates for the closures.

- b) Chairman Jones has requested a meeting to be set up with Kim Snape & June Molyneux immediately. Previous requests to meet have been sent but nothing has been confirmed to date.

Clerk to chase a date and ensure two councillors are available.

- c) Motorbike event – Clerk informed councillors of a large road event taking place on 19th April.

NFA.

7. Financial Matters:

a. Outgoings:

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	SUM £
23/01/26	PAYE	HMRC SDDS	9.68
02/02/26	Easy websites	Website fee	30.36
19/02/26	Jennie Seddon	Clerk invoice	350.88
02/03/26	Easy websites	Website fee	30.36
19/03/26	Jennie Seddon	Clerk Invoice	313.98

b. Incoming:

DATE	PAID BY	DESCRIPTION	SUM £
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

c. BALANCE - £16,477.28

- a) Clerk has provided invoices from January – March 2026 – signed by 2 councillors.
b) Bank reconciliation printed & provided to all councillors
c) Still no response from Rivington Primary so it was agreed to use the monies towards the raising of the stones on the village green.
d) *AGAR to be completed by clerk*

8. Reports/Updates from other organisations

a) UNITED UTILITIES: CARPARKS

Two weeks ago, Chairman Jones distributed information packs to residents regarding United Utilities plans and the response from the Parish Council.

Councillor Keenan began discussion by stating that he has sent an email to the councillors with his view on the matter *which is printed and attached to these minutes*. Councillor Keenan was asked to read his email and explain further. Councillor Keenan feels that UU are trying to get rid of their obligations to Lever

Park. He believes that UU invented RHT to get rid of obligations with maintaining the grounds in the Japanese Gardens and now they are moving this into Lever Park with RHT & paid car parks. He reminded councillors that most of the workers used to restore & maintain the gardens were volunteers. Hiding where money is spent.

Councillor Keenan explained again that Lever Park comes with obligations. To repair the gardens is the landlord's responsibility. They apply for grants & use volunteers. As detailed in the Liverpool Corporation Act 1902, money generated from the park should be reinvested into the park, but reinvestment has never been transparent from UU. Councillor Keenan feels they are hiding where money is spent & doesn't feel they can be trusted in using the money made from carparks into putting it back into the village. Councillor Keenan still stands by the legislation and believes car parks should be free.

Chairman Jones requested that councillors not concern themselves too much with things from the past and instead aim our efforts in order to get what we want done. He explained that we are gathering a lot of information together with black and white problems which need sorting out. The focus of the parish council should be focussed on that and not UU and their plans.

Chairman Jones said that he thinks payment for parking should be passed as UU state all money generated from park will be reinvested. This would then pay for double yellows, speed bumps, reinforcement, traffic management – all the issues the village faces. **enforcement.**

Chairman Jones reminded the council that we aren't in 1902 anymore and most tourists have cars. He also mentioned numerous tourist areas where all car parks come with a fee.

Councillor Harris was asked for her view and she agrees with Councillor Keenan that car parks won't fix our problems. The car parks shouldn't be charged as it will pass the problem onto everywhere else in the village.

Councillor James-Ellett mentioned that the brewery is going to build a carpark which is free. This should help the parking on Horrobin Lane. Horwich council are saying no to charges, Blackrod council are saying no to charges. Chorley council is also saying no. He believes they won't pass planning.

Labour leader Kim Snape is against paid carparks. (allegedly)

The council was asked to work together to devise a plan as everyone is very passionate about doing right by the village and its residents.

Votes on Car parks:

Full vote for carparks.

Votes on Charging (Yes/No/Further information needed on the returns/plans):

Councillors Keenan & Harris voted no.

Vice Chairman McCully & Councillor James-Ellet stated they would if reinforcement was in place and money was reinvested into the park.

Chairman Jones is a hard yes.

Action Plan:

It was agreed that a meeting was needed ASAP with June Molyneux and Kim Snape to discuss traffic calming measurements: All agree.

Chairman Jones wants the car parks to be discussed also: It's clear what June and Kim's view is on car parks, but he wants to ensure they know that we aren't against the car parks, but we do need to see a plan of reinvestment.

We need a clear agenda for the meeting.

Once this has taken place we can then arrange a meeting with highways and UU regarding what we feel we need to benefit the village & residence.

Councillor Keenan needed to leave early but mentioned that within the document produced for residents the quote used from the Liverpool Corporation Act was dishonest & one sided. He feels it should have been Subsection 4 which shows the corporation will maintain and manage the park. Chairman Jones took exception to Keenan's use of the word "dishonest" and requested he retract it.

- b) **PCSO UPDATE:** The clerk has received an email from the PCSO to say that there is a website called police.uk which can be accessed to see all reports in the area. This was printed and shown to councillors, but the area covers Anderton and Adlington too so was a little vague in relation to Rivington Village. The clerk will check the website before each meeting for updates.

- c) **UNITED UTILITIES: PAUL ASHCROFT:** Paul was not invited to the meeting held today as councillors only confirmed availability late on the Friday prior to the meeting on Monday. Paul has been in touch with Chairman to say the work on the village green is out of his remit and too big a job.

- d) **LOCAL COUNCILLOR: KIM SNAPE:** Kim has been emailed by both Chairman and Clerk to arrange a meeting regarding the impact of traffic within Rivington Village. To date, Kim has sent availability but then has not confirmed a date with the council. *Clerk to chase.*

- e) **HIGHWAYS: PAUL CONNELL:** Clerk has chased Paul regarding SPIDS being allocated to the correct points in the village. Paul replied to say he was awaiting locations from the council. Chairman states that he has already sent a map with proposed points, but Paul has not replied. Clerk has requested Chairman send the map to her and she will lease with Paul. *Clerk to chase.*

9. AOB:

- a) Tour De France – All agreed that the council will need to do a lot of road maintenance before the tour in 2027 due to potholes and uneven ground. Councillor Keenan raised the cattle grid needing to be replaced with a sheet of metal and returned asap after the tour.

When the common wealth games passed through the area several years ago they put the metal sheeting down but never lifted it and we had sheep in the village for months afterwards.

It took for Councillor Keenan to write to the queen for Chorley Council to action it and replace the grid.

- b) Clerk mentioned the notice board is broken and all information has blown out so it now stands empty. *Chairman will get this fixed.*
- c) Clerk raised the Village Trough being filthy and needing regular maintenance to stop congestion which stops it flowing. *All agreed that Clerk could look for someone who would be paid to regularly maintain the trough.*
- d) Clerk requested via email if she could be funded to do Cilca course at a fee of £450. Councillor Keenan had voted against the training and Councillor James – Ellett had voted for. All remaining Councillors voted for the training. *Clerk to look at dates for the next intake.*

10. Date of next meeting: 18th May 2026, 6pm at Spring Cottage.

Prepared by Jennie Seddon, Clerk to Rivington Parish Council:

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