

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 27 July 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, Paul Ashcroft (United Utilities representative).

Apologies for absence: Kim Snape (town councillor), Alex Bannister (PCSO)

2. Minutes of meeting held 2nd April 2026

Councillor Keenan requested some of the minutes be retracted regarding what he said about United Utilities. Councillor Keenan objects to making the comments.

Clerk to forward the minutes and check which section he would like retracted.

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:

a) Anon. resident has written to the council regarding garden machinery noise on Monday afternoons through to the evenings – the clerk mentioned that the complaint stated that noisy machinery can be heard from 3/4pm and this can often go on past 8pm in the evening.

Anon resident feels that the noise level disturbs the peace of living in a village when wanting to sit out of an evening.

Council agreed to write a letter to all residents in the village to ask that we all have a respectful cut off time for noisy machinery operated out of normal working hours. *Clerk to write letter and run this by chairman prior to sending to residents.*

b) Email received from a local pedestrian (Anna Stishova) who put forward a complaint regarding the Rivington running club which is based at the Rivington taproom. Anna mentioned the runners taking over the road and verbally being rude when she asked them to move off the road.

Clerk emailed the tap room and requested that the landlord speak with the facilitators of the running club as this is unacceptable.

Ben from Rivington tap rooms replied to say that he totally agreed and would speak to the event organisers.

- c) Helen Skuce has highlighted a recent planning permission for Top O'th the Hill Farm regarding lighting. The council were already aware of the application. See discussion had under section 6c.
- d) Hallbrook, Rivington – Council agreed that this is part of our wider plan to put calming measures into the village and therefore we will remove this from future agendas as it affects all properties along Rivington Lane, Horrobin Lane & Sheephouse Lane.

6. Planning & Highways

- a. Paul Connell's email on 25/06/26 regarding paying for speed surveys

Clerk to get some quotes

- b. Formal notification received from planning regarding the application from Rivington & Blackrod High School application for Solar photovoltaics on non domestic roof (26/06/26). This was followed by details on the weekly validated list sent on (27/06/26) 26/00527/P3PAK
- c. Top O'th Hill Farm; 26/00571/DIS – Condition 7 for external lights. This links to 5c. No formal notification received. Email sent to investigate why this might be but no response from Chorley Council to date. Please note Councillor Keenan's email on 12/07/26 regarding contacting owners. – No action required
- d. Road Closure 20-21st July on Horrobin Lane for filming. No action required.
- e. Road Closure on Sheephouse Lane on 18th – 23rd September; Road resurfacing. ***Clerk to email highways as the 21st August is International Peace Day and the chapel has an event on 20th August which has been advertised. The road closure may prevent this from happening.***
- f. Road Closure on Horrobin Lane towards Sheephouse Lane on 23rd Sept – 24th September. No action required.
- g. FOI on Top O'th Hill – Councillor James-Ellet has been over the FOI documents, twice. Council agreed that no further action will be taken on the property.
- h. Car park at brewery. Council agree that it will be a welcome addition.
- i. Higher Darbyshire, Gilsbrook – Change of use from café (Class E) to residential. 26/00308/FUL – No further action.
- j. Fisher House – Removal of trees 26/00563/TCON – No action required.
- K. Rivington Bowling Club – Removal of trees 26/00405/TPO – No action required.

7. Financial Matters:

a. Outgoings:

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	SUM £
01/04/2026	Easy Websites	Website Subscription	£30.36
12/04/2026	Horwich Town Council	Mayors civic Sunday	45.00
14/04/2026	Jennie Seddon	Clerk timesheet	178.88
23/04/26	LALC	CiLCA COURSE	450.00
23/04/2026	HMRC	Employment related	11.38
23/04/1986	Jennie Seddon	Clerk timesheet – April	330.24
01/05/26	Easy Websites	Website subscription	£30.36
07/05/26	LALC Invoice	Subscription	£41.28
07/05/26	Amanda Partington	Internal Audit	£100.00
07/05/26	ISNG Services	Room hire	£180
18/05/26	Zurich	Insurance for the year 2026/27	£363.00
23/05/26	Jennie Seddon	Clerk timesheet – May	£632.96
01/06/26	Easy Websites	Website subscription	£30.36
19/06/26	Jennie Seddon	Clerk timesheet – June	£392.16
23/06/26	David Jones	Flowers for tubs	£109.98
28/06/26	Judith Gilgun	Village green pots	£80.00
01/07/26	Easy Websites	Website subscription	£30.36
20/07/26	HMRC	Employment related	£32.39
24/07/26	Jennie Seddon	Clerk timesheet – July	£405.92

b. Incoming:

DATE	PAID BY	DESCRIPTION	SUM £
24/04/2026	Chorley Council	Precept	£9000.00

c. BALANCE - £21,986.01 as of 27th July 2026

- a) Clerk has provided invoices from April to July 26 – signed by 2 councillors.
- b) Bank transactions approved by RFO & Chairman
- c) Dennis Wallace monies – discussion was had about using the funds for the speed surveys for the village.
- d) ICO renewal – RFO confirmed £47.00 was taken on 20/07/2026
- e) *Clerk to send bank reconciliation to everyone*
- f) *Clerk to complete monitoring statement as per internal audit recommendation.*

8. Reports from other organisations

a) Car park plans

Chairman Jones has emailed Matt Higginson but has yet to have a response regarding car parking and charges. Chairman Jones will continue to chase and update the council.

b) PCSO UPDATE:

No update. POLICE – Thursday last week. Local task force will send alerts regarding local priorities.

Click on button and report drug dealing, nuisance bikes & speeding vehicles. Rural taskforce are linked to this email. They just deal with drug dealing, nuisance bikes & anti-social behaviour.

Contact them to find out who our representative is so we can be in touch for meetings.

Has there been an investigation into the death from Rivington? Was he under the influence of drugs/drinking...is there any official reports? Clerk to seek further clarification.

c) LOCAL COUNCILLOR: KIM SNAPE

Kim sent apologies for the meeting as she had other work commitments. She had emailed highways on the parish's behalf about speeding and traffic management. The response can be found within the highways section of the admin folder (2026/27). The email had some data which showed excessive speeds of over 70mph in 20mph areas.

The councillors noted that Councillor Snape hasn't attended a meeting with Rivington Parish since 2020/2021. Councillors requested that the clerk email Councillor Snape and demand her support with the issues the village and the residents are managing daily.

Clerk will email councillor Snape.

d) United Utilities: Paul Ashcroft

Car parks – Paul had no update. He had requested some feedback prior to the meeting but to date hadn't received a response. David has emailed Matt Higginson but he hasn't had a reply either. There has been a new access and recreational team founded within United Utilities. There is a handover from the catchment taking place at the moment. They will focus on the Visitor centre, car parks, tourists...Matt Higginson (Chair of RHT) is part of the larger sub committee with three managers.

Clerk asked if united utilities had any involvement with the new waterpark at the Anderton centre as there were rumours that United Utilities paid for this. Clerk mentioned that United Utilities have been quoted as saying that they aren't trying to bring more tourists to the area yet they are purchasing an inflatable water park and having a team for access & recreation – Paul couldn't comment on this.

Paul updated the group that the brewery have put planning in for a car park. The council has received instruction on this. All agreed the brewery car park would be a welcome addition as Police have been putting pressure on road safety. It seems that the car parks should have been a joint consultation with united utilities but the brewery have acted alone with their application.

Paul asked about the diaries from Dennis Wallace as he has some students who would be interested in archiving the stories. The students are due to visit on 12th August so Paul will bring them to the café. Chairman Jones also mentioned the Rivington Heritage Centre wanting to archive the stories too.

Council agreed that both could archive stories they both felt were suitable and then Paul agreed for diaries to be stored at the visitors centre in Rivington as heritage centre doesn't have space for storage.

Clerk asked for the location of the recently purchased CCTV cameras from UU - Cameras are at the pigeon tower, Horden Stoops & Anglezarke view point. Vandalizing proof. So far they've worked really well – all located at areas which have proven to be areas for anti-social behaviour. Clerk asked who monitor the cameras and the recordings...BAU watch are monitoring. £3k for 6 weeks monitoring.

e) Taskforce email :

Councillor James- Ellett read the email regarding local priorities.

9. Forward Plan:

All councillors agreed that the focus remains with speeding within the village.

Clerk to email Kim Snape, Highways, Chief Executive, United Utilities CEO & any other professionals regarding the speeding cars within the village.

10. AOB:

- a. Quote for the raising of pavement near chapel – still awaiting quote from contractors. Chairman Jones to chase.
- b. Anderton Centre contacted and no planning permission needed. Safety procedure given. – No further action.
- c. New speed signs in the village – a welcome addition to the village.
- d. Mayors Civic Sunday – Vince attended; he met the current mayor and the future mayor. He had a lovely evening and thanked the planners of the civic Sunday for putting on such a wonderful event.

Special Mention:

The parish council wish to say a huge thanks to Mark Skuce who has cleaned all the road signs within the village – his hard work with the website & now the signs is always appreciated by the parish council and the residents of the village.

A thanks goes to Paul Ashcroft too who has mowed the grass verges along the road.

11. Date of next meeting: 21st September 2026 at 6.00pm at Spring Cottage, Rivington Village.

Prepared by Jennie Seddon, Clerk to Rivington Parish Council:
www.rivingtonparishcouncil.org.uk