



DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING OF LITTLE BOLLINGTON with AGDEN

held at 7:00pm on **Tuesday 19th May 2026**

In the sports hall at Little Bollington C of E Primary School, Lymm Rd, WA14 4SZ

Present Cllr W Blackburn Cllr A Blackburn Cllr T Britton Cllr R Taylor

Also in attendance: Lucy Merry – Clerk

Public 3 members of the public were in attendance.

1. To elect a Chairman for 2026/27

Cllr W Blackburn was nominated by Cllr T Britton and seconded by Cllr R Taylor and was duly elected Chairman. The Acceptance of Office was signed

2. To elect a Vice Chairman for 2026/27

Cllr T Britton was nominated by Cllr W Blackburn and seconded by Cllr A Blackburn and was duly elected Vice Chairman. The Acceptance of Office was signed.

3. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr P Cassidy, and K Hague sent their apologies, it was noted that no apologies were received from Cllr R Palmer.

4. To approve and authorise the signing of the minutes from meetings held previously.

The minutes from the 25th February 2026 were approved.

5. Declaration of Interests - None

6. Public forum

A few residents had contacted the Council prior to the meeting to raise concerns on various matters. One concern was raised regarding the management of the Community Orchard. The Clerk is to find further details on the terms of the management, who is responsible, what management is involved, what further works are allowed.

An canal update was requested.

Another concern was raised regarding large soil piles in a field off Coe Lane. It was decided that Council members would report these piles to the Environment Agency. Residents can also report directly to the EA here. [Report an environmental problem - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-problem)

Council were contacted during the Bolin flooding incidents. A meeting had been discussed with all relevant representatives. Cllr T Britton has not received a date for the meeting but will chase this up.

7. Matters Arising

= Update on speed reduction A56 – No response has been received from Cheshire East after multiple emails from ourselves and Ward Cllr Kate. Speed surveys range from £3000 upwards. From other communications it seems that it is unlikely that Cheshire East will reduce speed limits without evidence of incidents. If any residents witness incidents, please report to CE and the Police to help build the evidence required.

= Update on compound – Update received from the Cheshire East Enforcement Officer - a report recommending that formal enforcement action is taken against the unauthorised works is currently with the Councils legal team for consideration. The Notice would be seeking all the hardstanding and structures to be removed and the land returned back to a grassed field.



- = Improving roundabout fencing – The fencing has been logged by Highways England but no response has been received at the time of the meeting. To await a response by the September meeting
- = Land at Spode Green Lane - Development currently underway on the fields at Spode Green Lane. Cllr P Cassidy has reported the works to CE Enforcement Officer and has requested further information on the development.
- = Communication in the village – The Clerk has a new phone for residents to contact 07469479530. Please note that this is not an emergency phone line and email is still the preferred method of contact.
- = Cheshire railings at school – railings were repainted over Easter, Little Bollington School have expressed their thanks.

8. Report from CE Ward Cllr K Hague

Bridgewater Canal Sewage Spill

United Utilities completed their clean up and confirmed no further action was required. Procedures have been reviewed following the incident. Cheshire East have been made aware of two further smaller spillages reported in recent weeks and assurance that these are captured in the procedural review has been chased and is awaited.

An update on overall Bridgewater Canal repair progress has also been requested as no communication has been received since December 2025.

Bridgewater Canal Major Incident Debrief

The Cheshire East Structured Debrief Report for the Major Incident (1 January to 6 October 2025) was finalised on 11 March 2026. The report identifies areas of good practice and areas for improvement, with eight recommendations now being progressed. Key actions underway include development of an out of hours Executive Director rota and improvements to communications protocols with private partners such as the Bridgewater Canal Company.

Little Bollington Compound Unauthorised Works

The enforcement report remains with Cheshire East legal team. A further update has been requested and will be reported when received.

9. Reports from the Clerk and the Councillors - none

10. To review the Standing Orders

To be reviewed and brought back to the September meeting.

11. To review the Financial Regulations

To be reviewed and brought back to the September meeting.

12. To adopt an IT policy, Freedom of Information and Data protection policy, Equality and Employment policy, and a Safeguarding policy

To be reviewed and brought back to the September meeting.

13. To review and approve the Financial Risk Assessment

To be reviewed and brought back to the September meeting.

14. To agree dates for meetings of the Full Council for 2026/27

The following dates were **AGREED**. Provisionally all meetings being held at 7:00pm in the Sports Hall at the School. Clerk to confirm bookings.



Proposed dates

15th September 2026	8th December 2026
16th February 2027	18th May 2027 Annual meeting
14th September 2027	7th December 2027

15. Finance

15.1 To note current financial position. (Please see Appendix)

The transactions from February 19th to March 31st 2026 made (Appendix Table 1) and the transactions from April 1st to May 12th made (Appendix Table 2) were **NOTED**.

15.2 To authorise new payments

The following payments were **AGREED**:

Payee	Description	Cost
Sue Lilly	Internal audit	£50.00

15.3 To resolve to pay the following for 2026/27:

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following subscriptions for 2026/27:

Payee	25/26 Amount
Cheshire Community Action	£22.00
ChALC	£129.20
ICO – data protection fee	£47.00
Donation for burial grounds	£500.00
Donation for Hall hire – 4 meetings	£200.00
External Auditor fee	£252.00

15.4 To resolve to delegate the following budgets for 2026/27:

The following budgets were **APPROVED**. All invoice payments will be brought back to full council.

Description	Proposed Amount
1009 Stationery	£52.00
1011 Cllr Training	£100.00
1012 Clerk Training	£35.00

15.5 To resolve to continue to pay the following expenditure by direct debit or standing order for the financial year 2026/27:

It was **RESOLVED** to continue to pay the following
Buxton Accounting Payroll

15.6 To receive and approve the internal audit report for 2025/26

The internal audit report was approved

15.7 To consider the advice to purchase a hard drive for council information – The Clerk will look at getting 2 pendrives to use to back up Council files and to keep separate from the Clerk. One of these will be kept by the Chair and swapped at each meeting.

15.8 To consider and resolve to approve the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Accounting Statement for 2025/26

The statements were **APPROVED** and signed by the Acting Chairman and Clerk.



15.9 To note the CIL balance and spend dates, to consider projects to fund with CIL balance

Date received	Amount	Project	Notes
Jun 22	£6004.66	None – to be used by May 27	Received by Little Bollington Parish Meeting
Jan 23	£6004.66	None – to be used by Dec 27	Received by Little Bollington Parish Meeting
Jan 23	£2191.98	None – to be used by Dec 27	Received by Agden Parish Meeting

The balance was noted. It was **RESOLVED** that an online survey would be sent to residents using the email list and whats app group for residents to make suggestions on where the CIL fund should be spent. Council will consider all responses to aid in their decision.

15.10 To consider instructing a gardener to supply, plant and maintain flowers around the parish with CIL fund

This item is postponed until further notice

15.11 To consider the purchase of a boundary sign for Agden with CIL fund

This item is postponed until further notice

16. To consider the members and terms of references of Council Committees

- = Planning Committee – Cllr R Taylor, Cllr P Cassidy, and Cllr W Blackburn
- = Communications Committee – Cllr P Cassidy, and Cllr R Taylor
- = Staffing Committee – Cllr R Palmer, Cllr W Blackburn , and Cllr T Britton
- = Finance Committee - Cllr W Blackburn, Cllr A Blackburn, Cllr T Britton, and Cllr R Taylor

Terms of reference to be reviewed and brought back to the September meeting.

An Events working group is to be brought to the September meeting to discuss Bonfire Night volunteers.

17. Planning matters

17.1 To consider planning applications received and other planning matters

26/1545/HOUS - 9 Highfield, Little Bollington, WA14 4TW - Single storey wrap around extension and new front dormer – LBwACC no comment

25/1213/PIP - Land Off Agden Park Lane, Broomedge, WA13 0TS - Permission in Principle for residential development for between 1 and 6 dwellings – LBwACC object – greenbelt not 'greybelt'

17.2 To note updates on planning applications received

26/0772/VOC - AGDEN BROOK FARM Lymm Road, Agden, WA14 4TE - Variation of conditions 2,3,4,6,7,8,10,11,12,14 and 15 on approval 23/4111M: Change of use of existing agricultural buildings to employment uses, including the demolition of one building. **CE DECISION – Approved with conditions 24.04.26**

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 7:00pm in the Sports hall at Little Bollington C of E Primary School.

The date was confirmed as Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 7:00pm.

18. To consider a resolution to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) by reason of the confidential nature of the items of business to be transacted if required. – Not required

The meeting closed at 9:04pm

