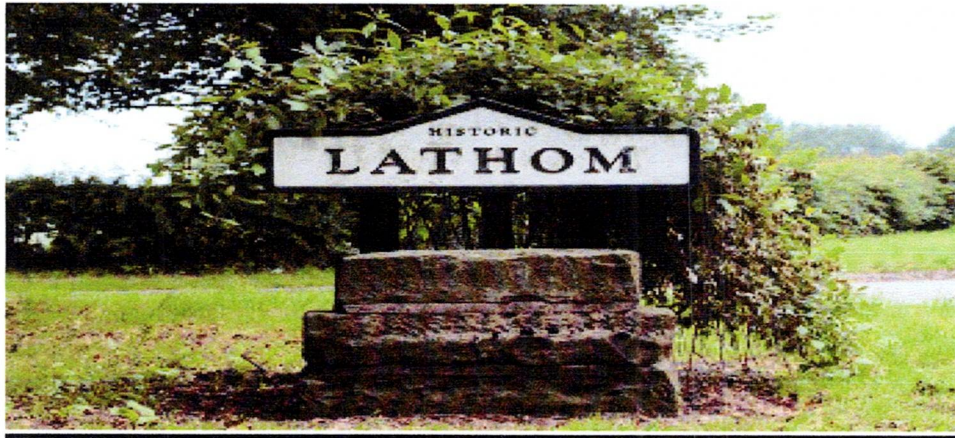


LATHOM PARISH COUNCIL



ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY FOR THE PARISH OF LATHOM

MONDAY AT 7.30 P.M. ON 18TH MAY 2025

Minutes

Present: H Shaw (Chair)
E Pope
I Fairclough
A Sherman
S Martland

Apologies: M McDonnell and L McDonnell

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which opened at 7.35 p.m.
2. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting May 2025 have previously been reviewed and approved.
3. The Chair gave a report for the year which included:-
 - Thanking A Beckett for his work as a Parish Councillor during his 4 year term.
 - Thanking Parish Clerk D Abram for implementing processes for the Parish Council during the year.
 - Thanking all the Parish Councillors for their time and support to the community during the year in their voluntary roles.
 - Thanking all the members of the public for their suggestions and input with the common aim of improving the local community.

- Thanking Parish Councillor M McDonnell for analysing the SPID data which the parish council aims to use moving forward to try and reduce the speeding on our roads.
- Thanking Councillor A Sherman with monitoring and the PROW footpaths in Lathom.

It has been a busy 2025/2026 and items that have been covered during the year include:-

- Trying to balance the aims and work of the Parish Council with the funding available especially given the reduction in PROW money to upkeep the footpaths. Funding has been retained by Lancashire County Council and the PROW Team are responsible for the maintenance of the PROW footpaths.
- There is money available via various grants for key projects if required.
- We do have a new website and the old one has now been retired. Hopefully this will be a good information source for residents of Lathom.
- We are in the process of utilising an online banking facility which will shortly be available for us to use.
- All Parish Councillors now have new email addresses for use solely for Parish Council work.
- CIL money has been spent at the green area in Ring O'Bells Lane to create a small footpath and seating area which has made this piece of land more accessible. Landscaping will take place over the next few months and the aim is to provide a green peaceful area for all residents to use.

The Chair's wish for 2026/2027 focuses on the following items:-

- Filling the current vacancy for a Parish Councillor at Lathom Parish Councillor.
- Distributing Questionnaires to the residents of Lathom to ask what areas they would like us to look at via the Parish Council Meetings going forward to shape the future of Lathom.
- Aim to use our time and money efficiently going forward which will be an uphill climb given the ever increasing responsibilities that may be placed on the Parish Council under with devolution on the horizon and try and drive some key project areas that come out of the results of the questionnaires which ensures that we are acting for the residents of Lathom.
- Listen to the Residents and Parish Councillors at Lathom regarding concerns of the local road network in Lathom. A newly joint road traffic meeting with other local parishes is now taking place to target:-
 - o Reduction in the number of vehicles on our roads especially from the motorway networks and especially heavy goods vehicles.
 - o To ensure that the residents and Lathom Parish Council are heard at West Lancashire Borough Council and at Lancashire County Council levels with assistance from County and Borough Councillors regarding key planning applications.

- Key Planning Applications for neighbouring areas outside of Lathom will also now be commented on to the Planning Department at West Lancashire Borough Council with the aim of not increasing the number of vehicle travelling through Lathom.
- Pressure is be put on the Highways Department of Lancashire County Council to try and drive improvement to the roads in Lathom.

4. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair took place:-

Parish Councillor E Pope proposed H Shaw as Chair for the coming year and Parish Councillor I Fairclough seconded the appointment.

Parish Councillor proposed S Martland as Vice-Chair and Parish Councillor E Pope seconded the appointment.

5. No other business was raised.

6. The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Signed

Dated