

Minutes of Newton le Willows Parish Council meeting
Held on 29 June 2026

Present: Councillors V Wilthew, T Clarkson, Z Hudson-Peach, R Pulham and clerk T Sanderson

Also present: 3 members of the public

26/035 There were no ‘**apologies for absence**’.

26/036 There were no ‘**Declarations of Interest**’ in items on the agenda.

26/037 The **minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 May 2026 were approved and signed (proposed by R Pulham and seconded by V Wilthew).

26/038 Public Participation Session:

Julia offered her feedback following her meeting with the head of Aysgarth School. She felt that it had been productive. The school are aware of extra traffic coming through the village as they have had extra deliveries. They are keen to improve community engagement and would be willing to contribute financially towards a future speeding survey if deemed necessary.

26/039 Matters arising:

- **Wheatsheaf** – a letter has yet to be drafted in reply to the enforcement officer’s recent letter.

26/040 Reports:

- **Village Hall Trustees** – their last meeting was on 1 June 2026. The bank account stands at just under £25,000. The bar has been open 28 times in their current financial year with takings down £2000 on last year. There is a need for more private parties. There is condensation on the gable ending of the building and this is a pressing repair job. The resurfacing of the floor is on the to do list. A possible future event is being planned for 1 August. Their next meeting will be on the 13 July 2026.
- **Atkinson Clarke Education Trust** – two trustees have resigned recently. The second boiler has been repaired and extra sockets have been added to aide usage. The next meeting is TBC.

26/041 Specific matters:

- **Spending review** – a discussion highlighted the need for tidying the bus shelter and surrounding space. This could be turned into a more attractive space with the possibility of landscaping, new planters and new seating. Some of the work can be done by volunteers but it was felt that some money could be used to ask for professional help in clearing the piece of land. The bus shelter can then be assessed and repairs carried out if necessary. The Council would look to develop the area further with better planting and would seek help and advice from other village groups.

Action – the clerk will check with Blooming Newton and Climate Change that this would be a positive improvement and not something they were already planning to

do. Quotes would be sought ideally from residents to help clear and possibly landscape the small piece of land.

- **Parking** – there had been concern raised at a previous meeting that the car park at the village hall had been difficult to use for certain users recently. The Village Hall Trustees had placed an article in the recent Newton News stating that the car park belonged to them ‘for the purposes of physical and mental recreation’. This was from deeds dating back to 1935 when it was deemed how it should be used. The Council would support this and encourage sharing of the car park by all groups that may need to use the car park when coming to the village hall for sporting endeavours. The Council agreed it may need to be closed off temporarily for ticketed events in the Hall but this should only be done for a limited time so that the recycle station and playground can be used before any evening event. The size of the village coupled with the number of the vehicles’ needing parking has changed immensely over the last 100 years and the Council believe we need to accommodate parking as best we can for the good of all users and residents. This is a positive and welcoming community.
- **Feedback from NYC meeting** – this was largely about footpaths and public rights of way. Any issues can be reported on NYC website. All residents should take photos of issues they find and report them. Several residents have experienced difficulties with various access points recently and all will need to be reported on the NYC website.
- **Social media** – details were given in the recent Newton News about how to join both a Facebook page (Newton le Willows (Yorkshire) Community Group) and a WhatsApp group (Blooming Newton). Both have increased in size as residents have asked to join. The details have also been included in the Welcome pack.
- **Speeding (additional item)** – the clerk had contacted the police to check how speeding concerns should now be reported. More information will be circulated shortly. All residents can report their traffic concerns at:
<https://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives/community-speedwatch/community-speed-watch/tell-us-about-a-speed-concern/>
- **Bus Survey (additional item)** – this was raised as the clerk has just been informed that there is a survey being carried out until 19 July by the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. A poster with further details will be posted in the bus shelter later in the week. The clerk will be preparing a community response so all comments need to be reported to her via email at newtonlewillows.pc@gmail.com

26/042 Financial matters approved (proposed by T Clarkson and seconded by Z Hudson-Peach):

- Clerk’s wages and expenses at £528.87.
- Financial statement - current balance stands at £11877.59.

26/043 The next meeting will include the council vacancy and the **date** for next meeting will be Monday 7 September.

Before the meeting closed, the council wished to express it’s thanks to Tom Peach for cutting back the vegetation at the mirror at the end of Sinks Lane. This improves safety at the T junction.

Meeting closed at 8pm.