

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 14th JANUARY 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Greenwood, Rogers and Todd.

3299: Apologies for absence.

Cllr Harrison.

3300: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 12th November 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th November 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3301: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3302: Public participation.

None.

3303: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3304: Melling bus routes.

RESOLVED that having received comments from Arriva rejecting the proposals for an improved service we await the outcome of the public transport review currently being undertaken by Liverpool City Region and review the bus service provision in 18 months.

3305: Delph Maintenance.

RESOLVED that a budget of up to £800 pa for the maintenance of the Delph and the Village Green (not including mowing) be approved for the current year and future years until further resolution.

3306: Gifts for retiring/long serving Councillors.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to a future agenda when quotes are available for the purchase of suitable gifts.

3307: Defibrillators.

RESOLVED that further letters would be sent out to the premises where the defibs are situated reminding them that they are able to apply to the Parish Council for a grant towards the cost of maintaining the defibs and changing batteries and pads when required.

3308: Location of noticeboards.

RESOLVED that quotes should be obtained for the relocation of the boards and once available the item be returned to the agenda.

3309: Reports of meetings.

None.

3310: Correspondence.

The clerk reported on correspondence from the Canal and Rivers Trust advising that it would cost £4,000 to put a bench on the towpath and that while a litter bin could be placed there they would not be able to empty it.

Cllrs Fuller and Rogers confirmed that Sefton Council had agreed to place deer warning signs on Waddicar Lane.

3311: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3312: Repairs to Christmas lights.

It was noted that the cost of repairing storm damage to the Christmas lights had been approved by the clerk under delegated authority in the sum of £280 plus VAT.

3313: Cashflow as at 31st December 2024.

The cashflow report was noted.

3314: Budget and precept 2025/2026.

RESOLVED that:

1. The budget be approved as amended; and
2. The precept for 2025/2026 be set at the rate of £43,620.00.

3315: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Baker, Fuller, Rogers and Todd.

3316: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Ashburner, Greenwood and Harrison.

3317: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 14th January 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th January 2025 be approved as a correct record.

**3318: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.**

3319: Public participation.

A representative from the Melling Leaflet attended to discuss ongoing support for the continued production of the leaflet.

3320: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3321: Gifts for retiring/long serving Councillors.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred until quotes are available for the purchase of suitable gifts.

3322: Defibrillators.

It was noted that letters had been sent to the pubs with defibrillators outside their premises.

RESOLVED that the grant application submitted by the MRCA for the cost of replacement pads and batteries for the external defibrillator at their premises was approved in the sum of £296.40 subject to confirmation that the device was properly registered with the ambulance service.

3323: Location of noticeboards.

RESOLVED that quotes should be obtained for the relocation of the boards and once available the item be returned to the agenda.

3324: Christmas lights.

RESOLVED that the charges quoted by Sefton MBC to adjust the switches in the lamp posts at the Pear Tree roundabout be approved up to a total of £800.

3325: Litter picks.

RESOLVED that:

1. The risk assessment be approved as drafted; and
2. The Parish Council would pay for Cllr Fuller to attend a first aid course so a first aider would be present at these events.

3326: CPRE membership.

RESOLVED that the fee of £60 to renew the membership with the CPRE be approved.

3327: Reports of meetings.

None.

3328: Correspondence.

It was agreed that Cllr Ledgerton would be entered into the draw for the Kings Garden Party.

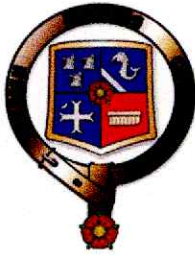
3329: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3330: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.



MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF MELLING
Held on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 6.45pm in Melling Primary School.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Sue Ledgerton (Chairman of Melling Parish Council)

- 1. To consider and approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th March 2024.**

Electors agreed the Minutes of the meeting, to be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

- 2. Chairman's report.**

The Chairman gave his report as attached.

Cllr Sue Ledgerton

Chairman to Melling Parish Council
11th March 2025

10.3.26.

Melling Parish Council Annual Report 2025/2026

Melling Parish council is still operating with reduced members and this has proved a challenge at times when completing our objectives. We have interest from one resident at present who is observing the monthly meetings and there a further 2 people who have expressed interest.

Last year a working group commenced the production of the Melling Leaflet, putting it together, forwarding for printing and distributing between shops and businesses in Melling. This a free magazine for Melling residents to pick up from the shops and pubs.

A new website has been commissioned to make sure that we comply with new financial regulations and this will also provide a platform to improve communication with residents.

Bus routes through Melling have been looked at by another group, particularly the 345.

This is being looked at with the bus company Arriva and also Liverpool City Region, this is regarding the route being changed to go to Kirby town centre where residents who don't drive can go the Doctors and have more choice of shops.

Defibrillators were looked at in the village regarding where they are placed and to ensure that owners are responsible for the battery replacement and the checking of the equipment.

Bleed control kits have been provided to the MRCA and Scout Hut to put inside the defibrillator cabinets as an addition to emergency care for residents.

The Judo club asked for support to enable them to continue with their venture, a contribution of £250 was given until the end of March towards the cost of renting a room at the Tithebarn.

The Parish Council continue to support the work of Melling in Bloom with an annual grant.

Christmas gifts were provided again to local groups and school children and the festive lights continue to be a success and are enjoyed by Melling residents.

Councillor Sue Ledgerton

Chairman

Melling Parish Council



Melling Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 11th ~~FEBRUARY~~ ^{MARCH} 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Harrison and Todd.

3331: **Apologies for absence.**
Cllr Rogers.

3332: **Minutes of the annual meeting held on 11th February 2025.**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th February 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3333: **Declarations of interest** - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3334: **Public participation.**
None.

3335: **Casual vacancies.**
RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3336: **Defibrillators.**
RESOLVED that the cost of carrying out a health check on the defibrillators in the parish was not approved as defib guardians had not been identified as required to properly register the devices. It was confirmed, however, that both the devices at the scout hut and MRCA were registered.

3337: **Melling Leaflet.**
RESOLVED that:
1. A working group consisting of all councillors be formed to take over the running of the leaflet; and
2. A budget for the leaflet of up to £1,500 plus VAT to produce 4 editions of the leaflet annually be approved.

3338: **Insurance.**
RESOLVED that the cost of insurance be approved in the sum of £528.80 on a 3 year long term agreement.

3339: **Reports of meetings.**
None.

3340: Correspondence.

A resident has written in regarding speeding and littering on Spencers Lane and correspondence has been received about street lighting.

3341: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3342: Pension data submission.

RESOLVED that the information on the schedule of payments circulated be approved.

3343: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 13th MAY 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING**

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Fuller, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.

3344: Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ledgerton be elected as Chairman.

3345: Election of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ashburner be elected as Deputy Chairman.

3346: Apologies for absence

Cllr Baker.

3347: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3348: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th March 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3349: Public participation

None.

3350: Annual Governance and Accountability Returns 2024/25

RESOLVED that:

1. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25 be received;
2. Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 be approved; and
3. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 be approved.

3351: Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Batten Hughes be appointed as internal auditor to complete the Annual Internal Audit Report for the financial years 2025/26 and that their fee of £144 for the year be approved.

3352: Grant application.

RESOLVED that the grant application received from Melling in Bloom in the sum of £600 for the maintenance of the village green be approved.

3353: Lease of playing field.

RESOLVED that the ongoing lease of the playing field on Wheeler Drive be approved at a cost of £5.00 per year.

3354: Storage and correspondence address at the Alt Centre, Hightown.

RESOLVED that the annual cost of storage and provision of a correspondence address at the Alt Centre, Hightown be approved in the sum of £450.00.

3355: Christmas 2025.

RESOLVED that a budget of up to £1,100 exclusive of VAT for the provision of Christmas gifts for children attending Melling Primary School, Melling nursery, the Scout groups and also for the pensioners attending the Pensioners Club at the Ratepayers be approved.

3356: Location of noticeboards.

RESOLVED that:

1. The quote of £595.00 for the relocation of the boards be approved;
2. The relocation of the noticeboard currently at the former GP surgery to the village green be approved; and
3. The noticeboard currently on Prescott Road will be stored until a suitable alternative can be identified and approved.

3357: Long service award.

RESOLVED that:

1. With the addition of the words 'Long service award' at the bottom, the design of the award be approved; and
2. The cost of the plaque in the sum of £23.95 inc vat be approved.

3358: Appointment of representatives

RESOLVED that:

1. No representatives be appointed to LALC as membership was cancelled last year;
2. No representatives be appointed to MALC;
3. Cllr Fuller be appointed as representative to South Sefton Communities Alliance.

3359: Working groups

RESOLVED that all Cllrs be appointed to the Melling Leaflet working group.

3360: Litter picks.

Members were advised that the Cllr Fuller had booked onto a first aid course at a cost of £207.60 and that the current insurance allowed for groups of up to 20 participants.

3361: Melling Leaflet.

RESOLVED that a budget of up to £400 be set to purchase a laptop to assist with the production of the leaflet.

3362: Planning Applications

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3363: Reports of meetings

None.

3364: Correspondence

The clerk reported on an invitation received from the 234 Squadron to their annual presentation event which Cllr Todd is attending and a response from Sefton to advise that they will look into whether they can assist with information about providing nature walks in the area.

3365: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council

S. Ledger
10/6/2025
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MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 10th JUNE 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller and Todd.

3366: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Harrison and Rogers.

3367: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 13th May 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the annual meeting held on 13th May 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3368: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3369: Public participation.

None.

3370: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3371: Reports of meetings.

The Melling Leaflet working group has met to discuss and agree content and the first edition is expected to be published in June/July.

Cllr Todd attended the ATC award evening and reported that this went well.

Cllr Fuller has completed the first aid course and obtained a certificate that will last for 3 years. It was noted that a first aid kit will need to be purchased for the litter picks.

3372: Correspondence.

None.

3373: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3374: Land to the west of 209 Waddicar Lane.

Cllr Baker summarised the concerns relating to this application and it's relationship with other planning applications which were noted and will be retained to be passed along to planning enforcement if issues arise.

3375: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

S. Ledgerton 18th June 2025
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MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 8th JULY 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Baker, Fuller, Rogers and Todd.

3376: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Ashburner and Harrison.

3377: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10th June 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10th June 2025 be approved as a correct record.

**3378: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.**

3379: Public participation.

A resident attended to express an interest in Council vacancies and was provided with further information.

3380: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3381: Reports of meetings.

The Melling Leaflet working group will meet in the near future to review the number of copies needed and start gathering content for the next edition.
It was noted that the summer fair at the Tithebarn was well attended and was understood to have raised in the region of £800.

3382: Correspondence.

The clerk reported that the noticeboard at the Bootle Arms had been painted shut and could not be used at the moment.

3383: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3384: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that:

1. The amounts listed on the schedule be paid.
2. The bank mandate be amended to permit the completion of a mandatory safeguarding review.
3. The accounts to be covered by the mandate to remain open;
4. The organisation accepts the accounts and banking relationship with the bank will be governed by and subject to account terms and conditions (a copy of which has been previously provided to you) as amended from time-to-time, together with any terms

and conditions in respect of specific products and services requested by the organisation;

5. The bank is authorised to act on the Instructions given by the signatory/signatories in accordance with the rules.

The signatories are Ronald Baker, Alan Todd, Christine Rogers and Jennifer Farrar.

The Rules are that any 2 signatories are required to sign to authorise instructions.

Instructions:

- a. Instructions to make payments on behalf of the organisation including but not limited to:

- i. Signing, issuing or authorising cheques,
- ii. Inter account transfers,
- iii. Standing orders,
- iv. Direct Debits,
- v. Electronic payments,

irrespective of whether the accounts are in credit or debit (even if the payment causes an account to go into an unarranged overdraft including exceeding an arranged overdraft limit);

- b. Any instruction to stop a payment on any account;
 - c. Any agreements signed on behalf of the organisation for or relating to electronic and/or telephone banking services. The organisation acknowledges and accepts there's a power to delegate (including the power to sub-delegate) the operation of these services as set out in the terms and conditions governing these services. These services are extensive, for example, they include making payments, administering accounts and applying for new products and services including credit;
 - d. Enter into any agreements signed on behalf of the organisation for or relating to debit, credit, charge or any other card facilities, and the organisation acknowledges and accepts there's a power to delegate (including the power to sub-delegate) as set out in the terms and conditions governing these card facilities;
 - e. Any agreements signed on behalf of the organisation for or relating to credit facilities, including borrowing facilities, overdraft facilities and other transactions which have the commercial effect of borrowing;
 - f. Any other instructions in respect of any other transactions with the bank including administering the accounts and opening or closing additional accounts or services;
6. That any two authorisers are authorised by the organisation to sign this mandate.
 7. The resolutions be communicated to the bank and remain in force until such time that new resolutions are passed and a new mandate is in place.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

S. Ledger
9/9/2025

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 9th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.

3385: Apologies for absence.

None.

3386: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 8th July 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 8th July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3387: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3388: Public participation.

A resident attended to express a continued interest in the casual vacancies and was provided with further information.

Representatives from the nursery school attended to provide an update on their plans to expand the nursery provision.

3389: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3390: Policies and Procedures.

RESOLVED that the Disruption at Meetings policy be approved without amendment.

3391: Remembrance wreath.

RESOLVED that a donation of £50 in respect of a remembrance wreath be approved.

3392: Christmas light positions and switch on date.

RESOLVED that:

1. Spiral lights only be placed on Prescott Road and the remaining motifs (with the exception of Rock Lane where the motifs are designed for the specific columns in that area) be mixed between Waddicar Lane and Spencers Lane;
2. The switch on date to be 14th November 2025; and
3. A request be put in to Sefton to also switch on the lights on the Christmas tree on the village green on the same day.

3393: Reports of meetings.

Cllr Harrison has met with an engineer in respect of the broken bridge on the footpath at the end of Chapel Lane after the end of the new footpath. This appears to be general wear and tear that will be reported to Sefton MBC.

The leaflet working group confirmed that the next edition was due to be sent to the

¹
S. Ledgerton 14/10/25

printers in the next week.

Cllr Fuller reported on the litter pick carried out last month and confirmed plans for another litter pick on 23rd October along Weavers Lane and that as this was a roadside event it wasn't suitable for children to attend.

Cllr Rogers advised that the managers of the Ratepayers club had indicated they would be agreeable to a noticeboard being put up outside the building.

3394: Correspondence.

Cllr Ashburner reported on continuing issues with the 345 bus not dropping off on Wheeler Drive with no information being given to passengers about this.

Cllr Rogers requested that the estimated 30 children attending the judo club at the Tithebarn be included in the distribution of the Christmas gifts. This was agreed by the clerk under delegated authority as the existing budget was likely to cover these additional gifts.

The clerk reported on correspondence from a resident regarding the maintenance of the defibs within the parish and that efforts were ongoing to engage with the Bootle Arms and the Horse and Jockey to get their defibs back on the central register.

The clerk also reported on correspondence regarding excessive noise from the Horse and Jockey and this was noted to have been likely to have arisen from a one off event.

3395: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3396: Ongoing work at Fox House Farm.

Cllr Baker had received confirmation that a planning officer had visited the site and confirmed that it was not being converted for residential use.

RESOLVED that no further action was needed at this time.

3397: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 14th OCTOBER 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Baker, Fuller, Harrison, Luckett, Rogers and Todd.

3398: Apologies for absence.

Cllr Ashburner.

3399: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th September 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th September 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3400: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3401: Public participation.

The current occupier of Fox House Farm attended to talk about his plans for the property.

3402: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that:

1. Sandra Luckett be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council; and
2. The remaining casual vacancies be noted.

3403: Bleed control kits.

RESOLVED that bleed control kits be offered to organisations with properly registered defibrillators within the parish and the cost of the kits be approved up to £100 plus VAT for each kit.

3404: Melling leaflet.

The autumn edition of the leaflet was printed last week. Copies are starting to be distributed and advertisers will be contacted to chase up payment of fees. Cllr Fuller will check with the previous publisher of the leaflet to make sure payments have not continued to be transferred to their bank account.

3405: Damaged footbridge.

Members confirmed the location of the damaged bridge and a report will be submitted to Sefton PROW requested it be inspected and repaired.

3406: Noticeboard.

RESOLVED that the relocation of the noticeboard formerly on Prescott Road to the MRCA be approved.

S. Ledgerton

11/11/2025

3407: Reports of meetings.

None.

3408: Correspondence.

Cllr Baker shared a thank you card received from Pat Clatworthy thanking the Parish Council for the plaque presented to her for her long service on the Parish Council. Cllrs attending the presentation reported that it went well and the gesture was appreciated by all in attendance.

3409: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3410: Fox Bridge Farm.

RESOLVED that the draft letter to Sefton planners, Ward Cllr and Chief Executive be sent now subject to the amendments discussed.

3411: Cashflow to 30th September 2025.

The current financial position was noted.

3412: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

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S. Baker 11th / 11 / 2025

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Harrison, Luckett, Rogers and Todd.

3413: Apologies for absence.

Cllr Fuller.

3414: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th October 2025.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th October 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3415: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3416: Public participation.

Representatives from Doteki Judo Group attended to discuss their grant application.

3417: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3418: Grant application from Doteki Judo Group.

RESOLVED that:

1. The grant requested in the sum of £250 towards the rental of the hall at the Tithebarn be approved with payment to be made directly to the Tithebarn on receipt of an invoice; and
2. The remaining aspects of the grant be rejected; and
3. The applicants to be advised that they may submit a further grant application for consideration in the next budget year any time after April 2026.

3419: Social media.

RESOLVED that the following paragraph was agreed for use by members wishing to respond to social media postings and that no further comment should be made on behalf of the Parish Council:

‘Comments have been posted on this page about the work of Melling Parish Council by people who are not involved with the Council. If you would like accurate information about the work of Melling Parish Council please visit their website at www.mellingparishcouncil.uk or contact the Council by email at clerk@mellingparishcouncil.uk’.

*13 Todd
13/Jan 26*

- 3420: Grant Awarding Policy for defibrillators NOT owned by the Parish Council.**
RESOLVED that the content of the draft Grant Awarding Policy for Defibrillators NOT owned by the Parish Council be approved subject to amendments confirming that grants will NOT be paid to businesses in respect of the maintenance costs of defibrillators.
- 3421: Reports of meetings.**
Cllr Ashburner reported on Aintree Parish Council's civic award event which was well attended.
- 3422: Correspondence.**
The clerk confirmed that correspondence sent to the Chief Executive of Sefton MBC, Ward Cllr Danny Burn and Sefton Planning enforcement department in respect of the property at Fox Bridge Farm had been acknowledged by all recipients.
All Cllrs confirmed agreement with the content of the response to the letter from a resident raising concerns about defibrillators within the parish.
Concerns received from a resident regarding the bonfire night event at the Horse & Jockey were noted and a request will be sent to Sefton MBC noting the concerns and requesting that advice be provided regarding future events.
It was noted that the bin by the village green had been removed and not yet replaced and this had been followed up.
- 3423: Changes to annual audit requirements.**
RESOLVED that:
 1. The hosting of the Parish Council website and emails are transferred to Hugo Fox;
 2. The fee payable to Hugo Fox for the silver hosting service, .gov domain name and email addresses for the clerk and all councillors is approved at up to £650 pa in this year and future years until further resolution;
 3. The one off fee payable to Hugo Fox to transfer the content from the old website to the new site is agreed at £149 plus VAT.
- 3424: Planning Applications.**
RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.
- 3425: Budget and Precept 2026/2027.**
This item was deferred to the January meeting.
- 3426: Meeting dates 2026.**
RESOLVED that the meeting dates for 2026 be agreed.
- 3427: Accounts paid and for payment.**
RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

17 Jodd
13/Jan 26