

Penketh Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 13th October 2025 AT 19:00

Held at Penketh Pool and Community Centre

Members of the press & public were welcome; the meeting was recorded.

MEETING OPENED AT; 19:05

Present:

Cllrs Geoff Fellows (Chair), Booth, Dodd, Eriobuna (Arrived 7.15pm), Fellows, Haywood, Peters, Potts, Treanor, Cooper, White, Towell

Clerk:

Mr Stephen McGlynn

Members of the Public:

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25/26-303. Apologies for Absence

No apologies all Councillors present.

25/26-304. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Fellows declared interests as Chair of Penketh Swimming Club and private pool hirer for Puddle Penguins Swim School. Cllr Potts declared an interest in living at the same property as Cllr Fellows. No other declarations were made.

25/26-305. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13 September 2025 were approved as a correct record.
Proposed Cllr Treanor, seconded Cllr Booth. Two abstentions (Cllrs Peters and Dodd).

25/26-306. Matters Arising

Minor spelling and formatting errors to be checked prior to publication.

25/26-307. Appointments, Co-options & Vacancies

The Chair welcomed new councillors Cllrs Cooper, Towell and White.
One co-option application had been received and was deferred to the end of the meeting.
The Clerk noted the election cost invoice is awaited and may require budget virement.

25/26-308. Finance

Payments for April–September 2025 were presented. Figures to be verified against invoices to avoid duplication.
An extraordinary Finance Meeting will be arranged to review budgets and spending.
Council approved temporary payment authorisation by Cllr Potts as the current signatory, pending the update of banking mandates.
New signatories will be: Clerk, Cllrs Potts, Treanor, Booth and Dodd.

Both motions proposed by Cllr Fellows, seconded by Cllr Haywood, approved unanimously.

25/26-309. Motions from Councillors

Council considered adopting *LoveAdmin* for swimming lesson management and payments. Members noted the potential to reduce administration, improve financial tracking, and offer real-time customer access via app.

Decision deferred to next available Meeting for full cost review.

25/26-310. Remembrance Sunday

An update was received confirming all necessary documentation has been submitted to Warrington Borough Council for the joint event with Great Sankey Parish.

25/26-311. Christmas Market and Festive arrangements 2025

The event confirmed for **Saturday 29 November 2025**.

A planning meeting to be held on 14 October with all councillors welcome.

Due to WBC no longer supplying trees, Council approved purchase of a 26ft Nordmann Fir at £2,448 (including delivery, installation, and removal).

Proposed Cllr Eriobuna, seconded Cllr Potts. Majority approved; Cllr Peters voted against..

25/26-312. Chairman's Report

Update given on local flooding support and the upcoming BBC "Doorbell Detectives" programme being filmed in Penketh.

25/26-313. Clerk's Report

Outstanding invoices for school swimming sessions (April–July 2025) being followed up.

Pool and hall hirers are up to date with payments to September.

Public swimming revenue dipped after the summer holidays but offset by increased club usage.

Work progressing to convert Greystone Recreation Ground Trusteeship to corporate status under the Parish Council.

A complaint about dogs off leads on Greystone Rec was noted.

Planning update received for the next stage of Fiddlers Ferry demolition.

Meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner scheduled for 21 October.

25/26-314. Correspondence

Covered in Clerks Report

25/26-315. Report from Parish Surgery

Cllrs Fellows reported that no one turned up to the last surgery held.

25/26-316. Planning

No contentious new applications. Brief discussion about the BESS application progress but no significant update available.

25/26-317. Public Question Time

Questions raised regarding:

- Clerk office hours and email response times;
- Split of Clerk costs between Parish and Pool roles.
Clerk to review and report back at next meeting.

25/26-318. Date of Next Meeting

Next Full Council meeting confirmed as Monday 10th November 2025 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed: 8:40pm for the public.

25/26-319. Agenda Item 7 Co Option of Councillor

Council agreed to defer consideration of the co-option application for one month.

Vacancy to be re-advertised on an exceptional short-term basis to allow inclusion on the November agenda.

Meeting closed: 9pm

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