

Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 3 November 2025

Present: Cllrs David Howarth, Chris Preston, James Huddleston,
Catherine Cornall and the Clerk, Claire Helme.
One member of the public

The introduction from David Prescott, Headteacher of Arkholme School was postponed.

Public Participation:

Traffic/speeding

Feedback from the Whittington open meeting was discussed. There was a good attendance with 60% representation from Arkholme councillors and clerk. The majority of those present were from Whittington but 9 parish councils were also represented. The meeting was heated with few solutions offered by the panel from Highways, local policing team and Lancaster Rural East County Councillor. Attendees voiced their opinion that unless accidents with fatalities were recorded then there would be no action regarding local road safety. The lack of action was blamed on declining budgets with the cost of moving speed signs/changing the speed limit etcetera reaching sums of up to £10k due to the various consultations that must be undertaken.

1 **Apologies:** Cllr Phillippa Williamson, David Prescott

2 **Declaration of conflicts of interest:** none declared.

3 **Minutes of the last meeting:**

Cllr Huddleston proposed acceptance of the minutes of 1 September 2025, this was seconded by Cllr Cornall and was signed as a true record by the Chair.

4 **Traffic/speeding/feedback from Whittington open meeting:**

This was discussed in Public Participation as above.

It was resolved that the Clerk contact Lizzi Collinge MP to ask why changing road signage etcetera was so expensive and to see if she can bring the matter up in parliament.

5 **Finance:**

a) Cheque no 000758 for £90 for A2A for the annual website hosting fee had been approved since the last meeting.

b) Cheque no 000759 for the Clerk's wages Oct/Nov/Dec was approved

Proposed Cllr Huddleston

Seconded Cllr Cornall

c) Bank reconciliation

The balance at Lloyds stands at £7,243 on 30 October. After deduction of the Clerk's wages above the balance will be approx. £6,784. Further items to go out before the end of financial year include the Christmas tree, Clerk's wages Jan-March, AVH rental and any S137 grants approved. The balance includes ringfenced PROW grants of £1,040.

d) S137 grants

It was resolved to send out the application form and eligibility guidance before Christmas in order that any applications can be discussed at the 5 January meeting.

6 **Planning updates:**

25/00930/FUL Land East of Arkholme Methodist Church

Erection of 23 dwellings with associated access and installation of a package treatment plant.

Awaiting decision

Councillors commented that there are allowances made for garages but that there are none on site. The arrangements for sewage still remain inadequate.

High Dam Barn, Kirkby Lonsdale Road, Arkholme

The previous applications for prior approval as an agricultural conversion have been refused twice. The proposed building is not suitable for the size of the smallholding and the new white metal gates stand out in the landscape and are not in keeping.

Arkholme Parish Council has not been consulted regarding the applications as it is wrongly listed as being in Gressingham Parish. It was resolved that the Clerk notify planning of this error and make a comment regarding the gates.

Treeworks:

25/0183/TCA 5 Carus Park, Arkholme, LA6 1AY

G1 maple and copper beech 3-metre crown reduction, T1 multi stem conifer fell and T2 rowan, fell

Application permitted 2 October

25/0184/TCA Reading Room Cottage, Arkholme, LA6 1AU

T1 cherry – reduction by 30%

Application permitted 13 October

25/0185/TCA Cross House, Main Street, Arkholme, LA6 1AX

T1 Apple – fell

Application permitted 13 October

25/0227/TCA Rose Cottage, Main Street, Arkholme, LA6 1AU

Ash T1 – fell to ground level due to early stage ash dieback and tree growing on top of dry stone wall retaining wall etc. Sycamore/Yew/Hawthorn G1 – lapsed hedgerow, reduce trees significantly by pollarding to retain tall hedge without risk of damage to neighbouring property.

Awaiting decision

7 **Public Rights of Way:**

Nothing to report.

8 **Village pounds:**

The village pound that was vacant has now been rented out and the rental agreement and rent of £20 have been received by the Clerk.

9 **Christmas:**

Cllr Huddleston reported that the Christmas tree has been ordered and will be erected on Saturday 22 November. The switching on of the lights and carols around the tree will be on either 28 or 29 November.

10 **PC laptop:**

The Clerk reported that her personal laptop is reaching the end of its life and that it is important to transfer all data including HMRC Basic Tools for payroll before it breaks. It is also still on Windows 10 so is now unprotected. Cllr Cornall reported

that she has a contact at Bay Tech in Morecambe and it was agreed that she contact him initially; the Clerk agreed to get 2 additional quotations.

It was resolved to set a budget of £600, excluding the Microsoft licence, and to proceed as soon as possible. The new laptop will be the property of Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council and will be passed on in the event that the Clerk leaves the Parish Council.

11 **PACT report:**

July	23 crimes in the constabulary area None in Arkholme
Aughton Road	1 anti-social behaviour category
Halton	17 crimes
Over Kellet	1 anti-social behaviour category
Capenwray	1 anti-social behaviour category 1 drugs category
August	23 crimes in the constabulary area One in Arkholme
Locka Lane, Arkholme	1 criminal damage/arson category
Halton	14 crimes
Over Kellet	1 anti-social behaviour category 1 vehicle crime category 1 violence/sexual offence category
Capenwray	1 violence/sexual offence category
Nether Kellet	2 violence/sexual offence category 1 other theft category
Aughton	1 burglary category

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 5 January 2026.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Claire Helme
Clerk
Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council

