

**MINUTES OF THE AGM OF
BOWLAND AND LEAGRAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 19TH MAY 2026 @ 7.30PM AT LAUND FARM**

Present: Chair Claire Davies
Councillor Joanne Hampson
Councillor Billie Weld-Blundell
Councillor Andrew Church-Taylor
Councillor John Stott
Councillor John Weld-Blundell
County Councillor Ian Duxbury

Claire welcomed everyone to the meeting

OPEN MEETING

We were pleased to welcome our County Councillor, Ian Duxbury, who explained how he saw his role working with the Parish Council.

Ian thanked everyone for his invitation to the meeting and explained he believed his role as County Councillor was to act as a vocal point so that if there were problems or issues raising concern he would like to be able to support and feedback in those areas of concern that the Parish might have. He stated that he was not a career politician but the way things were going he had felt it necessary to try and make a difference and felt that the rural communities could be overlooked.

Ian confirmed he was happy to be contacted direct.

Ian said his role within LCC was as the Chairman of the Regulatory Committee which looks after the bridleways, highways etc and he also works on the Lancashire Fire Authority in relation to planning and development and has just taken up a new position focussing on children and the family. He was previously a training specialist which encompassed prison transport, bus and rail fare collection equipment and more recently a contact centre.

Ian said he was brought up in the Ribble Valley, starting in Chatburn and has been connected to Clitheroe and Longridge for the past 28 years.

Ian said we are fighting hard against 15 years of having had no maintenance on the highways. There is a capital programme and they are looking at introducing a preventative programme not just repairing the roads. Ian reported that the previous budget was £27 million for road repairs, this has now been increased to £71 million.

BUSINESS MEETING

15 minutes set aside for members of the public to raise any issue directly with the Parish Council.

Wild Boar Park

Claire advised that the Parish Council had had a meeting with members of the Wild Boar Park and they explained their vision for the future but it wasn't relevant to the current planning application. Their current application is for permission to keep the tipis up for the next 2.5 years. In the future they want to run a holiday park but they will still have the Event Barns that they have invested money in. The business plan is that the weddings will be linked to the holiday park and they are saying that when weddings are booked it is mandatory that the on site accommodation is booked too.

Claire advised they have renovated the barns and a planning application will be going in.

It was raised that they still don't have planning permission for the tipis.

Claire advised that they had appealed against the Enforcement Notice and that that appeal had still not been determined. That was 14 months ago but if the appeal is lost and they are told that they have had enough time to take the tipis down, then they will have to take them down.

A member of the Public (Mrs Robinson) from Lower Lees Farm advised that the issue for her is the noise.

Claire advised that complaints need to be made to Environmental Health as the Wild Boar Park are saying since the limiter was installed, no complaints have been made.

Ian advised that any contact with the Wild Boar Park or Environmental Health should be done by email so that there is a log.

Highways is a problem and the applications are no different now to the initial applications.

How have they got a license? Ian said it appears to get the license to be a marriage venue, they would have had to have planning permission. Checks are to be regarding this.

They are believed to be operating under permitted development rights.

Business meeting

1. **Apologies for Absence:-** None
2. **Chairman's Report 2026**
Councillor Claire Davies read her Annual Report.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting.**
Minutes of meeting held on 10th February 2026

Proposed: Billie Weld-Blundell
Seconded: John Stott
All were in favour.

4. **Matters arising**

None

5. **Conflict of interest /business interests to declare.**

None

5. **Finance**

Year end documentation was approved and signed off by Claire. FR to submit.

6. **Parking in Chipping: moving forward**

Nothing to report and no developments.

7. **Village Committees**

a) Brabins Trust – It was reported that the process to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (ICO) is about to be completed .It has cost £10k and it has been difficult. There is a Solicitor on the committee and they are following the trust rules which were written some time ago so for the immediate future the trust is unable to give monies to St Mary's.

b) Village Hall Committee – Ended the year with monies to spend; a new carpet has been laid, new curtains have been hung, the chairs re-covered and the building has been painted. It still operates without a manager and the work this is covered by a management team and it is working well. John Stott added that they are doing a wonderful job.

c) Community Land Trust – John Blundell reported that they had not met recently and there was nothing to report, houses are fully occupied.

8. **Wild Boar Planning Application - Parish Council response.**

Claire read out a reply from RVBC in terms of the Wild Boar Park not having planning for the tipis or for weddings. After several exchanges of email Claire had a reply advising that they are trading using permitted development rights

Claire advised that the parish council needs to respond in terms of what they (WBP) think they are operating under when RVBC are saying they do not have permission for the tippees or weddings.

Is there a local need for a wedding venue? If they are getting bookings then that shows there is a need.

A discussion took place in respect of the Parish Council's response to the latest Wild Boar Park application, Claire to submit this before the deadline of 20th May 2026, it was agreed that we would reflect what they have done and raise our concerns.

9. **Confidentiality.**

None

10. **AOB**

Mark Hothersall was invited to tonight's meeting but was unable to attend and asked the date of the next meeting. FR to provide this once the dates have been agreed.

Code of Conduct Training – Councillors to book on if they are available to attend (15th June – 2pm and 5.30pm).

Noticeboard has arrived John Stott to arrange for that to be placed. Another bench has arrived and Britain in Bloom are supplying us with some plants for some flower beds.

11. **Dates for future meetings**

15th September 2026

8th December 2026

16th February 2027

18th May 2026 (AGM)