

Lytham Town Council Minutes

28.7.25 at 18.30 Lytham Institute

Please note this is a summary and not a transcript

Present: Chair – Cllr Simon Newell, Cllr Anne Aitken, Cllr Mark Bamforth, Cllr Brenda Blackshaw, Cllr Suzanne Bramall, Cllr Edward Cook, Cllr Kelly Farrington, Cllr Cath Powell, Cllr Hilary Warburton

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Amy Barnes

2. Statement from the Chair Cllr Newell welcomed the 60 residents present, affirming Lytham's appeal and the Council's goal to enhance it further. He noted that after forming on May 1st, and despite losing the Town Clerk very early on the Council were now in their third month. The chair stated Cllrs Mark Bamforth and Kelly Farrington bring experience from Fylde Council, as does former Fylde Cllr Brenda Blackshaw. While facing early challenges, the Council remained committed to collaborating with residents and had been working hard on items arising in the agenda. Special thanks were given to Cllr Hilary Warburton for organising the JD and Town Clerk interviews, and to Cllr Suzanne Bramall for her ongoing administrative support. Cllr Bamforth was acknowledged for his time served as Vice Chair. PC Gary Hickman was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. The Chair Cllr Newell advised the meeting was to be recorded,

3. Declaration of interest and dispensation consideration.

Nothing to declare. **Action** Noted to add declarations to website - Cllr Bramall

4. Approve minutes of meeting on June 25th

Approved, seconded and adopted. **Action** Replace draft to approved to website – Cllr Bramall

5. Public participation

Item 1. Lytham resident JS congratulated the Council on their election and requested that two Councillors be appointed as special representatives to handle management promoters unaffiliated with Live Nation or Cuffe and Taylor, to represent residents. JS also raised several additional concerns:

The timing of closure in relation to anti-terrorism barriers and the impact on schools and residents returning from work.

- Parking issues cost of parking v cost of parking ticket
- Streets used as toilets
- Robbery of handbags
- Planning permission
- Fylde free VIP tickets and message this sends particularly when blue zone residents get know compensation for inconvenience caused

JS was acknowledged for his contribution, particularly given the limited time available, and a document was kindly provided for the Council's review. Feedback was presented regarding the Impact Committee chaired by Councillor Kelly Farrington, with Councillor Bramall also serving as a representative. A proposal was submitted for discussion in September to consider holding a dedicated meeting—pending a vote and agreement—to address all matters concerning events in Lytham and related impact issues. It was also noted that some enforcement matters pertain to both Fylde and LCC, and that additional security costs had been covered by the event organisers. Furthermore, while tickets were offered to the chair, the Council did not accept this offer.

Item 2 Resident MK asked if the Cumulative Impact Policy was to be discussed between members or imposed following the last meeting discussion. Chair Cllr Newell advised there was on the agenda and to be a voted-on tonight.

Resident DC Do asked if the public vote later the CIP do we have a say on that? Cllr Newell stated this was a Council vote and was to ask the Council to review their previous decision not to have a CIP, if this went ahead the public would have to be consulted on their views.

Item 3. TP from South Park requested if not on social media how would find out what is happening. It was confirmed that Letters would be going to all addresses with information of meetings drop-in sessions. Also, Parish council Boards in Lytham West and one to be decided in Lytham East.

Item 4. JR expressed concern about the number of tables, chairs, and A Boards in Lytham obstructing pavement access, particularly for the elderly, disabled, and those with buggies—especially outside Pizza Express. Although pavement licences recommend a minimum of 2 metres, this is not mandatory, and enforcement is limited. Cllr Powell noted that these issues could be addressed through a review of the Cumulative Impact Policy and should be considered in the Town Plan.

Town Map/ Parish Boards

Cllr Blackshaw advised we have one of the notice Boards allocated in the square the other belonged to Lowther Gardens. Work by volunteers to commence on painting. New glass required Also a request to move the bin blocking the board had been put in by Cllr Blackshaw. Cost of two new boards were felt to be about £1000 including if agreed a further board at the Institute. A thankyou noted for Fylde Borough Council who have also donated £500 towards these extra boards. Cllr Blackshaw also advised of looking at option for the public phone boxes outside Sainsburys to be cleaned painted and ideas for possible use and thanked local volunteers who were supporting this clean-up of boards etc. Railings also needed painting. Cllr Powell asked if it was possible to look at railing going to wards Cleveland Rd from Bridge.

A proposal to allocate up to £1000 to begin work was seconded and unanimously approved. **Action** Cllr Blackshaw to investigate this and continue with present works.

ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Lytham Tree update: Permission from private Landlords being sorted to lop the trees and is likely to commence in the winter when the trees are dormant. Cllr Powell went on to say that the Town Plan would form part of the conservation required going forward and would query the continued Maintenance of the trees. A meeting was being arranged with the Economic Development Team at Fylde Borough

Liggard Brook Update: Cllr Aitken noted that the Environment Agency owns the brook, so removing anything, including rubbish, requires a licence. The Brook has been a longstanding issue for many years and the Council are researching all efforts to date and potential solutions and will feed back findings. Residents have raised concerns about no water flow and mosquitoes, as ongoing issue. A meeting with a water expert is planned to discuss solutions.

Car Parking Cllr Powell reported residents are concerned about non-residents, including local business staff, occupying parking spaces near their homes. Discussions are ongoing to find solutions, and Andrew Lloyd from Fylde will be invited to a meeting with Council to discuss.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

Approval of Facebook page update: Cllr Powell reported the banner is nearly finished and the Town Council Facebook Page should go live this week, linked to the Town Council website. **Action** Cllr Bramall to update website link.

Update on website Cllr Bramall reported that the website was presently being over seen by herself with great help and support from the website providers, in the absence of the Town Clerk apologised for the delay in being fully functional. Messages now can be left via the website for Councillors and in interim Town Clerk site was being monitored by herself , request messages being distributed and supported by all Council members.

Lytham Lights update Cllr Farrington has met with the Lytham Business Partnership who are overseeing the lights and parade this year. The light switch on will be the 15th of November with a lantern parade with the emphasis on family fun and children's entertainment. Expansion of lights into Sparrow Park and or other areas. Some work required on lights due to water ingress. ST reported a feasibility study was being undertaken.

Action Cllr Amy Barnes will represent the Council on this grp

Drop in sessions Cllr Aitken reported that drop-in sessions will be starting in August on the last Wednesday of each month with the first date 27th August at the Institute building, 10 00am till 12 00pm

Letter to public Cllr Bramall advised as earlier stated a letter will be going out to all Lytham residents covering Councillor details dates of Town Council Meetings, drop-in sessions etc. Andrew Waring would kindly be offering to deliver these free in his pack that is distributed

BUDGET FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

Update on Town Clerk Position Cllr Warburton announced that interviews will be held on August 5th and thanked the outgoing Town Clerk from St Annes on Sea Town Council for his ongoing support.

,Update on election recharge Cllr Bamforth reported the charge for the election £3,750 had now been signed and sent to Fylde. Cllr Newell advised the precept paid to date of £49,875 which is half the year paid and commented on cost going out to date including wage to June of the Town Clerk

Regeneration Monies Cllr Bamforth reported the regeneration monies were £1.40000 and were set aside for Lytham Infrastructure. Cllr Powell commented the spending of this needs to run in parallel with the Town plan

PLANNING AND LICENSING

Ref no's 25/0205 granted by Fylde Borough Council 25/0345, 25/0373, 250366, 250368, 25/0382 no objections raised by Town Council.

Cumulative Impact Policy Proposal

Cllr Cook presented the proposal to review Fylde Council's decision not to conduct a cumulative impact assessment and a vote to write requesting a review of this decision. Cllr Farrington expressed concerns that such policies can negatively affect the economy, noting that some councils like Westminster, Brighton and Leeds. Key issues cited included:

- Deterring investment due to excessive regulation and costs
- Resulting empty bars and shops, which may increase anti-social behaviour
- Hindering regeneration

He suggested considering alternative, smarter enforcement measures.

Councillor Bramall inquired whether any locations had been examined to determine where similar initiatives had proven effective. Councillor Farrington responded that he had only recently begun this research and would need additional time to thoroughly examine both the advantages and disadvantages. Councillor Aitken clarified that the current vote was not to implement a CIP, but rather to review the original decision. Should this review be successful, a public consultation would subsequently take place. It was also noted that 66% of respondents to Fylde Council's survey had expressed support for a CIP in the relevant area. Councillor Farrington requested the vote be deferred Councillor Bramall further questioned the projected timeline if the process was not deferred, with Councillor Newell estimating that it would take over a month.

Councillors Farrington, Cllr Blackshaw voted to defer, while Cllr Aitken, Cllr Bramall, Cllr Cook, Cllr Newell, Cllr Powell, Cllr Warburton voted against deferral. Abstain Cllr Bamforth. The vote to defer was not upheld.

A vote was then held on requesting Fylde to review the decision not to have a cumulative impact Policy Cllr Farrington, Cllr Blackshaw were against; Cllr Aitken, Cllr Bramall, Cllr Bamforth, Cllr Cook, Cllr Newell, Cllr Powell, Cllr Warburton were in favour. The proposed motion passed. The planning subcommittee will draft a request letter.

Update on/FBC Letter to Fylde Council re Savannahs Chair Cllr Newell reported that Karen Buckley had responded to letter requesting a round table discussion but offered no date. A further letter had been sent to Paul McKimm planning lead to meet, this is now arranged for Council on the 2nd of Sept. As the licence is now granted for Savannahs no further requirement to speak with Karen Buckley on this specific matter, however a meeting still to go ahead.

Items carried forward

NALC registration September

Standing orders review Await TC

Lytham events post summer season feedback/resident issues September

Risk management Policy Await TC

Town neighbour hood plan Await TC

Date and time of next meeting was confirmed as 27th August 6 30 pm