



LAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 17 JULY 2025

Minutes of the Meeting of Lake Parish Council held on
**THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2025 at Lake Gathering Place at
19.00**

PRESENT: Cllr Paul Brading, Chairman

Cllrs Julie Byford, Tim Clapp, Naomi Goodall, Sue Hardy, Robert May, and
Adrian Whittaker.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Richard Priest (Clerk) and Raine Elliss (STC).

From the floor There were 5 members of the public present.

Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed members and hoped all had a good summer, and before the meeting started congratulated Raine Elliss on completing her CILCA qualification and made a small presentation. Members of the public did not ask any questions. The Chairman welcomed Julian Wadsworth MBE, of the Bay Youth Project, to make a presentation to members, with the presentation including details of forthcoming projects in Lake and the Bay, such as Town Hall Youth Centre, Youth Forum, off-Island visits, detached positive activities, and links with the Police and other agencies. Members noted the project received national recognition, and would welcome thanking local youths involved, in person, early in the New Year. The Chair and members thanked Julian for his presentation and noted continued financial budgetary provision.

48/25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hailston, Morris and Hartley, with Cllr Clapp noting he was on call and may need to leave during meeting.

49/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair noted that all forms had been submitted to the IW Council and members confirmed that there were no items on the Agenda requiring further declaration.

50/25-26 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 JULY 2025

Cllr Byford proposed and Cllr Hardy seconded, and members unanimously agreed, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2025 be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

51/25-26 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES NOT REQUIRING RESOLUTION

Members noted PCSO May produced Policing Report and thanked Raine, for circulating; the Chair noted tidying up of bench at Flitcroft Gardens, ongoing concerns regarding inappropriate parking at Premier Stores and also noted need for access for Emergency Service vehicles, access to Post Box and other matters impacting on consideration of

bollards; Cllr Brading also updated members on Blue Badge usage of Car Parks, and the policy covering this matter, and Cllr Whittaker updated members on securing Identity Cards, with members agreeing to confirm wish for personal card.

52/25-26 UPDATES FROM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS POLICING TEAM

PCSO May was unable to attend the meeting and a written report was circulated, and members noted need to report any E-Bike incidents to 101, and Cllr Whittaker noted recent issue when in Parish with PCSO Webb.

53/25-26 IWALC UPDATE

Cllr Morris sent apologies and submitted written report, which the Clerk would circulate, and Cllr Brading read to members, and thanked Cllr Morris for providing, and also noted circulation of IWALC Training dates and meetings, and Cllr Hardy noted that Brian Jennings (from Seaview & Nettlestone) was now County Officer.

54/25-26 FINANCES

A) To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for July & August 2025

Members noted and unanimously approved the lists with Chair signing accordingly, with Cllrs Brading and Hardy formally thanking the Clerk for work on the VAT claim, subsequent apology from HMRC and benefit this would have with other Town & Parish Councils, on and off the Island.

B) To receive and note the verified bank reconciliations for July & August 2025

Members unanimously noted the verified bank reconciliations for July & August 2025, and also confirmed the transfer of funds to interest account following receipt of VAT.

C) To receive and note the Expenditure against Budget for July & August 2025

Members noted increased expenditure against Civic Events and also noted the £2500 grant received for VE/VJ and other events, with members unanimously noting paper.

D) Correspondence with HMRC re 2024/25 VAT

The Clerk updated members on extensive correspondence and issues raised by HMRC, and that the conclusion supported the position taken by the Parish Council, with £51,362.73 secured and in account, with £50,000 in interest bearing account.

E) External Auditor Correspondence 2024/25 AGAR

The Clerk updated members on requests for information from External Auditor, and that replies by Lake PC had been submitted in a timely manner, but the Parish are awaiting final report, and Raine noted the significant frustration across the Country by Clerks regarding delays and non-replies. The Clerk would circulate any future response, but was mindful of statutory dates that the Parish had complied with, but External Auditor would need to meet

F) HMRC Payroll & Pension Correspondence

Members confirmed that payroll arrangements were in place, and the Parish needed to fund employer pension contributions as guided by Pension Provider, NEST, and within

allocated budget, future proofing future provision.

G) Past Futures Grant Application

The Clerk updated members on the submission of application, and the substantial information provided to support the bid which covered groups in Lake and the Bay, and the bid had been shortlisted for funding; Cllr Brading added he had supported other bids appreciating the volume of work required to submit a bid, which may not be successful.

H) Buoys in the Bay

Members noted correspondence from IWC on this matter, and the Chair outlined the background to this matter for new members, as well as the benefit for reducing issues caused by jet-skis in the Bay; with members unanimously, with Cllrs Whittaker and May abstaining as Shanklin Town Councillors, agreeing to fund the slightly increased cost for 2026/27 subject to Sandown and Shanklin Councils also funding their share, with the Clerk also seeking clarification for provision after 2027.

I) Events Working Party

Cllr Brading thanked Cllr Whittaker, Cllr Morris, Cllr Hailston and Cllr May, for meeting up, with Cllr Whittaker circulating an indicative costing to address health and safety concerns at New Road, including addressing concerns with overhanging branches impacting on accessible access and remedial work including fencing neighbouring property. Members discussed the indicative costs, and in the first instance the Clerk would draft a risk assessment, and meet with Cllr Whittaker on site. In addition, consideration of donated Xmas tree, with installation for electrics option, with Cllr Whittaker meeting local Co-Op regarding Xmas arrangements for 2025, and if similar to 2024's tree and carol service.

Members also noted that Cllrs Brading and Whittaker will not be attending November Remembrance Service, and Cllr Byford volunteered to take forward, Raine will draft Order Of Service and contact cadets, Clerk contacted Bugler, and Cllr Brading to contact Rev Morris.

Cllr Whittaker raised concerns regarding damaged decorative street lighting and motifs, and wanted this matter dealt with as a priority, the Clerk noted the report provided by contractors, and circulated, and members unanimously agreed to contact the contract and request that all lights and motifs be taken down in first instance, with consideration for future provision to be a part of the budget process.

55/25-26 BAY PLACE PLAN

Cllr Brading updated members on recent meetings with the Regeneration Officer noting that, due to forthcoming bye-election in Lake for IWC Ward, only the Clerk attended the meetings, and details would be limited at this stage. Cllr Brading noted progress on the Playground Project at Lea Road/Manor Road, with potentially new bins, consideration of new colours/repaint, some remedial work to overhanging branches, possible refresh of the benches and surface, and replacement of centrepiece unit being mindful of accessibility, project launch before next meeting with consultation with Broadlea and Housing Association in hand, with further report at next meeting. Cllr Brading also reported that the Place Plan needs to be fully adopted and embraced by

IW Council, for example when decisions were made to remove seating/benches at Lake Cliff Gardens without notice to Parish Council or local members.
Cllr Brading also noted proposed Sea-Pool initiative and other projects in Sandown and Shanklin being developed.

56/25-26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: RESOLVE COMMENTS ON APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Members thanked Raine for circulating Planning Information, and noted no current planning matters of concern.

57/25-26 RIPPLES

The Chair proposed, and members unanimously approved, suspending Standing Orders to enable Ripples Editor to update members on forthcoming publication, with Dave Lupton noting the success of the extended edition balancing advertising and articles, and thanked Clerk for submission of reports, with next issue due in the Autumn, after Bye-election. Members unanimously approved reinstatement of Standing Orders.

58/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk thanked members for understanding situation re VAT and the support given by members to resolve this matter, and also thanked members for support to become a volunteer Community First Responder, with NHS, in Lake.

Members also noted reporting of criminal damage to Lake Cliff Gardens Toilets and ongoing work with Police, relocation of Food Bank, Battle of Britain service at Graveside with Cllr Hartley in attendance, possible Autumn project with RBL and Church, ongoing monitoring of work on Rail Crossing at Lake Cliff Gardens, emails regarding replacement of Dog Bin at Slipway with Cllr Brading, work on Lake Groynes, VJ Day Flag and work with Cllr Whittaker, reminder for November Budget Briefing, circulation of Environment Agency Reports regarding Bay Coastal Works, issues at Los Altos, and resident concerns regarding flags on revetment which had now been removed.

Raine updated members on the IT project, with .Gov domain site now secured and work to transfer email addresses in hand, with training to be arranged for later in the Autumn. Members thanked the Clerk, and Raine, for monitoring of facilities and regular updates to members, as well as involving Ripples when appropriate.

59/25-26 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Brading updated members on positive news on Tesco's Junction with more details at next meeting; issues regarding Business Rates for tenants at Spithead Business Park and need for review in hand; reporting of overgrown gardens were also being dealt with by appropriate agencies; Viny Banners being 'fly-posted' around Lake had also been reported and dealt with, and Raine also confirmed actions that had been taken; the meeting with officers at Manor Road playpark also noted and plans to involve local school; and positive comments about cleanliness of Lake, with not much litter.

60/25-26 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Whittaker noted concerns covered by earlier items; Cllr Byford noted actions taken by Island Roads on reported issues, and would need help with arrangements for Remembrance Day, and Cllr Brading said further discussion at October meeting, with emails in hand; and Cllr Hardy noted budget consultation before budget setting in February 2026.

61/25-26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public and the Chair thanked members for attending, and noted Cllr Clapp had to leave during Cllr Reports due to call-out.

62/25-26 NEXT MEETINGS

The Future Meetings were confirmed as:

Thursday 16 October 2025

Thursday 20 November - 10am Budget Briefing at Broadway Centre

Thursday 11 December 2025

Meeting closed 21.15