

BOLTON BY BOWLAND, GIBBURN FOREST AND SAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 MARCH 2026

HELD AT SAWLEY VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllrs A Yates (Chair), M Brennan, H Fortune, L Marsden, R Veitch, S Whittaker, Clerk and three members of the public

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Sheila Mitchell

2. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest

None

3. Adjournment for public session

It was reported that there were issues with potholes and drains on Longtons Lane, Tosside, which needed reporting via Love Clean Streets. Similarly, a restricted weight sign had fallen over close by Tosside Village Hall which also needed reporting.

4. To resolve to confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 January 2026

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2026 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda – For Information Only

6. To consider any response to be made to planning applications

It was resolved that there were no objections to the following planning applications:

3/2026/0073 Poor Parts Barn, Hellifield Road, Bolton by Bowland

No objections but, as this appears to be a commercial venture, a request to RVBC for consistency of approach regarding this application and other barn conversions was needed.

3/2026/0090 Riverside Lodge, Sawley

No objections but concerns to be expressed to RVBC regarding the proposed exterior appearance

3/2026/0103 Beck House, 2 Kirkbeck Mews, Bolton by Bowland

No objections

3/2026/0150 Dockber Laithe Farm, Sawley

Whilst the latest application seems to answer the environmental concerns, expressed in previous submissions, some residents have complained of smoke emissions outside approved hours. The council needs assurances that the facility will be monitored to ensure it complies with its legal obligations.

7. Accounts

To approve the bank balance as of 10 March 2026 of £49,589

Approved by all

8. To consider and approve any invoice payments due:

1. Mrs C A Holmes	January & February 2026 salaries	£310.32
2. NW Accountants	Monthly fee	£15.00
3. Tosside Community Hall	Room hire (March 2026)	£20.00
4. Zurich Municipal	Annual insurances 2026/27	£305.52

All of the above invoices were approved for payment.

9. To consider an update on the proposal for a Community Emergency Plan (“CEP”)

It was reported that one of the members of the steering group continued to work on a strategy document.

10. To receive an update on the proposal for CCTV cameras in the parish

It was noted that nothing further had been heard back from the Coach & Horses regarding hosting CCTV cameras so it was concluded that alternatives needed to be explored

11. Matters brought forward by members – For Information Only

It was noted that there had been an issue with a page of the parish council website involving the random publishing of erroneous and outdated information. The website developers (who manage the site) had been asked to remove the page pending its correction and their investigation into what had happened.

It was suggested that Alex Murphy be approached to see if there would be any residual value in the Holden Clough defibrillator and to recommend an appropriate replacement to be sited by the village notice board.

Issues with water and subsequent road erosion on Sawley Old Bank and at the entrance of King Henry Mews, Bolton by Bowland, previously investigated by United Utilities, were reported again and it was agreed the problems should again be reported to LCC and United Utilities.

Issues with water and block drains persist in Holden. The problem will be reported to UU and ask if they are unable/unwilling to resolve provide the PC permission to investigate/repair.

Similarly, in Sawley, by the junction of Dockber Farm, water on the road and severe road erosion. Problem to be reported to LCC and UU.

An amendment to the Standing Orders, so as to allow any elected person to be Chair of the Parish Council and serve more than three consecutive terms, was suggested and unanimously

agreed. It was noted that most other parish councils did not have any restrictions on tenure of office, possibly due a reluctance amongst members to serve as Chair.

12. Date and venue of next meeting

Venue - Bolton by Bowland Village Hall

Monday 11 May 2026 at 7.00 pm Annual Parish Meeting

7.30 pm May 2026 Parish Council meeting

There would be no meeting in April 2026