

Minutes of a meeting of Ireby with Leck Parish Council held at the Cowan Bridge Tearoom on Monday 23rd March 2026 at 6pm.

Present were Councillors Carol Howard (Chairman), Jay Blackshaw, Colin Chick, Andrew Makinson, John Welbank and Jean White, Lancashire County Councillor Shaun Crimmins and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Carole Scott.

26/11 Public participation: None.

26/12 Requests for Dispensations: None.

26/13 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

26/14 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2026, having been circulated were signed as a true record.

26/15 Ireby phone box and defibrillator:

- a. The phone box is to be repainted soon.
- b. It was agreed to go ahead with the grant application to London Hearts, for the defibrillator.

26/16 Parish Notice Boards:

Councillor Chick is continuing to enquire regarding costs and sizes of the proposed board for Ireby, which will be similar in design but smaller than the present one by the former chapel.

It was agreed not to replace the Cowan Bridge notice board at present, due to costs. Councillor Blackshaw agreed to continue repairing it for as long as possible. The situation will be reviewed in 12 months time.

26/17 'Assertion 10 – Digital & Data Compliance':

The Clerk said that Councillors should receive their new email addresses shortly and can then set their own password. There will be some overlap for a while before the transition to the new addresses is complete. A2A in Milthorpe are always happy to help; they originally set the website up.

26/18 County and City Councillors:

Councillor Crimmins reported on the following:

- a. LCC had made savings on transport but taking the contract back 'in house'.

- b. Adult Social Care – some care homes will be closed.
- c. The Precept has risen by 3.8% - the lowest for several years.
- d. There will be no road works carried out especially because of the Tour de France.
- e. There is a £650M backlog of road works in the system and only a little of this can be cleared each year. Residents are encouraged to report road defects regularly as this may enable repairs to be carried out more quickly.

26/19 Priorities for LCC:

Following a joint meeting of Parish Councils at Whittington, it transpired that most Councils have the same issues – condition of roads and potholes and there is little money available for these repairs/renewals.

26/20 Condition of parish lanes:

The state of the lanes in the parish was discussed and the rights of way across them, in view of the mess that tractors and heavy vehicles are making.

It is believed that any ‘mess’ left on a lane must be cleaned up by the person responsible. Incidents such as this could be reported either to the Police or the LCC Highways. Everyone is encouraged to report such occasions.

26/21 Local Government Reorganisation:

Whenever a consultation opens, the Council will be able to comment on it.

26/22 Other responses:

The date for comments to LALC and Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council had passed. The Town Team at Kirkby Lonsdale reports to the Town Council each month and news can be found on the Council’s website.

26/23 Emergency Plan:

The equipment relating to the Emergency Plan, previously in a cupboard at the Fraser Hall, has been rehoused in the side room behind the kitchen. The information sheet will be updated and it was agreed to purchase a new First Aid kit.

26/24 Finance – *it was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

Simon Rimmer	£55.00	Quarterly payment for the Memorial Garden
A2A Advertising Limited		
	£90.00	Domain registration
Fraser Hall	£100.00	Defibrillator maintenance
Paul Batty	£750.00	Ireby grasscutting 2026-27

26/24 Date of the next meeting:

***Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.30pm at the Fraser Hall, Cowan Bridge.
(This will be the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting).***

The meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Signed:

Dated: