

Great Ponton Village Centre Committee Meeting

Date: Monday 9 February 2026

Time: 3.15pm

Location: Great Ponton Village Centre

Present

Paul A (Chair & Treasurer), Fred Furbar, Susan Shaw (Secretary), Paul L, Barbara Furbar (Deputy Chair)

Apologies

None received.

Confirm Positions

The current committee positions were confirmed as follows:

- Paul A – Chair and Treasurer
- Barbara Furbar – Deputy Chair (co-opted)
- Susan Shaw – Secretary
- Paul J – Bar Manager
- Fred Furbar – Assistant Bar Manager and Committee Member

The committee is actively seeking new members.

Bookings and Enquiries

Paul A reviewed current bookings. Regular bingo is scheduled for Wednesday, and the bar will be open on Friday 13 February. A private family party has hired the hall from 6.00pm to 9.30pm; the bar will be open in the lounge if required.

Upcoming bookings include:

- Sat 21 Feb – Pigeon Fanciers (11.30am–3.00pm); Jehovah's Witness group (6.00pm–midnight), bar required from 7.00pm
- Sun 22 Feb – Private family gathering with bar and buffet (1.00pm–3.30pm), catering by Paul and Paul
- Mon 23 Feb – Esland care home training (10.00am–4.00pm), main hall and kitchen
- Fri 27 Feb – 21st birthday party, main hall and bar (7.00pm–10.00pm)
- Sun 1 Mar – Boot Sale
- Tue 3 Mar – School wheelchair basketball (8.30am–3.30pm)
- Fri 6 Mar – Quiz Night
- Sat 7 Mar – Private hire for band practice
- Mon 9 Mar – Fine Arts Society with buffet
- Sat 21 Mar – Macmillan Darts Marathon (12.00pm–midnight)
- Sun 22 Mar – Christening and 1st birthday party with bar (3.00pm–8.00pm)

Bookings are looking positive. April bookings will be reviewed at the next meeting. Enquiries have been received from Better for Life and an archery group. Paul A is arranging dates for a Tina Turner tribute and drag queens event, as requested by villagers.

Maintenance

Paul J highlighted the need to seal the clock tower and service the clock hands. Barbara raised concerns regarding electrical wiring and plugs, particularly around the stage; these were confirmed as safe following the most recent electrical safety inspection.

The committee discussed updating the décor of the main hall. A mobile tower will be required to paint the ceiling. This work, along with improvements to the front of the building, was agreed as a priority.

Paul A is investigating grants for installing solar panels to help reduce energy costs and has approached a company, Solar Tec. It was suggested that the Parish Council should also be contacted.

It was agreed to purchase toilet brushes, a toilet roll holder and a toilet seat for the gents' toilets. A second fridge for the kitchen will be sourced via Facebook Marketplace. Blinds are required for the main hall. Paul offered the use of his carpet cleaner for the lounge.

Conservatory

It was agreed that, when weather permits, the conservatory will be removed from storage, photographed, measured and advertised for sale to free up space in the container. Equipment left by the school will be sorted, as some items may be damaged by damp. If the archery group adopts the hall as a base, storage space may be offered.

Future Meetings

It was suggested that future committee meetings be held on Friday evenings from 6.00pm to 7.00pm before the bar opens. This was felt to make better use of members' time, as most attend on Friday evenings.

Any Other Business

Paul has sourced a slow cooker and an air fryer. The committee agreed to begin offering bar food, and a menu with prices will be prepared.

Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 4.15pm.

Next Meeting

Friday 20 March 2026

Minutes agreed by:

..... Date

And:

..... Date