

Meeting: Parish Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 10th March 2026

Venue: Parkin Memorial Hall

Present: Justin Ray (Vice Chair (JR), Geyve Walker (GW) David Coulston (DC)

Apologies: Miles MacInnes (MM) Jason Heath (JH), Sandie Watson (Clerk RFO)

In Attendance: Nicky Vecqueray Westmorland and Furness Council (NV)

Members of the Public: 2

Minutes

348.1 Apologies for absence

Miles MacInnes – holiday

Jason Heath – Illness

Sandie Watson - Illness

349.2 Declarations of Interests/Requests for dispensations

a) Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.

b) Personal Interests - None received.

c) Prejudicial Interests – None received.

d) Dispensation Requests - None received.

350.3 Minutes from the last Parish Council Meeting held on 13th January 2026 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Vice Chair.

351.4 Public Participation Sessions

Two non-residents who are looking to buy in the Village who were interested in the concept of Pedestrianising the Village Centre.

352.5 External Meetings and Village/Parish Reports

W&F Councillor Vecqueray

See comments made to various subjects below.

Village Warden Report: Jobs done; Weekly bin box, bus shelter and recycling area tidy/checks ongoing. Managed to wash out all the large wheelie bins, but they may need doing again mid-season; Notice boards and sign removed, refurbished then reinstalled, thanks to the assistance from the lads from Hillcroft (The woodwork on the notice boards will require a second coat of preservative, will sort that when the weather is better). Pots in the toilet garden replaced with the assistance of a parishioner and the area of the tree stump made good; Cleaned bench seats and commemorative stone near bridge, as requested. To do list; Toilet Garden to finish cutting back and tidy, high pressure wash concrete in front of door etc. grass seed stump area when the weather warms up. Bin boxes and remaining seats to clean. Will also repaint the “Pooley Bridge” lettering on the two stone village signs, when it’s warmer. Grass cutting and strimming to start soon.

Community Fund: Feeling from local holiday parks was that we didn’t need another Ranger and that they can police litter and anti-social behaviour themselves. It was suggested that we monitor the situation through the year and take photos where appropriate if it is felt that there is a problem. Note the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) now unlikely to include the lake shore path to Waterside.

Litter: As above

SITU Hopper Bus: 2026 – a weekend and bank holiday service from 28 March - 1 November; daily service 25-29 May and July to September inclusive. A second minibus will increase the service to hourly. The 509

service re-routed (Penrith – Rheged - Dalemain – Keswick) daily from 23 March to 1 November. Majority of funding in place. JR confirmed that the Community Fund had pledged £2500 max contribution for 2026.

Missing Footway Light on Bridge: Not discussed in absence of Clerk. To carry forward to next meeting.

Parish Boundary Review: No update

LDNPA VMAP Cumbria Tourism: Steve Radcliffe and Andrew Smith came to the village on 10 February. Follow up ZOOM meeting with SR on 18 March; MM, JR and GW attending.

Disc Parking Scheme: On hold for moment see Village Pedestrianisation point below.

20mph speed limit: Nothing further heard. NV confirmed we are on the list.

Bridge Railings: MM has emailed W&FC Highways about cleaning the Bridge

Commemoration Stone: Cleaned as per Village Warden Report above.

353.6 Planning

7/2025/3142 5 Church Croft: ratified objection

7/2022/3078 Land to the side and back of Sunnyside Barn: ratified Strong Support

An observation had been made to MM by a resident that there were additional new lodges at Hillcroft located closer to the Village. MM had spoken to JH about these, and they are there temporarily before being moved on site to replace older units.

354.7 Public Toilets

1) Public Convenience Capital Investment Fund: Quotes received - (paddle gates) £19,780 + VAT; Hi-tec (Turnstile access system) £4,464 + VAT; (solar panels) £5,962 incl. VAT. Further quotes awaited. Discussed and decided that we were not yet ready to apply for funding as a further debate was required as to the best type of gate (it was felt that £20k was too much cost and that Turnstile access was maybe not suitable).

Discussion was had that in reality our preference was to hand the toilets back to the Council as we were forced into operating them when other Parish Councils were not. NV to confirm best person to write to (possibly Nick Wright?). 'Forceful' letter to be drafted to try and action this.

2) Landscaping: quote received £4,900 +VAT to build a stone bench and replant the toilet area where the tree was. This was discussed and is acceptable but need to check with Clerk that only one quote was alright or whether we needed to get additional quotes.

Funding for the landscaping: NV mentioned Place Action Group. Also Community Fund; Fibrus; Local businesses (pubs, LDE, Stagecoach; Lake district Foundation, Westmorland Group etc).

355.8 Community Governance Review Consultation

Consider response to second consultation. Not discussed and therefore to carry forward to next meeting

356.9 Village Centre – Community Consultation

Agreed to put the disc parking scheme on hold and to consult the community on the idea of pedestrianising the village centre. The draft consultation document as draft was discussed and approved.

357.10 Garden Wate Skip

Agreement ratified to accept contract for 2026 with Westmorland & Furness Council

358.11 Finance

Clerk sent her apologies but due to ill health no finance papers were circulated. To carry forward to next meeting.

Payroll service increase to £17 plus VAT approved.

359.12 Payments to approve

Resolved to approve the following payments:

Npower	£48.48
Waterplus	£265.35
Clerk	£926.60
Clerks Expenses	£5.40
Payroll	£37.80
Toilet Supplies	£805.06
ICO	£47.00
Hall Hire	£100.00
Tree Surgeon	£1,150.00

360.13 Clerks Report/Notifications and Correspondence

Not discussed due to Clerk's absence

361.14 Items for Agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting

None noted

Meeting closed: 8.05 pm