

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Wednesday 17 December 2025** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Adrian Bland, Tom Grindey, Adrian Tayler and Natalie Fletcher; Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye; the Clerk and no members of the public

155/25 Apologies were received from Cllrs. Elizabeth Moffat and Mary Capstick (reasons accepted and noted)

156/25 Minutes: It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

157/25 Declarations of Interest: None

158/25 Requests for Dispensation: None

159/25 Public Participation: None

160/25 Ongoing Items

- Crow Wood: No reply had yet been received regarding clarification of the ownership of the area used for parking
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Village 20 mph application update: The statutory consultation had approved the application, which will now move to the next part of the process
- Community resilience (emergency planning) policy: There was nothing more to report since the last meeting

161/25 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye reported regarding the start of the budget consultation, garden waste, the increase in costs for the Windermere ferry, social adult care and the Local Plan
- b. The Athenaeum: There was no report
- c. Cumbria Police: Reports were received including the Neighbourhood Policing Team update for November 2025 (emailed to Cllrs. 10/12/25)

162/25 Planning

- i) It was noted that no planning applications had been **submitted** to W&FC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting
- ii) It was noted that no planning applications had been **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting
- iii) Neighbourhood Plan group: The Chair is to contact Bluestone Planning to take them up on their offer of a free meeting to discuss a potential review or update. The second W&F call for sites had produced three potential sites for future development
- iv) Heversham House planning application: There was nothing more to report since the last meeting

163/25 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) Several potholes had been reported including failed repairs and the ongoing problem at the southern entrance to the village from the A6
- b) W&F Cllr. Battye hadn't yet progressed the request for the switching off of the Primary School warning lights

Footpaths/Tracks

- i) The Chair and Cllr. Tayler offered to see what could be done regarding the muddy area next to the dog poo bin at the foot of School Lane

Trees and Woods:

- i) Cllr. Bland had offered to help Iain Richards with the replanting at Tristrams
- ii) The Council confirmed that it appreciated Iain Richards' assistance with agreed tasks relating to trees and that this was as a volunteer, not as a representative of the Council

164/25 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Capstick had inspected the playground since the last meeting and reported no immediate problems
- ii) Cllr. Capstick would monitor the equipment and carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- iii) Cllr. Bland reported that he had not yet discussed the frequency of the grass cutting with the contractor

165/25 Street Lighting Electricity:

The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting a response from W&FC Complaints

166/25 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been no receipts since the last meeting
- b) The following payments made by direct debit since the last meeting were approved:
 - Npower – street lighting electricity October 2025 - £145.91
 - D&C Atkinson – mowing November 2025 - £140.00
- c) The following payments were approved:
 - The Athenaeum – maintenance contribution – £100.00—cheque 785
 - St Peter's Church – churchyard maintenance contribution - £600.00 – cheque 786
 - Imperative Training Ltd – defibrillator pads and battery - £372.00- cheque 787
 - A Bland – christmas tree – £80.00 – cheque 790
- d) The Clerk presented the draft budget for 2026/27, which was **approved** including the proposed parish precept of

- £16,150. **Resolved** that the Clerk be authorised to complete the precept request
- e) The Clerk reported regarding progress on Assertion 10. The IT policy was presented and **approved**. The new gov.uk website was up and running and the gov.uk addresses would be sent to councillors shortly
- f) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 30 November 2025 was £20,737.37, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

167/25 Correspondence

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i) CALC - Adapting W&F to the impacts of climate change – engagement session on 7/1/26 (emailed to Cllrs.27/11/25)
- ii) W&FC – Urgent road closure – C5073, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham from 15/12/25 (emailed to Cllrs.2/12/25)
- iii) W&FC – Second call for sites – land for future development (emailed to Cllrs.2/12/25)
- iv) W&FC – £50,000 Nature Recovery Fund launched to protect wildlife and habitats (emailed to Cllrs.2/12/25)
- v) W&FC to ask government for greater street works powers (emailed to Cllrs.2/12/25) -
- vi) W&FC – Welcome of confirmation of funding for Cumbria Combined Authority (emailed to Cllrs.10/12/25)
- vii) W&FC – Council invites residents to join climate adaption conversations (emailed to Cllrs.10/12/25)
- viii) W&FC – M6 Junctions 36 to 39 northbound and southbound closures 17/12/25 and 22/12/25 (emailed to Cllrs.15/12/25)
- ix) CALC – Protect where we play – request for support (emailed to Cllrs.15/12/25)
- x) CALC – Equality and diversity training (emailed to Cllrs.15/12/25)
- xi) W&FC secures £3.5M funding for action travel schemes to create even more dedicated walking, wheeling and cycling routes (emailed to Cllrs.15/12/25)

168/25 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- None

169/25 Items for Information – *no decisions or action permitted*

- None

170/25 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- a. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme Plaque – If re-planting is successful – March 2027

171/25 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 26 February 2026 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.02 pm

