

## HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Wednesday 23 July 2025** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

**Present** – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Adrian Bland (Vice-Chair), Tom Grindey, Elizabeth Moffat (until 8.45 pm), Adrian Tayler and Mary Capstick; the Clerk and no members of the public

**80/25 Apologies** were received from Cllr. Natalie Fletcher (reasons accepted and noted) and Westmorland and Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye

**81/25 Minutes:** It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

**82/25 Declarations of Interest:** None

**83/25 Requests for Dispensation:** None

**84/25 Public Participation:** None

### 85/25 Ongoing Items

- Crow Wood: No reply had yet been received regarding clarification of the ownership of the area used for parking
- Yellow line parking restrictions: The Council continued to pursue the requested extension to Plumtree which was under review although no incorrect parking had been noted recently
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Village 20 mph application update: The initial consultation had ceased and the results were awaited
- Community resilience (emergency planning) policy: An email from CALC had been forwarded to Cllrs. on 10/7/25 concerning a future event on this subject and the Chair had arranged a meeting with CALC's resilience officer on 12/8/25. It was **agreed** that Cllrs Clarke, Capstick and Tayler should attend that meeting. Cllr. Tayler has a draft risk register for future use. It was also agreed that Cllr. Clarke would complete the NALC / ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) flood resilience survey

### 86/25 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye had sent a written report regarding the 20 mph scheme, waste recycling, devolution and milestones
- b. The Athenaeum: Cllr. Grindey reported that the committee were investigating funding for improvements to the ladies' facilities and that a new cooker had been purchased. Reference was made to financial support from the Council regarding the removal of the ivy on the car park wall. The Council thought it better to snip the roots of the ivy (leaving it to die before pulling it off the wall). This would have no significant cost but it was decided to ask the committee for their exact proposal
- c. Cumbria Police: Reports had been received including the Neighbourhood Policing Team update for June 2025; the Wildlife and Rural affairs newsletter for June 2025; and a note relating to the survey regarding hate crime ending on 1/8/25 (all emailed to Cllrs. 10/7/25)

### 87/25 Planning

- i) It was noted that the following planning application had been **submitted** to W&FC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting:  
**2025/1233/NMA Valley View, Leasgill**  
Non-material amendment to planning permission 2024/0064/FPA to revise the positions of windows and doors, Install wooden strip fencing within the existing hedgerow and introduce a new pedestrian access gate
- ii) It was noted that no applications had been **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting:
- iii) Neighbourhood Plan group: It was reported that the Neighbourhood Plan would need to be updated to continue past 2025 and it was **agreed** that the Council should keep this under active review bearing in mind that this would involve considerable cost and that the government had axed neighbourhood plan funding

### 88/25 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

#### Highways:

- a) The potholes reported on HIAMS had been dealt with although not all with a permanent repair
- b) The query as to the responsibility for the restoration of milestones was deferred to the next meeting as Cllr. Battye was not present and it was considered that the note in her report didn't answer the query

#### Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) It was agreed to pursue possible options for easing passage on the squeeze stile by the Old Grammar School
- ii) The Clerk was asked to write to Dallam School concerning the overgrown hedge which was obstructing the view of the defibrillator in the old telephone box

#### Trees and Woods:

- i) It was agreed that the current height of the saplings should be obtained before deciding when to plant them at Tristrans. It was noted that the tree by the bench opposite The Athenaeum had fallen and it was **agreed** not to replace it

### 89/25 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) It was agreed to check whether the grass was being cut once a fortnight

iv) Cllr. Bland reported that the fencing was due to be done shortly as was the installation of the play tractor

**90/25 Street Lighting Electricity:** The Clerk reported that he had received a reply from W&FC on 12 June stating that they aimed to let the Council have a definitive answer within the next couple of weeks. No reply had been received by 16 July so he had written again but had still received no reply. It was **agreed** that he should write again in a few days stating that if no reply had been received by a certain date that the correspondence would be forwarded to the Monitoring Officer

**91/25 Training:** There were no report regarding the Standards of Conduct course held on 3 July

#### **92/25 Finance**

- a) It was noted that there had been the following receipt since the last meeting:  
Rhoda Thompson Trust – play tractor grant - £1,400.00
- b) The following payments made by direct debit since the last meeting were approved:  
Npower – street lighting electricity May 2025 - £136.19  
D&C Atkinson – mowing June 2025 - £140.00
- c) The following payments were approved:  
M R Richardson – salary and expenses to 31/7/25 - £1,603.91 - cheque 773  
HMRC – PAYE/NIC re M R Richardson salary - £441.82 – cheque 774
- d) The budget comparison 2024/25 was received, explained by the Clerk and noted
- e) It was **agreed** that the upper Spinal Column Point (SCP) in the Clerk's contract be removed so that the applicable SCP will be one point higher on 1 April each year. For the current year this amendment will take effect on 1 August 2025 and his pay will be based upon SCP24 moving to SCP25 on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026
- f) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 30 June 2025 was £24,951.50, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

#### **93/25 Correspondence**

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

- i) W&FC – £37.7 million highways and transport plan to drive smoother journeys across the area (emailed to Cllrs.12/6/25) and briefing on 26/6/25 (emailed to Cllrs.23/6/25)
- ii) W&FC – Summer climate and nature newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.12/6/25)
- iii) W&FC – Cumbria Local Nature Recovery strategy consultation closes 22/6/25 (emailed to Cllrs.12/6/25)
- iv) CALC – EA incidents – online reporting now available (emailed to Cllrs.9/7/25)
- v) CALC – Slides from the W&F parking session on 17/6/25 (emailed to Cllrs.9/7/25)
- vi) CALC – Links to specific guidance from the Charity Commission event (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- vii) W&FC's Pothole prevention programme is underway on 66 miles of roads (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- viii) W&FC – What happens next for the Local Nature Recovery strategy (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- ix) CALC – Branch event on affordable housing on 15/7/25 (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- x) CALC – Branch event on economic strategy on 30/7/25 (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- xi) CALC – Slides, newsletter & FAQs re road surface dressing briefing on 26/6/25 (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- xii) W&FC – Temporary road closures for surface dressing (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- xiii) W&FC – Devolution update (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- xiv) CALC News for May and June 2025 (emailed to Cllrs.10/7/25)
- xv) CALC – Citizens Advice money advice session on 24/7/25 (emailed to Cllrs.15/7/25)
- xvi) W&FC backs affordable housing vision for Windermere site (emailed to Cllrs.15/7/25)
- xvii) W&FC – Branch event on W&FC's role in events (emailed to Cllrs.15/7/25)
- xviii) W&FC – First stage completed on £350K major school decarbonisation review (emailed to Cllrs.16/7/25)
- xix) W&FC – Positive devolution update (emailed to Cllrs.18/7/25)
- xx) W&FC – Adult learning service praised for "greatly improving lives" (emailed to Cllrs.18/7/25)
- xxi) W&FC – Temporary road closure – C5071 Hincaster – from 4/8/25 (emailed to Cllrs.21/7/25)
- xxii) CALC – Devolution briefing on 6/8/25 (emailed to Cllrs.21/7/25)
- xxiii) Power for People – Government commits to local selling for community energy schemes (emailed to Cllrs.21/7/25)

**94/25 Westmorland Gazette** – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- None

**95/25 Items for Information** – *no decisions or action permitted*

- There is to be a Bowling Club competition for top bowlers shortly
- St Peter's Church had won the Cumbria prize for the recent internal works improving access and facilities in sympathy with the historic significance of the building

**96/25 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- a. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme Plaque – When new trees are ready in 2026

**97/25 Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 24 September 2025 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

