

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Wednesday 26 March 2025** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Adrian Bland, Tom Grindey, Mary Capstick and Natalie Fletcher (from 7.40pm); Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye; the Clerk and no members of the public

21/25 Apologies were received from Cllrs. Adrian Tayler and Elizabeth Moffat (reasons accepted and noted)

22/25 Minutes: It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

23/25 Declarations of Interest: None

24/25 Requests for Dispensation: None

25/25 Public Participation: None

26/25 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 proposal had been approved but we were awaiting confirmation of the details
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Village 20 mph application update: The initial engagement Teams meeting is to take place on Friday 28 March 2025 at 1.00pm with Cllrs. Clarke and Capstick and the Clerk in attendance
- Community resilience (emergency planning) policy: It was agreed to discuss the need for a policy at the Annual Parish Meeting

27/25 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye reported on the devolution discussion and the Boundary Commission revised proposals. The Council expressed their wish to be in a ward with Levens, Milnthorpe and Hincaster rather than Arnside and Burton. Cllr. Bland again asked who held W&FC to account for uncollected road signs, which were similar to fly-tipping. With reference to the bus service complaint raised by Cllr. Grindey, the Clerk had written to Stagecoach and had been told that the 755 service was operated from Morecambe but he had been assured that notification had been made
- b. The Athenaeum: Cllr. Grindey reported that the quiz night was sold out and that there was to be a bingo night in May and a cake bake at the end of October
- c. Cumbria Police: Reports had been received from Cumbria Police including the Neighbourhood Policing Team update for February 2025. It was agreed that the two council representatives for the Neighbourhood Policy Pledge would be Cllrs. Clarke and Tayler. Hayley Newman's advice that local officers should be contacted regarding hawkers was noted

28/25 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: There was nothing to report

29/25 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) Action was still awaited on the potholes at the junction with Woodhouse Lane by the church, those recorded near Sands Cottage, at the junction with the A6 south and Dugg Hil
- b) The restoration of milestones was discussed and Cllr. Battye was asked to ascertain whether they were the responsibility of W&FC

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) Attention was needed to the finger post through Quarry Wood

Trees and Woods:

- i) Dallam School had said that they would attend to the leaning trees on the old railway line
- ii) It was agreed to obtain a written report regarding the trees adjacent to the road at Mabbin Hall

30/25 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Capstick had inspected the playground since the last meeting and had 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 the repair and replacement of the fencing was in hand
- iv) Cllr. Bland was to investigate the report of some concrete lumps which needed to be removed
- v) The Clerk had negotiated terms with Playdale for the play tractor with or without delivery and installation. It was agreed to order the tractor. Cllr. Bland offered to collect and organise installation with a cost much less than that quoted by Playdale
- vi) It was agreed to set up a WhatsApp group

31/25 Street Lighting Electricity: It was agreed by a clear majority (reinforced by the Clerk/RFO's advice) to accept W&FC's proposals (emailed to Cllrs.25/3/25) concerning the transfer of street lighting to them on the understanding that at least the 2024/25 costs were paid by W&FC. The Clerk was authorised to negotiate accordingly

32/25 Parish Land: The Clerk was asked to forward an invoice to Tim Thacker as he would be stocking the “Field of Dreams” in 2025/26

33/25 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been no receipts since the last meeting
- b) The following payment made by direct debit since the last meeting was approved:
Npower – street lighting electricity February 2025 - £142.33
- c) The following payments were approved:
A2A Advertising Ltd – web hosting fee – £90.00 – cheque 758
Pam Forrester – defibrillator pads - £62.40 – cheque 759
Peter Clarke – printing update - £37.00 – cheque 760
- d) It was reported that the mowing machine had been donated to Martin Tyson in appreciation for his storing the machine and his excellent work over the many years that he had been the contractor to the Council
- e) The Asset Register at 26 March 2025 was received and approved after noting the deletion of the mowing machine from the schedule
- f) The 2025/26 Effectiveness of Internal Audit document was received and approved
- g) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 28 February 2025 was £16,046.55, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

34/25 Sexual Harassment Policy: It was agreed to adopt the policy emailed to Cllrs. on 25/2/25

35/25 Correspondence

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

- i) CALC – Briefing on 2/4/25 on the government’s devolution priority programme (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- ii) W&FC – Electoral review of Westmorland & Furness – second consultation now open (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- iii) Kent Estuary Youth Project (KEY) newsletter March 2025 (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- iv) CALC – W&FC’s Spring climate and nature newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- v) W&FC – South Lakeland Town and Parish Council newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- vi) CALC – Community governance review briefing slides (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- vii) W&FC – New strategy to improve and invest in council housing stock (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- viii) W&FC – Boost for further decarbonisation works following £1.75million funding announcement (emailed to Cllrs.21/3/25)
- ix) W&FC – New go-to website for walking, wheeling and cycling (emailed to Cllrs.25/3/25)

36/25 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- None

37/25 Items for Information – *no decisions or action permitted*

- The pop-up pub had surplus funds of approx. £2,000 and was to donate £1,000 towards playground improvements and £1,000 to The Athenaeum

38/25 Items for consideration for a future agenda

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

39/25 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 23 April 2025 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

