



HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Hethersgill Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 15th July 2025

Present: Cllrs D Beer, F Heaton, M Irving, L McDonagh, A Sisson, L Summerfield, C Williams J.P.

In attendance: The Clerk A Dawes.

036/25 Apologies for Absence - Cllrs. J Bryant, S Barratt sent apologies for absence, and they were accepted.

037/25 Declarations of Interest and Request for Dispensations - No declarations of interest were made and no requests for dispensation has been received.

038/25 Minutes of the meeting(s) of the Parish Council held on 20th May 2025 - RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting as a true record.

039/25 Public Participation – no members of the public were in attendance, and no report from the Cumberland Councillor.

040/25 Administrative Matters

040/25.1 Community Led Plan

Cllr. Irving gave a feedback report on meetings held and the response so the survey. 36 responses had been received and at this stage it was felt that the Community Led Plan Group should meet again, and include the responses to the survey in a special edition of The Gill to be compiled, printed and distributed early August. It was also reported that an “Open” event would be held on the 4/9/2025 commencing at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Council expressed thanks to the Group for the work especially Cllr. Irving.

040/25.2 I.T. and email – RESOLVED that the Clerk would now not send email copies of the Agendas and Minutes to Council Members, Irving, McDonagh and Summerfield but would send them via 1st Class Post. Also Cllr. Williams would ensure that Cllr. Heaton had his version.

As connectivity issues still appear to be causing some disquiet amongst members it was felt that the Clerk should discuss the matter with Cllr. Bryant and seek advice as to whether it was in the best interests in the council as a whole to revert to how the system was previously operating. Members do not use any of the functionality of the Microsoft package and if it is not possible to use just the email (.org) addresses then we should look to some other way of electronic communication. This matter was brought to a head when a further payment for Annual Registration for licences was received and has been paid.

040/25.3 Highways - no new issues to report. However Cllrs Sisson and Beer reported that they together with Cllrs Irving and Summerfield had attended a Coffee Morning with the M.P. J Minns, bringing to her attention the issues faced with Traffic, in particular the Crossroads, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would contact again the Highways Department copying in the correspondence to J.Minns.

040/25.4 Registration of Common Land – Clerk reported that the council had until 15th March 2027 to confirm its registration of any Common Land or Village Green. members think that the only item of Common Land was the old Quarry near Lodge Hill i.e. Sandholes. **RESOLVED** Clerk to visit the registration department in Carlisle to get the definitive list of CL or VG applicable.

040/25.5 Environmental Agency Reporting Website – Members were made aware of the initiative from the Environmental Agency to develop a website to place any issues.

040/25.6 Local Resilience and Emergency Planning – **RESOLVED** Cllrs. Beer and Irving were to register for the event being considered by CALC and report back to Council.

040/25.7 Christmas Lights – after discussion regarding the provision of lights at Christmas within the confines of the Village it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would contact Brampton Parish Council to determine their methodology of powering the lights.

040/25.8 Website request from Natural England – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would contact Emma Austin, invite her to produce a similar presentation stand at the meeting 4/9/2025 and that council would consider placing any items of interest on the website in the relative near future.

041/25 Planning Matters – Appn Ref: 25/0343 no comment

042/25 Finance Matters

042/25.1 RESOLVED to authorise the payments below noting a further reduction in the premium request in relation to Insurance

Date	Payee	Amount
27/05/2025	HMRC - Tax	£ 85.00
27/05/2025	YPO - Stationery	£ 2.63
27/05/2025	Sensible solutions – I.T. Support	£705.60
27/05/2025	A Dawes – Pay & Exps	£401.75
31/05/2025	Unity – Bank charges	£ 6.00
05/06/2025	Defib supplies - pads	£ 43.14
05/06/2025	SLCC - subscriptions	£ 60.80
05/06/2025	Clear Councils - Insurance	£518.99
30/06/2025	Unity – Bank charges	£ 6.00

- 042/25.2** Receipt – the Clerk reported that the Precept of £7,800 for 2024/2025 and a receipt of £219.27 from HMRC relating to VAT reclaim had now been received.
- 042/25.3** Contract setting for Grass-cutting and Insurance – after much debate it was felt that the Council should cease with the services of the grass cutting contractor and invite volunteers to look after the area around the seat/notice board and that the area known as Sandholes be left to “wildflower” from March 2026. The Clerk would during the next few months commence the process of tendering for the Insurance service.
- 043/25 Clerk Report** - After much discussion regarding the preparation, printing and collation of the Gill it was **RESOLVED** that the Contracted hours for the Clerk from September be set to 21 hours Cllr Summerfield to write to the Clerk to that effect
- 044/25 Training** - Cllr Sisson again pointed out to Council members the training that was available via CALC , much of which was delivered via “Teams”, and that council members should avail themselves of this training.
- 045/25 Councillor Matters** - no new matters brought to the attention of the Clerk, other than an item of safety concern regarding children of a young age being transported on quad bikes and other farm vehicle without protective headgear. This matter to be reported to the relevant authority i.e. the Police.
- 046/25 Date of Next Meeting** - **RESOLVED** that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at on Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 7.30pm in Hethersgill Parish Hall.