



HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hethersgill Parish Council held in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st January 2025

Present: Cllrs S Barratt, D Beer, J Bryant, F Heaton, M Irving, L McDonagh, A Sisson, L Summerfield.

In attendance: The Clerk A Dawes. Unitary Authority Cllr. J Mallinson and 4 members of the public.

011/25 Apologies for Absence – Cllr C Williams J.P.

012/25 Declarations of Interest and Request for Dispensations - No declarations of interest were made and no requests for dispensation has been received.

013/25 Minutes of the meeting(s) of the Parish Council held on 21st January 2025 - RESOLVED that the Chair of the meeting Cllr. Sisson be authorised to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting as a true record.

014/25 Public Participation – 4 members of the public were in attendance to discuss an issue regarding documentation on the Cumberland Planning Portal relating to the change of use of a particular property in the Parish. After discussion the members of the public were assured that the Parish Council had no ability to challenge anything associated with the change of use and were advised that they could make comments but only as individuals

Cllr. Mallinson presented a brief report outlining the Unitary Authorities current financial position in that they had agreed and set a budget for the coming financial year by virtue of an increase in Council Tax of 4.99% and having been allowed to transfer around £23m from Capital to Finance via a loan from the PWLB (Public Works Loan Board). This loan was priced at 6% and would exist for 20 years but could be repaid via the use of asset selling.

As there had been no meeting since the last Parish Council Meeting, there was no update with regard to the Community Panel.

015/25 Administrative Matters

015/25.1 Community Led Plan – Cllrs. Sisson and Irving update council on the progress made with regard to the Community Led Plan.

The results of the survey contained within the latest edition of The Gill will be analysed by the group and reported back to the council at a future Council meeting

015/25.2 The Gill – confirmed the recent publication included the survey which had a question regarding the frequency of publication at present that would be for Autumn / Winter. The Clerk did advise that this edition was more expensive than the previous edition due to increase costs of an extra envelope and label together with the inclusion of the survey.

015/25.3 I.T. and E-Mail update – after yet more discussion it was **RESOLVED** that individuals would contact Cllr. Bryant separately from the Council meeting or a “drop-in” session, commencing with the Clerk.

015/25.4 V.E. Day Celebration – Cllr. Summerfield outlined the request from the Social Committee with regard to the celebrations which would take place on the 8th May 2025. Events that were planned involved a Fish & Chip Van visit as this was felt appropriate due to Churchill not declaring them to be rationed, teas and coffees to be available from 4.30 Tributes to be read at the appropriate time of 21.30 and the Parish Council were asked to support the event by purchasing the Lamp and Flags at a total of £61 – this was **AGREED**.

Cllr. Bryant may have a flagpole available if required.

015/25.5 Rural Meeting – Cllr Barrett updated council on a recent meeting that he had attended of ACRE (Action for Rural England) and after a brief discussion was thanked for his attendance and input and we awaited the date of any future meetings or correspondence.

015/25.6 Cumbria in Bloom 2025 – Cllr Irving was passed the information with regard to this event and she will assess if the Council should apply.

015/25.7 Cumbria Devolution – Cllrs were encouraged to spend time considering the item and submit any thoughts on the matter to the web-page.

015/25.8 Cumbria Constabulary Neighbourhood Policing Pledge – it was agreed that Cllrs. Sisson and Williams would be the Councils representatives.

016/25 Planning Matters –

Application 25/0073 Kirklington Hall

Application 25/0113 Cattle shed, Henry’s Hill

RESOLVED Council had no comment to make on either application.

017/25 Highways - no new issues to report but **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would continue to follow-up on a previously recorded item EI/217332 about white lines at the “Crossroads” with the further request that “Give Way” signage was replaced by “Stop” signage. Cllr. Mallinson indicated that the latter may well be an issue for the Department of Transport

018/25 Finance Matters

018/25.1 RESOLVED to authorise the payments below:

A Dawes Pay & Exp – Jan	£379.14
HMRC - Tax	£ 85.20
Unity Bank - Service charge	£ 6.00
NWAA – Donation	£200.00
A Dawes Pay & Exp – Feb	£375.33
HMRC – Tax	£ 85.00
Unity Bank – Service charge	£ 6.00

018/25.2 RESOLVED Members received and noted the Bank Reconciliation, Budget v Actual Report, Income Report, Expenditure Report as at the end of February 2025

019/25 Councillor Matters - Cllr Sisson reminded the Clerk of the issue regarding the light on the defibrillator. **RESOLVED** Clerk to contact again the electrician for the Village Hall and ascertain what progress had been made. Items to be placed on the next Council Agenda were:-

Parish Welcome Pack

Speeding at the Crossroads

Helping to Welcome Newcomers

Village Hall – informal update

Community Help in Emergency situations

Border Rambler Timetable

020/25 Date of Next Meeting - RESOLVED that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7.00pm immediately followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting both taking place in Hethersgill Parish Hall.