

STANWIX RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday, 12th November at 7.30 pm in Linstock WI Hall

PRESENT

The Chairman Cllr C Nicholson, Cllrs A Bell, B Bell, E Leitch, A Robinson, C Savory, D Small, and N Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ten members of the public. Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson. The Clerk, S Kyle

SR 604/11/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Resolved to receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllr P Nedved.

SR 605/11/25 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 18th October 2025

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a true and accurate record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council.

SR 606/11/25 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No requests for dispensations were received. No declarations of interest were made.

SR 607/11/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the Public

Ten residents attended regarding planning application 25/0313: Land South of Ellengrove. Representations were made from several residents, highlighting various matters, including:

- Highway safety issues: Limited sightlines. Narrow Carriageway with narrow or absent footway presents risk to pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. The proposed development would increase the danger for all footpath and road users.
- Stub road ends visible on the site plan, are evidently intended to access to a larger housing development: well in excess of the proposed 10 bungalows.
- The number of houses either being built or having permissions in the Carlisle district totals 11,894 dwellings. It is believed that ten more dwellings in a hamlet of 90 are out of character. There are concerns over flood risk and inadequate infrastructure.

The Chairman suggested:

- Residents could establish a WhatsApp group to share news and updates. Residents could register their right to speak with Cumberland Council and appoint a designated spokesperson if more than 2 to 3 people wish to speak.
- The loss of planning staff at Cumberland Council, will be having an impact leading to delayed or no responses from officers
- The Cumberland Council website displays all non-confidential planning information for public viewing.
- Any further development would require a separate, new application.

Nine members of the public left the meeting.

Cumberland Cllrs

Cumberland Cllr Mallinson had no updated to provide on this occasion.

SR 608/11/25 PLANNING MATTERS

608.1 Resolved to Ratify responses to Application Submitted Prior to the Meeting:

25/0545 8 Beech Grove, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0NU - Alterations To First Floor Side Window To Create Single Door With Juliet Balcony

Resolved to ratify the previously submitted response.

608.2 To Consider New Applications:

25/0578 Carlisle Driving Range, California Road, Carlisle, CA3 0BY - Proposed Widening Of Existing Private Access Serving Carlisle Golf Centre & Driving Range; Creation Of Formal Footway

Resolved to recommend robust conditioning to protect biodiversity and note no application for increased lighting provision. If conditioning is applied, then the Parish Council recommend determination in accordance with local and national planning policy and guidance.

25/0531 31 Millcroft, Carlisle, CA3 0HX - Erection Of Enclosed Front Porch With Pitched Roof

Resolved to recommend determination in accordance with local and national planning policy and guidance.

25/0600 Walby Hall, Birky Lane, Walby, Carlisle, CA6 4QL Proposal: Reinstatement Of Courtyard Barn Following Storm Damage (LBC)

Resolved to recommend determination in accordance with local and national planning and conservation policy and guidance.

608.3 Resolved to Receive Permission Notices

25/0288 76 Tribune Drive, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0LE Demolition Of Existing Garage & Erection Of Two Storey Side Extension To Provide Garage, WC, Utility & Snug On Ground Floor With 2no. Bedrooms Above Together With Single Storey Rear Extension To Provide Kitchen Together With Internal Alterations

608.4 Resolved to Receive Planning updates

23/0347 Land at Brunstock Lane, Houghton, Carlisle - Residential Development Consisting of 163no. Dwellings & Associated Infrastructure

No update was available. The Chairman has contacted the Case Officer for an update, but has received no response. It is still unclear if it is on the November Development Control Committee agenda. Information will be circulated when available.

25/0521 0LG Land at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton Road, Houghton, Carlisle Cumbria, CA3, Residential Development With Associated Open Space, Infrastructure, Landscaping And Ancillary Works Including Temporary Construction Access, Haul Roads & Sales Cabin

The Chairman reported that he is still working on the Parish Council response, which is being hampered by apparent inconsistencies in the application. It was confirmed that an extension had been requested, but no response from the Case Officer had been received.

Cllr Mallinson confirmed that there is a national shortage of planning officers and that openings in private practice are exacerbating it. The situation at Cumberland Council has been made worse by the Head of Development Management retirement, leaving a significant capacity and knowledge gap. Cllr Mallinson reported that the department is currently reliant on agency staff.

25/0313 Land South of Ellengrove - Erection Of 10no. Dwellings & Associated Infrastructure

It was noted that a public meeting had been hosted by the Parish Council with 50 members of the public in attendance. Opinion was unanimous that no one wants the development in the hamlet. Residents are advised to submit objections and guidance has been provided on the Parish Council website.

Cumberland Council Issues and Options Consultation Main Document - September 2025

Resolved to ratify the response previously circulated response. It was noted that the initial consultation had 172 questions to answer, which was unfeasible due to capacity issues; therefore, the 29 summary questions were completed. It was stated that an overarching vision should be placed at the beginning of the plan, and this had been advocated in the response.

In addition to the matters on the agenda, the following matters were also verbally reported:

Brunstock Common Land Gate

This remains ongoing.

Police Enquiries

No response has been received to either the letter sent to Inspector Stabler or to the email sent to the PCSO regarding alleged drug misuse at Crosby Parish Hall. A second follow up will be sent with both the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner copied in. It was also noted that a police public meeting is due to be held in December and the Chairman will endeavour to attend to raise these concerns directly.

Speedwatch

Cllr Savory reported that he and Cllr Watson had carried out all planned sessions and reported 81 vehicles for speeding. The highest recorded speed was 56mph although the car was still accelerating. It was also noted that updated figures are provided on the website in case anyone requires further detail.

Speed Indication Device

It was reported that the Speed indication device had not been fully operational since mid-October due to an aged battery. A new battery will be ordered and fitted as soon as possible.

Rickerby Highways Issues

It was noted that there is no update to the above matter.

SR 610/11/25 VILLAGE MATTERS

610.1 Linstock Barrier

A proposal to install barriers to prevent through traffic on the middle Green adjacent to had been circulated alongside the agenda. Detailed costs will be obtained for approval in December.

610.2 Tree inspection

A tree inspection has been carried out and a comprehensive report received. Immediate works are required on 11 trees throughout the parish. It was confirmed that an ivy-infested tree at Crosby is included in the schedule. Quotations will be obtained for consideration at the January meeting.

SR 611/11/25 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

611.1 National Grid Cross Border Connection

Cllr Nicholson noted that he had attended a consultation event for the above, which he reported as being extremely well presented and professional. Consideration was given to the proposal, noting that substantial community benefit would be gained financially if the lines cross the parish. The scheme is a long-term project that could exceed the projected timeline.

SR 612/11/25 FINANCE MATTERS

612.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise payment of the accounts listed in document SR1125. The schedule was signed by Cllrs Savory and A Bell.

612.2 Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to note the bank reconciliation as noted in document SR1125.

SR 613/11/25 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

Cllr B Bell requested an update on the ground anchors for the benches on Linstock Village Green. It was noted that the anchors have been received and are awaiting installation.

SR 614/11/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday, 10th December 2025, at Houghton Village at 7.30pm. Agenda items must be submitted to the Clerk by 1st December 2025. There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.13pm. Members are requested to arrive at 7pm for refreshments prior to the meeting.