

STANWIX RURAL PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2023
at 7:30 in the Parish Hall, Crosby on Eden.

PRESENT

The Chairman Cllr C Nicholson, Cllr's A Coles, E Leitch, P Nedved, C Savory and N Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Two members of the public. Cumberland Cllrs H Davison, B Wernham and J Mallinson (arrived 8.10pm). The Clerk, S Kyle.

SR 322/07/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr A Robinson. Apologies were also noted from Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson who was in attendance at a neighbouring parish council meeting (preceding his later arrival).

SR 323/07/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14 June 2023

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

SR 324/07/23 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A request for dispensation was granted to Cllr A Coles in respect of planning application 23/0347. No declarations of interest were made.

SR 325/07/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

325.1 Members of the Public

Resident A sought clarity as to whether discussion of planning issues was restricted due to the presence of Cumberland Councillors who served as members or substitute members of the Planning Committee. It was explained that their attendance did not prevent discussion of any application, but that they could not voice opinion in for or against any application without then refraining from discussing, and voting on, that application in committee.

Resident B updated members regarding the 'Stop Gleeson Houghton Action Group' with regards to planning application 23/0347. He reported the submission of approximately 280 objections and the proposal to engage a planning consultant to submit a technical objection on their behalf. Fundraising for the consultant was underway. It was also noted that a public drop-in had been held by Gleeson's which had been attended by both members of the public and Cllrs.

Resident A queried whether the planning action group would be eligible for Parish Council grant funding; they were advised to consult the website for all details of the current monies available, although a bank account and constitution would be required.

It was noted that the action group have a Facebook page; this is to be shared by the Council for the benefit of residents.

325.2 Cumberland Cllrs

Cllr H Davison reported that she had experience in objecting to a Gleeson Homes Development and would be willing to speak to residents to share her experience. She also suggested that individual case histories are useful to present at planning committee meetings. She expressed concern and disappointment at the removal of objections from the Cumberland Council planning website and stated she planned to take up the matter with the authority as it was a deviation from best practice.

Cllr Wernham provided advice for residents for the establishment of bank accounts, necessary for grant applications. He also noted he had previously expressed comment on planning application 22/0297 so would not feature as part of the planning committee with regards to that particular application. It was explained that, in all fairness, Cllr Wernham had voiced his objections prior to his election as a member of Cumberland Council.

Both Cumberland Cllrs noted their attendance at the recently held meeting of The Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel, which was to be considered later in the meeting.

SR 326/06/23 PLANNING MATTERS

326. 1 To Consider Additional Planning Matters

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

The Parish Council response was still being written and will be circulated in due course. Several Cllrs had attended the public drop-in meeting which had proven informative. Additional comments regarding education and biodiversity were noted.

22/0297 Land to the east of Lansdowne Close/Lansdowne Court, Carlisle - Erection Of 101no. Dwellings with Associated Parking, Landscaping, Drainage and Surface Water Attenuation, Public Open Space And Access

A written synopsis of the matter to date had been circulated to members prior to the meeting, noting that objections continue to be lodged, including United Utilities.

Proposed Upgrade of Existing Telecommunications Mast At Vf 83315 – Brunstock

The above pre-application notification had been received and will be considered further with a request for additional information to be made.

LPA Planning Website

The removal of public comments from the Cumberland Council planning website was reported. Concerns were raised regarding the transparency, best practice and honesty of such a practice. Additional concerns regarding discrimination of those, particularly in rural areas without access to public transport, were also expressed.

Resolved: to write a letter of complaint to Cumberland Council.

326.2 Resolved to ratify responses made prior to the meeting:

23/0428 Land to the West of Walby Farm & Fairholme Farm, Birky Lane, Crosby on Eden, Carlisle, CA6 4QL - Erection of Agricultural Workers Dwelling On Land Associated With Walby Farm, Together With The Replacement Of The Existing Septic Tank With A Package Treatment Plant At Fairholme Farm, Walby

23/0335 3 Eden Mews, Green Lane, Crosby on Eden, Carlisle, CA6 4RB - Relocation Of Wood Burning Stove Flue From West To North Elevation (LBC)

23/0462 Land adjacent to Meadow Cottage, Tarraby, Carlisle, CA3 0JS - Variation Of Condition 2 (Approved Documents) Of Previously Approved Permission 22/0680 (Erection Of 2no. Dwellings) To Allow Amended Garage Details, Including Solar Panels To Roof, And Stairs To Form A Study In Roof Space

326.3 Resolved to note decision notices received:

23/0220/21 Old School Cottage, Rickerby, Carlisle, CA3 9AA – Widening of Existing Doorway Together with Fixed Lights Either Side, Rearrangement of Existing Parking Bays & Erection of 1m High Fence & Gates (LBC)

SR 327/07/23 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

327.1 Agenda for Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel, Thursday, 29th June, 2023

Cllr Nedved had attended the above and reported the planned arrangements for the panels, which are to consider co-option of up to three external representatives. It was also reported that each Cllr will have a discretionary grants budget for their distribution. The next meeting is to be held in September.

327.2 CALC Civility and Respect Project

Resolved to take a pledge to commit to the above project, details of which had been circulated alongside the agenda.

Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson entered the meeting at 8.10pm.

327.3 Summer Play Scheme

It was reported that all places at both Houghton and Crosby were fully booked.

SR 328/06/23 VILLAGE MATTERS

328.1 Houghton Village Green Drainage (1 – 8 The Green)

It was reported that Riverside Housing had now completed the removal of the post that had pierced the pipe. Correspondence had therefore been exchanged with the local resident who was to excavate a cavity to enable the drainage camera survey to be re-attempted. Safety barriers will be provided if the resident does not have access to any.

328.2 Brunstock Pond

It was reported that the pond was now filled with water and both the inlet tap and overflow appeared to be working successfully. Works to lay the turf around the edges was

expected imminently. It was also reported that the monthly risk assessment procedure had been reactivated. Confirmation that the willow tree was to remain in place was given.

SR 329/07/23 CLERK'S REPORT

A verbal report was provided by the Clerk, noting:

Goal Posts

Nets had now been installed on the new goal posts in Crosby, Linstock and Houghton.

Centurions Football Event

Permission had been granted for the use of Houghton Village Green for the above.

Crosby On Eden Noticeboard

The key for the above had been deposited with the joiner to enable repair of the board.

Crosby Moor Noticeboard

Work continued to obtain the board from the garage, although it was noted it would not be possible to re-install upon the refurbished building due to its glass frontage.

SR 330/07/23 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

330.1 Speed Indication Device

An updated data summary had been circulated alongside the agenda. It was reported that current speeding vehicles amounted to approximately five percent, compared to 79 - 80 percent in 2015. Additional statistical analyses are available via Cllr Savory if desired. The board had now been rotated and was now recording speeds for vehicles exiting Houghton towards Whiteclosegate.

SR 331/07/23 FINANCE MATTERS

331.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise the payment of invoices below:

Payee	Details	TOTAL
Sarah Kyle	July salary and reimbursements	£1228.58
HMRC	July PAYE	£149.16
NEST	July Pension	£93.26
A Kyle	July Salary	£251.48
Houghton PTA	Grant	£100.00
Houghton Village Hall	CPCA grant	£765.00
Steve Splinter	Pond	£1571.00
Houghton village hall	Rental	£85.00
Unity bank	Fees	£18.00

331.2 Bank Reconciliation

Balances at bank as of 30st June 2023:

Cash Account	£1,005.15
Unity Bank (current a/c)	£1,803.33
Unity Bank (savings a/c)	£74,322.33
Income to 30/06/23	£47,682.33
Expenditure to 30/06/23	£19,106.00

Cumberland Cllr B Wernham left the meeting at 8.17pm.

331.3 August Payments

Resolved to confirm authorisation for the Finance Working Group to authorise any urgent or pre-approved expenditure in August.

331.4 Summary of expenditure against budget April to June 2023

The summary of income and expenditure against budget from 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023 had been circulated alongside the agenda and was **noted**.

SR 332/07/23 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

Before progressing with the above, Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson was invited to provide a report; he noted that he had also attended the Community Panel.

Cllr Coles noted that the drain at the end of Eden Gate was once again blocked and overflowing.

SR 333/07/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 13th September at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Crosby-on-Eden.

Exclusion of Press & Public - Part B Item

The following item is considered confidential and the exclusion of members of the public or press as permitted under the Local Government Act 1972 is necessary.

SR 332/07/23 Staff Arrangements

The Clerk left the meeting for this item.

333.1. Staffing Arrangements

Consideration was given to the on-going temporary appointment of an employee to provide administrative support to enable the Clerk to reduce their working hours each week.

Resolved to make substantive the temporary appointment of Mr A Kyle, on a fixed term contract of twenty hours per month, to 31.08.2025, subject to the standard probationary period and local government employee regulations. The Clerk to initially reduce hours to seventy-eight per month; to be reviewed in due course.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.29pm.