

STANWIX RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th October at 7.30 pm in Linstock WI Hall

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Two members of the public. The Clerk, S Kyle

SR 593/10/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Resolved to receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs E Leitch and P Nedved. Apologies were also noted from Cumberland Cllrs J Mallinson and B Wernham.

SR 594/10/25 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10th September 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 595/10/25 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No requests for dispensations were received. Cllr Nicholson declared a potential interest in planning appn. 25/0521 as the landowner is known to him. Consideration was given by members to Cllr Nicholson's involvement in the application and it was deemed appropriate that he be involved in the major application.

SR 595/10/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

595.1 Members of the Public

One member of the public was in attendance for an update with planning appn. 23/0347 of which it was confirmed there has been no progress. It was also confirmed by the Chairman that although the Parish Council response had been lodged and, as per normal protocol, no response from the planning department is expected. Finally, the resident raised previously mentioned concerns regarding parking at the Old Fire Station in Carlisle town centre. He was advised to take up the matter directly with Cumberland Cllr Mallinson.

SR 596/10/25 PLANNING MATTERS

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

25/0313 Land South of Ellengrove, Linstock, Carlisle, CA6 4QD - Erection Of 10no. Dwellings & Associated Infrastructure

Resolved to approve the draft response which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting which outlined the Council's initial objection to the above.

596.2 To Consider New Applications:

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

Resolved to object to the application based on the lack of supporting infrastructure and services in Houghton. However, it was agreed that, being Brownfield, this application is preferable to planning appn.

23/0347. A draft response will be composed and circulated for consideration before submission. Members were also asked to consider whether any specific S106 funding could be applied for and to contact the Chairman with suitable proposals.

25/0522 Land at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton Road, Houghton, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 0LG - Display Of 1no. V Board Sign, 1no. Totem Sign, 1no. Show Home Sign, 1no. Marketing Suite Sign, 2no. Parking, 1no. Health & Safety Signs, 8no. Flags & Signage to Sales Cabin (All Non-Illuminated)

Resolved that the application be determined in accordance with local and national planning policy and guidance.

25/0288 76 Tribune Drive, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0LE - Demolition of Existing Garage & Erection of Two-Story Side Extension to Provide Garage, WC, Utility & Snug on Ground Floor With 2no. Bedrooms Above Together with Single Story Rear Extension to Provide Kitchen Together with Internal Alterations

Resolved to agree the draft response which had been circulated to members 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

A proposed response to the above will be drafted and circulated amongst members prior to submission.

596.3 Resolved to Receive and Note Permission Notices

25/0404 St Johns Church, Crosby on Eden, Carlisle - Proposed Access Ramp, Steps & Landing to Enable Effective Access to Church Inclusive of W.C. Facilities Approved Under Application 22/0688

596.4 Resolved to Receive Planning updates

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

This matter had been dealt with under public participation with confirmation that there has been no progress to date. It was also confirmed that there is no update with any possible Lansdowne application.

596.5 Cumberland Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation

Members were reminded that comments regarding the above should be forwarded to the Chairman as soon as possible for collation before submission.

SR 597/10/25 CLERK'S REPORT

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

Rural Summer Play Scheme

The schemes were again a success. At Crosby-on Eden the attendance was:

1. 25/40 first session.
2. 25/40 second session
3. 18/40 the third session.

These figures are slightly down on last years. In Houghton the figures were:

1. 28/40 first session.
2. 40/40 second session.
3. 40/40 third session.

It was considered that the first sessions were too soon into the holidays. The staff who ran the days at the two halls provided positive feedback similar to previous last year. No behaviour issues were experienced and there was no negative parental feedback.

Brunstock Common Land Gate

An order has been placed for a replacement gate for the common land.

Police Enquiries

A letter has been posted to Inspector Stabler following the non-response to the earlier email regarding speeding queries.

A follow-up email has been sent to the PCSO to request an on-site meeting to consider drug taking in Crosby Parish Hall.

An update will be provided to both matters once responses have been received.

Rickerby Planning / Traffic

A letter has been sent to planning enforcement at Cumberland Council regarding Old School Cottage. An update has also been received regarding Rickerby road. New pedestrian signs are to be placed at the junction and vegetation has been cut down.

Highways Matters

A request has been made for consideration to be given to additional traffic measures to calm traffic on the A689. Traffic counts were also provided by Highways.

Whiteclosegate Speed Indicator Device (SID)

It has been confirmed that the SID at Whiteclosegate is the property of Cumberland Council. Although there is some uncertainty about whether it is active, it has been confirmed that it does not have a camera; therefore, it does not record any pictures or other information.

SR 598/10/25 VILLAGE MATTERS

598.1 Linstock Track

Consideration was given to installation of a no through way system to prevent vehicular access along the full length of the parish council owned and maintained track. It was noted that the public reception to the idea had been overwhelmingly positive.

Resolved to obtain costings for a suitable scheme to bring forward to a future meeting.

598.2 Trees

It was noted that flagpole cherry trees had been planted on Houghton Village Green to replace the newly moved boulders. It was also noted that the unsafe tree on Linstock Village Green had now been removed. A quotation is also currently being obtained for the required pruning on some trees adjacent to Houghton Village Hall.

Resolved to write to the resident who donated the flagpole cherry trees to thank him.

SR 599/10/25 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

599.1 Laptop

Resolved to authorise previously budgeted expenditure to purchase a new parish council laptop to replace the now aged IT equipment.

SR 600/10/25 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

600.1 Speed Indicator device

Cllr Savory provided an update to members following the circulation of data alongside the agenda. It was reported that a suggestion has been made that future reports should be produced annually, based on six-monthly SID switching, and that the current report is in a slightly different format from those previously produced, including longer-term comparisons. Members were informed that there are sets of three-monthly data in the tables for each direction, along with long-term averages for comparison, noting that the figures for each month are similar across both directions. The key differences are in traffic volumes, with significantly greater volumes for North to South than vice versa. Similar patterns are observed in the average and 85th percentile speeds. Overall, using regression analysis, the data over 30 months shows no significant differences over time in traffic volumes, AADT, or speeds, including the 85th percentile speed.

SR 601/10/25 FINANCE MATTERS

601.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise payment of the accounts listed in document SR1025. The schedule was signed by Cllrs Savory and A Bell.

601.2 Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to note the bank reconciliation as noted in document SR0925.

601.3 Quarterly Budget Update

The quarterly budget update for the period 1st April 2025 to 30th September 2025 had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and was noted. It was confirmed that the total costs for audit included both internal and external audit fees.

SR 602/10/25 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

Cllr Nicholson reported that the composition of the Carlisle Town Deal Board engenders concerns regarding impartiality. It was considered that a letter should be sent to the Board requesting details of its aims and scope.

SR 603/10/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday, 12th November 2025, at Linstock WI Hall at 7.30pm. Agenda items must be submitted to the Clerk by 3rd November 2025. There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.11pm.