

**WHICHAM PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT
KIRKSANTON VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr Fell (Chair) Cllr S Millar, Cllr S Wilson, Cllr R Jopson, Cllr M Cumming,
Cllr A Pratt – Cumberland Council
Lesley Cooper Clerk
2 members of public

59/25 Apologies for Absence

Cllr L Thomson (working) Cllr C Lowery (personal), Cllr N Tyson(Personal)

60/25 Exclusions of Press and Public

None

61/25 Declarations of Interest

None

62/25 To approve the Minutes of the meetings 2 July 2025 and 16 July 2025

The Chair was authorized to sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings.

63/25 Police Liaison Report

Circulated.

64/25 Clerks report

The Clerk reported that state of the gabion baskets by the steps had been reported to Cumberland who were disputing ownership of the land. Cllr Pratt to investigate. There was a water leak on the car park near to where the construction welfare cabin had been located. Water pipe had not been sealed off correctly by contractors. Awaiting a report to send to Cumberland Council to claim cost of repairs back.

65/25 Public Participation

A member of the public requested that the Parish Council seriously consider leaving the South Copeland Community Partnership.

A member of the public enquired whether individuals could input into Cumberland's consultation on the proposed new Local Plan, this was confirmed.

66/25 Report from Unitary Authority Councillor

Cllr Pratt gave the following report:

Community fund meet on 20 September

He attended an event commemorating Haverigg Airfield

Fibrous have grants up to £2k for local community projects

ACT have funding of £2250 over 2 years to help build community cohesion

Cumberland Family hub will be in Millom on 9 September

A595 works still ongoing please report any issues

Tenders have gone out for a bus service from Millom to the north

Holmrook- be aware that they have now have a fixed speeding camera

Cumberland Local Plan – Drop in Session at Tin Chapel

31 October Options and issues deadline and call for sites open until 31 January 2026

Millom Town Deal – out for tender for an operator for the Old bank. Leisure center at school progressing well. Tender out for works on Iron Line

The Chair thanked Cllr Pratt for his report

67/25 Applications for Development

67/25.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

7/2025/4042 PROPOSED UPGRADE TO EXISTING RADIO BASE STATION
INSTALLATION AT CS_12253523, LAND AT KIRKSANTON, LANGTHWAITE
FARM, MILLOM, CUMBRIA, LA18 5LJ (NGR: E315455, N480578)CS_12253523,
LAND AT KIRKSANTON, LANGTHWAITE FARM, MILLOM, CUMBRIA, LA18 5LJ
(NGR: E315455,
N480578)

The proposed upgrade of an existing telecommunications base station comprising the removal and replacement of 3 no antennas, together with the internal upgrade of 1 existing cabinet, and ancillary development thereto.

For information

67/25.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers

None

67/25.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications:

7/2025/4011 Parsonage Farm, Silecroft,

Slurry Tower

Approved with Conditions

7/2025/4042 Silecroft Beach Cafe, Silecroft

Approval of details reserved by condition 7 (hard landscaping details) on application

Confirmation of compliance with condition attached to planning permission

7/2025/4045

7/2025/4039 1 & 2 Shore Meadow, Whicham, Silecroft

Demolition of 2 semi-detached cottages and garage annex and re-construction of 2 proposed detached cottages and 1 granny flat and replacement septic tank

Refused

7/2025/4045 Whicham Hall Farm, Whicham

New slurry store

Granted

68/25 Financial Records

68/25.1 Payment of invoices

The following invoices were paid under Financial Regulations during August:

Waterplus	Direct Debit	£ 37.04
J Hillier	Toilet cleaning July	£ 364.00
A Bowden	Toilet cleaning Changing Places July	£ 403.00
L Cooper	Clerks Salary & expenses	£ 291.60
HMRC	PAYE	£ 64.60
Thomas Graham	Cleaning supplies	£ 38.93
Moore	External audit fee	£ 378.00

To approve the following payments for September

Waterplus	Direct Debit	£ 32.24
J Hillier	Toilet Cleaning August & repairs	£ 425.99
A Bowden	Toilet cleaning Changin places Aug	£ 403.00
L Cooper	Clerks salary & expenses	£ 333.20
HMRC	PAYE	£ 74.80
Thomas Graham	Cleaning supplies	£ 63.64
ROSPA	Annual playground inspections	£ 192.00
JW Plant Solutions Ltd	Emergency repairs to water pipe	£ 684.00
G Foster Ltd	Tar planings for car park	£1152.00
L Cooper	Purchase of new laptop	£ 329.00

68/25.2 Receipts

Beach car park	£ 1397.90
Church car park	£ 338.29
VAT refund	£ 3998.18

68/25.3 To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 31 July 2025

Checked and verified by Cllr Millar

68/25.4 To consider the Budget Comparison Report as at 31 August 2025 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

None required Current A/c £24484.49, Deposit A/c £11174.16

68/25.5 Resolved to receive and accept the external auditors report and note concerns of lack of reserves, which will be addressed in the 2026/27 budget.

68/25.6 To note and approve the Clerk's hourly rate increase of 0.52p per hour as per the National pay award

68/25.7 Resolved The Clerk is authorized to purchase a new laptop for £329 and a Microsoft software package for £84.99.

69/25 Village Matters

69/25.1 Silecroft car park

Clerk reported that the BNG report and matrix had been sent to LDNP for the planning application. 5,27 units were required as per the matrix with an approx. cost of £110k plus vat. After discussion the council resolved to withdraw the relocation of the grass banking from the planning application, but to continue with the application for the provision of 5 overnight parking spaces for camper vans/motorhomes associated changes to the toilet block and 3 EV charge points.

69/25.2 Toilets

Complaints received re poor state of cleaning in toilets. Ladies toilets leaking. Clerk to contact contract cleaner.

69/25.3 Café

Councillors expressed concerns re the lack of progress with Cumberland Council to complete a permanent licence for the café to occupy the site. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Michael Barry, Cumberland Council to resolve the outstanding issues. Concerns were expressed at the failure of one of the café shutters, Clerk to contact Cumberland re maintenance records.

69/25.4 Play inspection reports and actions

Inspection reports received and circulated. Clerk to present a summary of works required for the October meeting

69/25.5 Defib – Silecroft

No response from BT re electrical supply

69/25.6 Environmental issues

Cllr Millar requested that the banking to the entrance of Silecroft be scraped.

69/25.7 Parking Kirksanton Village Green and around Village Hall

Unresolved

69/25.8 South Copeland Community Partnership (GDF)

RESOLVED to ratify the Parish Council's decision made on 7 May 2025 minute no 15/25.3 to withdraw from the South Copeland Community Partnership should be applied.

69/25.9 Visitor Accommodation survey for FOLD

Cllr Cumming to respond on behalf of the Parish Council

69/25.10 10. To consider the request by Nuclear Free Councils for contacts to be placed on Council website

Refused

70/25 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

- None

71/25 CORRESPONDENCE:

To discuss any correspondence received for open discussion:

All other correspondence to be circulated in the normal manner for Council's perusal

- Press release re Haverigg Airfield commemoration.
- Letter from bank re changes to interest rates

72/25 Councillor Matters

An opportunity for Councillors to raise minor matters, not on this agenda, on behalf of residents

(Note. No discussion or decisions can be made on these matters but the Clerk may make investigations and/or they may be placed on a future agenda of the Council

- Cllr Cumming reported that Japanese Knotweed had been sighted in Kirksanton to provide Clerk with What 3 word location so it can be reported

73/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 1 October 2025 at Silecroft Village Hall commencing at 7.30p

There be no further business the meeting closed at 2155 hours

Signed..... Dated.....

DRAFT