

**WHICHAM PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 JUNE 2025 AT KIRKSANTON
VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr S Millar, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr N Tyson (elected Chair), Cllr S Wilson, Cllr A Fell (arrived 1950 hrs),
Lesley Cooper Clerk
Cllr A Pratt – Cumberland Council
18 members of public

21/25 Election of Chair for the meeting.

In the absence of both the chair and the vice chair, Cllr Tyson was elected as chair amongst those councillors present.

22/25 Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Cumming (Holiday) Cllr R Jopson (Personal)

23/25 Exclusions of Press and Public

Press and Public were excluded from Agenda item 22 Closed Session

24/25 Declarations of Interest

None

25/25 To approve the Minutes of the meetings 7 May 2025

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

26/25 Police Liaison Report

Circulated. The matter of speeding was again raised. Public to be encouraged to report all incidents to police.

27/25 Clerks report

The Clerk reported that she is seeking quotes for the war memorial lettering. A quote had been received for the new noticeboards totaling £2348, this was approved.

28/25 Public Participation

A member of the public raised concerns about not knowing anything about a potential GDF before moving into the area.

A member of the public raised concerns re the process.

29/25 Report from Unitary Authority Councillor

Cllr Pratt stated that there had been a reshuffle at portfolio level. There was to be a launch for the upgrading of footpaths (Public rights of way) and some funding will be available. Suggested that the council may wish to identify some footpaths.

Whicham valley road works later on in the year.

The Chair thanked Cllr Pratt for his report

30/25 Applications for Development

30/25.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

The Clerk had received notification of a planning application that had been submitted on behalf of the parish council for the cafe and for which the PC had no knowledge or had given authority to submit. This had been raised with LDNP.

30/25.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers

None

30/25.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications:

None

31/25 Financial Records

31/25.1 Payment of invoices

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Waterplus	Direct Debit	£ 10.69
J Hillier	Toilet cleaning May	£390.00

A Bowden	Toilet cleaning Changing Places	£273.00
L Cooper	Clerks Salary & expenses &	£454.78
HMRC	PAYE	£ 88.60
L Cooper	Reimburse purchase of tennis net	£ 66.79
Thomas Graham	Cleaning supplies	£ 78.43
Fell	Emptying septic tank	£192.00

31/25.2 Receipts

Beach car park	£ 446.66
Church car park	£ 141.71
Cumberland reimburse electricity cost	£ 150.67

The clerk reported that a Vat return had been submitted totaling £3998.18

31/25.3 To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 30 April 2025

Checked by Cllr Millar

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

None required

31/25.5 To note that all documents pertaining to AGAR 2024/25 have been submitted and displayed on website and noticeboards. Acknowledgment from the external auditors had been received and they were requiring further information re the purchase of the new play equipment.

32/25 Village Matters

32/25.1 Silecroft car park and toilets

Cllr Sharp to look at filling in the potholes on the car park. Toilets had now been unblocked. Awaiting BNG report to submit to planning.

32/25.2 Café

The Clerk reported that the snagging had still not been completed. An email had been sent requesting who was now leading on this project since the departure of Jon Hall as the permanent lease had still not been signed off.

32/25.3 Play inspection reports and actions

A replacement net had been purchased for the tennis court. The gate at Kirksanton had been repaired.

32/25.4 Environmental issues

Cllr Millar reported that the wildflowers had now been planted around the war memorial. 2 members of the community had assisted

32/25.5 To note response from Cumberland re concerns of community re nonattendance at APM. The Clerk read out the response and its comments were noted.

32/25.6 Co-option of councillor

An application to be co-opted had been received from Louise Thomson Proposed by Cllr Sharp, Seconded by Cllr Fell that she be co-opted. Cllr Thomson completed the acceptance of office and Declaration of Interest forms

32/25.7 Cllrs Tyson and Millar proposed the following motion that "WPC makes representation to NWS and Cumberland Council objecting to the siting of an area of focus for construction of a GDF within our parish, and requesting that said area of focus be removed from the process."

Motion accepted and resolved that the Clerk write to Cumberland Council and NWS

32/25.8 Parking Kirksanton Village Green and around Village Hall

Clerk to write to Care Home requesting them to open the land at the rear of the King Billy to create car parking.

33/25 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

- None Cllr Tyson to meet with Police and asked for it to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

34/25 CORRESPONDENCE:

To discuss any correspondence received for open discussion:

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

- An email received from a member of public re South Copeland Community Partnership

35/24 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 Millar raised issue of cars parking on LDNP field
- Cllr Tyson queried re no new speed limit signage – Cllr Pratt assured that they were to be installed in next week or so.
- Cllr Wilson had reported the cattle grid and sent photos to LDNP who own them

36/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 2 July 2025 at Silecroft Village Hall commencing at 7.30p

There be no further business the meeting closed at 2037 hours

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