

**WHICHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2024 AT KIRKSANTON
VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr A Fell(Chair), Cllr M Cumming, Cllr S Millar, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr S Wilson,
Cllr R Jopson
Cllr A Pratt, Cumberland Council
Lesley Cooper Clerk

97/24 Apologies for Absence

Cllr N Tyson(III) accepted

98/24 Exclusions of Press and Public

Press and Public were excluded from Agenda item 16 Closed Session

99/24 Declarations of Interest

None

100/24 To approve the Minutes of the meetings 2 October 2024 and 7 October 2024

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

101/24 Police Liaison Report

Circulated. No comments

102/24 Clerks report

The Clerk reported that the solar light column had been replaced and the new light unit will be replaced on 11 November.

103/24 Public Participation

None

104/24 Report from Unitary Authority Councillor

Cllr Pratt reported the following:

A595 works continue until February 2025. Works still required at John Bull hill and 2 sections of Whicham Valley need relaying due to poor tarmac mix.

Funding available from Cumbria Community Foundation for "Warm Hubs"

The Road closure on 11/12 November at Kirksanton will only be between 9.30 and 3pm. The school bus and access to local properties will be allowed through.

Cumberland are releasing land owned by them for a "License to Grow" scheme.

Funding is still available from the Copeland Community Fund for projects.

Cumberland are looking for sites to install EV charge points, the Silecroft beach car park was suggested as a possible location.

There have been a number of unofficial road closures within the county, if you see one, please report.

105/24 Applications for Development

105/24.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

4/24/2359 The Tower Cottage, Banksprings Brewery, Kirksanton

Air Source Heat Pump Installation (6kW)

Supported.

105/24.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers

None

105/24.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications:

7/2024/4070 Monk Foss Farm, Whitbeck

General purpose agricultural building Notice of Intention (Agricultural, Q6g)

Withdrawn

106/24 Financial Records

106/24.1 Payment of invoices

AFM 8/1/25

The following invoices were approved for payment:

JW Plant Solution	Repairs to car park	£4500.00
LPNP	Planning application	£ 289.00
Waterplus	Direct debit	£ 33.51
J Hillier	Toilet cleaning -October	£ 413.00
A Bowden	Changing places cleaning	£ 286.00
L Cooper	Clerks salary & expenses	£ 322.00
HMRC	PAYE	£ 72.00
L Cooper	Overtime payment	£ 559.11
HMRC	PAYE	£ 139.80
Good Energy	Final electricity bill	£ 150.67
KMC Graffix Ltd	Signs – donation boxes	£ 100.00
Ray Garnett	Removal of springers	£ 96.00
J Fell	Grass cut Silecroft play area	£ 576.00

Payments approved

106/24.2 Receipts

Beach car park	£ 278.83
Church car park	£ 157.92

Clerk reported that donations at the Church car park were well down. Resolved to site a bench close to the donation box and to make the box more visible.

106/24.3 To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 30 September 2024

Checked and approved by Cllr Millar

106/24.4 To consider the Budget Comparison Report as at 31 October 2024 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

There is an overspend on Silecroft Beach car park, but this should be resolved by underspends on other budget lines. Clerk to monitor.

106/24.5 To approve budget for 2025/26

The Clerk presented the budget for consideration. Total proposed expenditure for 2025/26 is £37283.

Resolved to accept the budget Proposed Cllr Sharp, Seconded by Cllr Cumming

106/24.6 To determine the precept for the financial year 2025/26

Resolved that the precept will be raised by 5.65% to £22000

Proposed Cllr Sharp, Seconded Cllr Jopson

107/24 Village Matters

107/24.1 Silecroft beach car park

The Clerk reported that the plans had been submitted, but rejected. Required a Biodiversity report within 28 days by LDNP.

Resolved to employ Arbtech to undertake the necessary surveys and works at a cost of £2717+vat. To obtain more road planings as they become available.

107/24.2 Café

Concerns raised that the kitchen had still not been fitted. Clerk to arrange an urgent meeting with Cumberland representatives to discuss outstanding issues

107/24.3 Toilets

A basic cleaning kit now purchased and stored with Cllr Millar. Cleaner to use Fisherman's tap.

107/24.4 Play Inspection Report

All springers now removed. Clerk to produce an action list. Clerk to order new cradle swing for Silecroft. Proposed that tennis court be refurbished 2025/26

107/24.5 Environmental issues

Cllr Millar reported that she had done a tidy up around the war memorial. Requires assistance in planting wildflower plants around the war memorial – to make a Facebook appeal for assistance.

107/24.6 GDF

AFM 8/11/25

There was concern from some partnership members regarding the operation and content of the website which is run by NWS. The request to NWS for the South Copeland community partnership to have and control its own website has been declined .

107/24.7 Remembrance Sunday

Wreaths attained by Cllr Wilson. Cllr Cumming to place small crosses on war graves.

107/24.8 To fix a date for the Clerk's Appraisal

Cllr Fell and Lowery to arrange a date with the clerk

107/24.9 To approve the 2025 Meeting dates

Approved

108/24 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

- None

109/24 CORRESPONDENCE:

To discuss any correspondence received for open discussion:

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

- None

110/24 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 Sharp to install an isolator on the electricity supply to the Defib box at Silecroft Village Hall

111/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 8 January 2025 at Silecroft Village Hall commencing at 7.30p

112/24 Closed Session

Resolved to increase Clerks hours by 2 per month. Clerk to continue to monitor Proposed Cllr Cumming, Seconded Cllr Wilson

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2150hrs.

Signed..... *AFM* Dated..... *8/1/25*