

**WHICHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY 2025 AT SILECROFT VILLAGE  
HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr A Fell(Chair), Cllr M Cumming, Cllr S Millar, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr S Wilson,  
Lesley Cooper Clerk  
3 members of public

**113/24 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr N Tyson(III) accepted

**114/24 Exclusions of Press and Public**

Press and Public were excluded from Agenda item 16 Closed Session

**115/24 Declarations of Interest**

None

**116/24 To approve the Minutes of the meetings 6 November 2024**

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

**117/24 Police Liaison Report**

Circulated. It was noted that the boy racers are still continuing.

**118/24 Clerks report**

The Clerk reported that the light had been replaced and the isolator has been installed on the defib at Silecroft Village Hall

**119/24 Public Participation**

Concerns expressed on the GDF Partnership Review and asking the Parish Council if they would consider withdrawing from the Partnership. Lack of confidence in current Chair of Partnership and conflict of interest. Inability of partnership to provide information to public.

**120/24 Report from Unitary Authority Councillor**

No report

**121/24 Applications for Development**

**121/24.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority**

4/24/2408 The Tower Cottage, Banksprings Brewery, Kirksanton

Listed Building Consent for air source heat pump installation

Supported

**121/24.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers**

None

**121/24.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications:**

None

**122/24 Financial Records**

**122/24.1 Payment of invoices**

The following invoices were approved for payment:

|                     |                           |   |          |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|----------|
| A Bowden            | Changing places cleaning  | £ | 195.00   |
| L Cooper            | Clerks salary & expenses  | £ | 291.60   |
| HMRC                | PAYE                      | £ | 64.40    |
| Community Heartbeat | New battery               | £ | 267.00   |
| Playdale            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment   | £ | 21291.18 |
| Cumberland Council  | Waste bin                 | £ | 81.25    |
| J Hillier           | Toilet cleaning -December | £ | 403.00   |
| Poppy Appeal        | wreath                    | £ | 40.00    |
| Waterplus           | Direct debit              | £ | 2.43     |

Payments approved

APM 5/2/25

The following invoices were Paid in December 2024 under Financial Standing Orders

|                          |                                |           |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Arbtech Consulting       | Biodiversity net gain reports  | £ 2840.40 |
| Playdale                 | 50% deposit new play equipment | £21093.41 |
| Waterplus                | Direct Debit                   | £ 35.80   |
| Thomas Graham            | Cleaning supplies              | £ 57.49   |
| Clerks salary & expenses |                                | £ 265.80  |
| HMRC                     | PAYE                           | £ 58.00   |
| A Bowden                 | Cleaning changing places       | £ 296.40  |
| J Hillier                | Toilet cleaning – November     | £ 390.00  |
| SLCC                     | Membership                     | £ 57.00   |

#### **122/24.2 Receipts**

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Beach car park  | £ 349.65 |
| Church car park | £ 87.73  |
| ENW =wayleave   | £ 32.38  |

**122/24.3** To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 30 November 2024

Checked and approved by Cllr Millar

**122/24.4** To consider the Budget Comparison Report as at 31 December 2024 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

The Clerk reported that after payments the Current Account stood at £1429.94. The Clerk was awaiting confirmation of the receipt of £10k grant from the GDF fund and the repayment of the VAT claim submitted.

**122/24.5 To note** that the precept request has been submitted for £22000 for the financial year 2025/26

**122/24.6 For Information only.** A Vat claim to 30 November 2024 for £6505.16 has been submitted

#### **123/24 Village Matters**

##### **123/24.1 Silecroft beach car park**

The Clerk reported that the PEA report had been received and forwarded to LDNP Planning Dept. It had recommended a further 2 reports plus full species data report from Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre. Clerk to order Full species data report. Clerk to investigate if planning permission required if proposed extension of car park is not undertaken.

##### **123/24.2 Café**

Concerns raised that the kitchen had still not been fitted and known snagging list has not been activated. Clerk to arrange an urgent meeting with Cumberland representatives to discuss outstanding issues.

##### **123/24.3 Toilets**

Cllr Fell to sort out outside tap.

##### **123/24.4 Play Inspection Report**

Clerk reported that the new equipment had still not been fully installed on both sites. Clerk to investigate cost of recycled plastic fencing. A full refurbishment of the tennis court will be considered for the 26/27 financial year.

##### **123/24.5 Environmental issues**

Cllr Millar reported that she has seeds and plants ready for planting once the weather is favorable.

##### **123/24.6 GDF**

Cllr Cumming gave an update on the current state of the Partnership. Millom Town Council has withdrawn from the Partnership. NWS has requested an independent report on the Partnership and its working.

Resolved to await the results of the report and discuss at the February meeting.

##### **123/24.7 CGP Trustees and bank signatories**

Cllr Fell to be an additional bank signatory.

##### **123/24.8 Cumberland Wards Consultation**

ARUM 5/2/25

Clerk to respond - too many PC's for current ward councillor. Too much emphasis on number of people rather than geographic spread.

**123/24.9 Septic Fence – Whicham School car park**

A complaint had been received from the owner of the septic tank re height of fencing around septic tank. Clerk to respond.

**123/24.10 10. Esk to Barrow active travel project – representative 15 January meeting**

Cllr Sharpe will attempt to attend.

**124/24 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies**

- None

**125/24 CORRESPONDENCE:**

To discuss any correspondence received for open discussion:

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

- A letter had been received from Cumbria Community Foundation requesting a donation
- A letter had been received from a Silecroft resident re footpaths.

**126/24 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

- Re-lettering of War Memorial – Clerk to take photographs

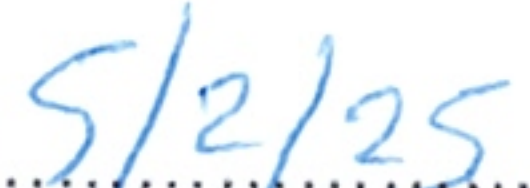
**127/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 5 February 2025 at Kirksanton Village Hall commencing at 7.30p

**128/24 Closed Session**

- a) Clerk's new contract agreed and signed by the Chair Proposed Cllr Wilson, Seconded Cllr Cumming
- b) To agree in principle the Proposed Terms for Head Lease between the PC and Cumberland Council re Sunset Café  
Clerk to seek clarification on points 6 and 19
- c) To agree the terms of proposed EV charge points  
To question re remuneration

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2141hrs.

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