

STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Unauthorised Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23rd March 2026 at 8.20pm in Stainton Institute

Present: Chair Julie Knowles, Vice-Chair John Stott, Cllrs. Geoff Wilson and Ryan Whipp; the Clerk and two members of the public

19.26 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Hilary Waterhouse (reasons accepted and noted) and W&F Cllrs. Jonathan Brook and Doug Rathbone

20.26 MINUTES: **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2026 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

21.26 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: None

22.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

23.26 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLORS: The resignations of Cllrs. Julie Knowles and John Stott with effect from 31st March 2026 were received with regret. Cllr. Knowles later stated that she wished to continue until 30th April 2026. A presentation had been made to Cllr. Knowles at the Annual Parish Meeting in recognition of her outstanding service to the Parish Council of approximately 25 years and Cllr. Wilson reiterated this together with thanks to Cllr. Stott for similarly outstanding service to the community of over 35 years

24.26 RESIGNATION OF THE CLERK: The Council wished to record the excellent service provided by Malcolm Richardson since 1st July 2017 and thanked him for his assistance in recommending Christine Davidson, who was present at the meeting and who would take over from 1st May 2026

25.26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

26.26 REPORTS:

a) Cumbria Police: The Neighbourhood Policing Team updates for February and March 2026 (emailed to Cllrs. 24/2/26 and 18/3/26 respectively) and the revised attendees and protocol for the policing guarantee meetings were noted

b) Westmorland and Furness Councillors: A report had been given to the prior Annual Parish Meeting

27.26 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS:

a) It was noted that further potholes had been reported and that the large potholes on the road from Lane End Farm had not yet been repaired

b) It had been reported that the school warning light at the Sedgwick end was not working and that it was now on the work list

c) The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting a reply from W&FC Complaints Dept. regarding whether the ford was a Highways asset or not

d) The Clerk had requested information regarding the procedure for future speed limit implementation

e) There was no update on the Towpath / Canal

28.26 TREES & WOODS:

a) There was nothing to report regarding the condition of the trees and woods other than some ash dieback – all on small trees

b) It was agreed to sell the small piece of land near Underhelm Wood for a minimum of £1,500 with the purchaser paying all legal costs

29.26 PLANNING:

a) It was noted that the following planning application had been **submitted** to W&FC and circulated to the members of the Council since the last meeting:

2026/0401/FPA Paddocks & Keepers Cottage, Willowsway Country Estate, Stainton

Removal of condition 13 (occupancy restriction) attached to planning permission SL/2021/1010 (Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans), 6 and 7 (hard and soft landscaping) and 9 (railings) attached to planning permission SL/2020/0721 (Part Retrospective Application to create curtilage and garage for 2 no. partially completed dwellings (Old Stables and Coach House) within Listed Building; relocation of previously approved Rural Workers Dwelling in converted stables (Keepers Cottage) and creation of private amenity space for Paddocks))

2026/0412/OPA Land off Millbridge Lane, Kendal

Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for a single self-build bungalow

2024/0534/LDPR High House, Millbridge Lane, Kendal

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed replacement detached garage

The Council **supported** all of these applications

b) It was noted that no planning applications had been notified as **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting

30.26 LITTER PICK: The arrangements had been made for this to take place on Saturday 28th March 2026

31.26 FINANCE:

a) It was noted that there has been no receipts between meetings

b) The following payments were **approved**:

Stainton Institute – Hire of hall

£20.00

c) The Clerk reported on progress with implementing the requirements of Assertion 10 (digital and data protection responsibilities)

d) The Asset Register at 23rd March 2026 was received and **approved**

e) The Risk Management schedule 2026/27 was received, **approved** and signed

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- f) The Clerk reported that the reconciled bank balance at 28th February 2026 was £7,713.90. The Chair was authorised to counter-sign the bank statement

32.26 CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: None

33.16 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: None

34.26 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i. Cumbria Wildlife Trust – wildflower talks (emailed to Cllrs.29/1/26)
- ii. Lifescape Project – Cumbria White-Tailed Eagle Project – stakeholder questionnaire and email from Sarah Kitching (both emailed to Cllrs.24/2/26)
- iii. CALC – Nature recovery for Town & Parish Councils – strategy workbook (emailed to Cllrs.24/2/26)
- iv. CALC – Community Emergency Hubs launch (emailed to Cllrs.24/2/26)
- v. W&FC – Consultation – survey regarding proposed changes to arrangements for Blue Badge holders in W&FC car parks (emailed to Cllrs.27/2/26)
- vi. CALC – Heritage Asset Event slides (emailed to Cllrs.18/3/26)
- vii. CALC – Home to School Transport policy consultation 27/2/26 to 21/4/26 (emailed to Cllrs.18/3/26)
- viii. CALC – Community assets of value branch event 24/3/26 (emailed to Cllrs.18/3/26)
- ix. W&FC launches community conversation on the future of care for older residents (emailed to Cllrs.18/3/26)
- x. CALC News January & February 2026 (emailed to Cllrs.18/3/26)
- xi. W&FC supports men's mental health campaign (emailed to Cllrs.23/3/26)
- xii. W&FC – Great Big Green Week (6-14 June) grants up to £300 available to support community climate action (emailed to Cllrs.23/3/26)

35.26 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES TO BE RAISED AT NEXT MEETING (*No discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda*): None

36.26 TO NOTE ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (*No discussions or action permitted*): None

37.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 18th May 2026 in Stainton Institute (changed from Crosscrake Hub) at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

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