

STAINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7.30pm in Stainton Institute

Present: Vice-Chair John Stott (Chair of the meeting), Cllrs. Geoff Wilson and Hilary Waterhouse; Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Jonathan Brook; W&F Cllr. Peter Thornton; the Clerk and five members of the public

93.25 APOLOGIES: Chair Julie Knowles and Cllr. Ryan Whipp (both reasons accepted and noted) and W&F Cllr. Doug Rathbone

94.25 PRESENTATION BY WESTMORLAND & FURNESS COUNCILLOR PETER THORNTON:

Cllr. Thornton gave a presentation on highways matters in W&F (not National Highways) including rights of way, cycle ways, bridges, carriageways, gullies, street lighting and traffic lights. A major problem was pothole and road surface dressing on ageing highways with a lack of funding often causing patching rather than renewing. He was questioned by residents regarding the long delays in dealing with the beckside walls and the ford. He said that the beckside walls would be repaired in the spring and that W&F Council (W&FC) didn't believe that the ford was a highways issue as it wasn't on their maps. They therefore wouldn't be repairing it. The Clerk said that, despite the maps, SLDC had maintained the ford for many years and that was the basis of the Parish Council's belief that W&FC should continue to do so, together with a written commitment by W&FC to do the work. Cllr. Thornton said that the matter was now in the hands of W&FC's Complaints Dept. and we await their ruling

95.25 MINUTES: Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

96.25 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: None

97.25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Stott declared his interest in the Kingsland planning application

98.25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

99.25 REPORTS:

a) Cumbria Police: The Neighbourhood Policing Team update for October 2025 (emailed to Cllrs. 18/11/25) was noted. Cllr. Wilson reported on the Neighbourhood Policing Pledge meeting held on 23rd October 2025 – the main item of interest was the recommendation for the installation and registration of door-bell cameras

b) Westmorland and Furness Councillors: Cllr. Brook updated the Council on the devolution proposals, the government's mayoral consultation, waste harmonisation and the Community Governance Review. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council wants its current situation to remain unaltered

100.25 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS:

a) The large potholes on the road from Lane End Farm had been reported by Cllr. Wilson. Concern was expressed about the rough surface on Shyreakes Lane

b) The Clerk reported that he was awaiting a reply from W&FC Complaints Dept. regarding whether the ford was a Highways asset or not (see 94.25 above)

d) W&FC Cllr. Brook said that he would forward an email from the Countryside Access Officer regarding proposed surface improvements along the Towpath Trail

101.25 TREES & WOODS: There was nothing to report

102.25 PLANNING:

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

2025/1764/FPA Land at Kingsland Farm & Livery, Shyreakes Lane, Crosscrake

Steel portal framed building for the storage of feedstuffs and hay/straw for agricultural and equestrian use on-site (re-submission of 2025/0310/FPA)

2025/2153/FPA Brookside, Stainton

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement self-build dwelling

The Council had **no comments** on these applications

b) It was noted that the following planning applications have been notified as **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting:

2025/1180/HOU Rose Hill House, Stainton

Proposed garage / garden store

2025/1483/HOU Greenways, Crosscrake, Stainton

Proposed detached garage

2025/1497/DISC Steps End, Stainton

Approval of details reserved by condition 3 (Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan HMMP) attached to planning permission 2025/0123/FPA

2025/1764/FPA Land at Kingsland Farm & Livery, Shyreakes Lane, Crosscrake

Steel portal framed building for the storage of feedstuffs and hay/straw for agricultural and equestrian use on-site (re-submission of 2025/0310/FPA)

103.25 FINANCE:

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

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b) The following payments were approved:

M R Richardson - Clerk's August, September & October Salary £1,196.03 less PAYE £239.20 plus expenses £96.34 (broadband/telephone/use of home as office/photocopies/postage), computer security £14.99 and motor expenses £36.00 (80 miles @45p)	£1,104.16
HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson	£239.20
A2A Advertising Ltd – Website design	£270.00
Stainton Institute – Hire of hall	£20.00

c) The following payment between meetings was approved:

Information Commissioner's Office – Data protection registration fee	£47.00
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d) The appointment of Jean Airey as Internal Auditor for 2025/26 was confirmed

e) It was confirmed that the Chair and Vice-Chair will carry out the Clerk's annual appraisal

f) The receipts and payments report and the budget comparison for the half-year to 30th September 2025 were considered and approved

g) The Clerk presented the draft budget 2026/27 to the Council for initial discussion – the budget to be finalised at the next meeting

h) The approval of an IT Policy was deferred to the next meeting

i) The Clerk reported that the reconciled bank balance at 31st October 2025 was £10,745.13. The Chair was authorised to counter-sign the bank statement

104.25 CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: None

105.25 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: None

106.25 CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- i. Boundary Commission - W&F ward boundary review (emailed to Cllrs.30/9/25) -
- ii. Cllr Jonathan Brook – Government's mayoral consultation response for Cumbria (emailed to Cllrs.15/10/25)
- iii. W&FC – Cllrs. term of office ends May 2027 (emailed to Cllrs.16/10/25)
- iv. CALC News September & October 2025 (emailed to Cllrs.18/11/25)
- v. CALC – Winter readiness event 26/11/25 (emailed to Cllrs.18/11/25)
- vi. CALC – Design Code event slides (emailed to Cllrs.18/11/25)
- vii. W&FC – Share your views on design code proposals (emailed to Cllrs.18/11/25)
- viii. W&FC – Community Governance Review slides and questionnaire from information sessions (emailed to Cllrs.18/11/25)
- ix. W&FC – Cumbria's Local Nature Recovery Strategy published (emailed to Cllrs.19/11/25)
- x. CALC – Cumbria Local Nature Partnership news (emailed to Cllrs.19/11/25)
- xi. W&FC – Council warns against battery disposal in bins (emailed to Cllrs.19/11/25)
- xii. W&FC – Landslip road repair presents "difficult challenge" (emailed to Cllrs.19/11/25)
- xiii. Power for People – Request to ask MP to sign parliamentary motion supporting local community energy (emailed to Cllrs.19/11/25)
- xiv. CALC – W&F branch event on 10/12/25 – prevent radicalisation and grooming (emailed to Cllrs.20/11/25)

107.25 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

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

109.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 26th January 2026 in Crosscrake Hub at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

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