

Holme East Waver Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall, Newton Arlosh at 7-30 p.m. on Thursday 19th March January 2026.

Present: Graham (Chair)

Councillors: C Hodgson, Hopkinson, and Stockdale,

Cumberland Cllr Markley

Public attendance: None.

Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

No requests for dispensations were received.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Cllr Hopkinson declared an interest in item 8.4.1

Cllr Hodgson declared an interest in item 5.4

2 Minutes

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th January 2026. – **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

No matters were reported.

3.2 ...by the clerk

The clerk had items to report later in the agenda.

3.3 Public participation. (At the chairman's discretion)

Cllr Markley confirmed that there would be a Community Charge increase of 4.99%. This had been agreed at an extremely long Cumberland Council meeting. At this meeting Cllrs approved expenditure of £15 million on 'Fleet Vehicles', which included spending on the Workington tug. Cllr Graham asked a question and commented on recent pothole repairs. He felt that many were going unrepaired even though they were close to potholes that were repaired. Cllr Markley advised that repairs were only carried on previously authorised work.

Cllr Markley commented on some of the new local bus routes which seemed to be working well, though he was aware that these did not run through Newton Arlosh.

Community Panels were continuing and there had been a recent meeting in Kirkbride.

A question was asked concerning grants for the repair of church bells and Cllr Markley suggested a contact who could be of assistance.

He was thanked for his report and then left the meeting at 7.55p.m.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Citizens Advice Allerdale – request for assistance.

This was **noted without action.**

5 New business

5.1 Playground – current situation following receipt of the Inspection Report. Possible decision on any required action including repairs. Grasscutting contractor contract acceptance confirmation.

Approval of Inspection invoice – see item 6.2.4.

The clerk confirmed that the grasscutting contractor, Green Team, had accepted the two-year contract and looked forward to working with the Council. -**noted.**

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A contractor had been authorised to carry out repairs/alterations to the gate and Cllrs were disappointed that that this work had not to date been carried out. The clerk was instructed to pursue this with the contractor.

The Inspection report had just been received and had been sent to the Cllrs.

Cllrs were inspecting the area regularly and were not aware of any urgent matters requiring attention.

5.2 Audit arrangements for 2025/26.

The clerk advised that he was in contact with the internal auditor but no date for the audit had been set yet. – **noted.**

5.3 Digital and Data Compliance - Update on the website/e-mail .

Domain renewal – paid by clerk £15.40.

See item 6.2.2.

The clerk confirmed that a new e-mail address for the Council had been set up and that this could be accessed via the website. – **noted**

Cllr Graham advised Cllrs that there was to be a public meeting with Fibrus in the Parish Hall on the 22nd May to discuss bringing improved broadband to the village. – **noted.**

5.4 Noisy dogs in the village. – current situation.

Cllr C Hodgson left the meeting at this point.

The clerk brought to the attention of Cllrs an email he had received from Cllr Hodgson prior to the meeting. Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** that as the matter had been discussed previously and brought to the attention of the dog owner in question no further action could be taken as the Parish Council had no powers concerning this matter.

Cllr C Hodgson returned and was advised of the outcome by Cllr Graham.

5.5 Anonymous complaint about rubbish being dumped in the area opposite the pub.

Cllrs were aware that since the complaint the rubbish in question had been removed so **they agreed that no action was necessary.**

5.6 Village planters update.

Cllr Graham confirmed that two planters he was working on had almost been completed. Cllrs **approved** expenditure of £50 for Cllr Stockdale to purchase plants and compost.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 31st January and 28th February 2026 (available at the meeting). – **approved.**

6.2 To **approve** the following payments.

6.2.1 Clerk: salary **£442.56 – approved.**

6.2.2 Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £52.83, postage etc £3.40. Mileage 16 miles at 45p /mile £7.20

Domain renewal (see item 5.3) £15.40 Total **£78.83 – approved.**

6.2.3 Information Commissioner – data protection registration fee. **£47.00 – approved.**

6.2.4 Cumberland Council - Playpark Inspection (VAT £12.00) **£72.00**

The invoice had not yet been received but Cllrs **approved payment** by the clerk if it was for the correct amount.

6.2.5 Ministry of Doing – setting up of new e-mail address **£60.00 – approved.**

6.2.6 Newton Arlosh Parish Hall – hall hire **£187.50 – approved.**

7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

The clerk advised that he understood that the requested new signage for Saltcoats was in production and hoped it would be installed shortly. – **noted.**

Potholes were still a problem and were being reported regularly.

8 Planning.

Applications on which Cumberland Council decision is awaited.

None – **noted.**

8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council.

8.2.1 FUL/2025/0179 Applicant: JG & DE Hodgson Proposal: New rural worker's dwelling, Shawhill, Kirkbride CA7 5HW – permission granted. The clerk confirmed that planning permission had been granted. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order.

None – **noted.**

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8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.

8.4.1 HOU/2026/0028 Applicant: Mr David Hopkinson, Proposal: Erection of outbuilding, Location: The Old Vicarage, Newton Arlosh. Cllr Hopkinson left the meeting at this point.

Cllrs discussed the application and had **no objections**. The clerk would inform the Authority.

9.1 Documents received for comment.

None – **noted**.

9.2 Documents received for information (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circular. – **noted**.

10.1 Any information brought by members of the Council.

Cllr C Hodgson reported on some suspicious activity she had observed in the village during the night recently and urged Cllrs to be vigilant. Cllr Graham commented that he thought oil tanks were likely targets in the light of world events.

10.2 Any information brought by Cumberland Councillor.

His report had been given earlier.

10.3 Any information from the clerk.

No matters were raised.

10.4 Police report

No contact with the police had taken place.

11 Meeting dates.

11.1 Date of next meeting **Thursday 14th May 2026 at after the Annual Parish Meeting in Newton Arlosh Parish Hall**

11.2 Future date: Thursday 9th July 2026 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Parish Hall

The dates were noted and the Chair closed the meeting at 9.00p.m.