

Holme East Waver Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 14th May 2026 following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present: V Hodgson (Chair)
Councillors: C Hodgson, Graham and Stockdale.
Cumberland Cllr Markley
Public attendance: None.
Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 To elect chairman, who will then sign the form of acceptance of office.

Cllr V Hodgson was proposed then unanimously **elected** as Chairman and signed the required acceptance of office.

1.2 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Cllr Hopkinson had sent her apologies ahead of the meeting.

Item 2.1 was taken at this point.

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 dispensation requests were made.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Hopkinson had previously declared an interest in items 8.2.1 and 8.3.1

1.3 To elect vice chairman

Cllr Graham was proposed then unanimously **elected** as Vice Chairman.

1.4 To consider re-adoption or amendment of standing orders. – adopted unchanged.

1.5 To appoint one member as Highways contact.

No member was appointed as Cllrs report concerns themselves when they arise.

2 Minutes

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 19th March 2026 - **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

Cllr Graham advised that he had completed the planters. See also item 5.6.

3.2 ...by the clerk

Items would be covered later in the agenda.

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

Cllr Markley reported on the recent appointment of office holders at Cumberland Council which included Cllr M Fryer as leader. A five year housing plan was being drawn up for the old Allerdale area. Cllr Graham asked a question concerning housing policy. Cllr Markley advised that solutions were being sought to some of the problems the NHS was facing locally. He pointed out that the Community Transport Scheme was suspended at the moment and provided a summary of topics covered at recent Cumberland Council meetings. Mr C Cox had given a good presentation to Cllrs about men's health issues. Community Panel meetings were also mentioned. Cllr Markley had joined the Police and Crime Committee. He was thanked for his report and then left the meeting.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

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4.1 Village Heat Share – Call for sites.

The clerk explained the correspondence and it was **noted without action**.

4.2 Wedholme Flow – Possible de-registration of Common Land.

Cllr V Hodgson outlined the correspondence which was **noted without action**.

5 New business

5.1 Playground – report on developments since last meeting.

Update on repairs. Further consideration of the Playground Inspection Report.

The Inspection Report had been examined again and Cllrs considered there to be no urgent matters arising when the previously authorised work is carried out. Cllr V Hodgson had recently had a meeting with the contractor who had indicated that the work to the gate would be carried out in the next few days. Cllr Hodgson had carried out some minor work in the playground. The playground was regularly inspected and Cllrs would be paying particular attention to the condition of the bridge. A rota for inspection was **agreed**.

5.2 To consider the re-appointment of Mrs P. Hinks to handle PAYE for the Council.

Mrs Hinks was unanimously **appointed**.

5.3 To consider the re-appointment of PL Gauntlett to handle the Internal Audit for the Council.

The existing auditor was unanimously **appointed**.

5.4 Vacancy on the Council.

The clerk reminded Cllrs that there was still a vacancy on the Council if they became aware of an interested party. – **noted**.

5.5 Website - report and update.

An update from the clerk on recent developments Possible approval of invoice.

The clerk updated Cllrs on the progress made and Cllrs **agreed** to pay their ex-vat share of an invoice for £90 for work on the clerk's computer which would initially be paid by Kirkbride PC.

5.6 Village planters.

The planters had been installed and Cllr Graham was thanked for his work. Expenditure of up to £100 was **approved** for plants for the new larger planters.

5.7 Possible consideration and adoption of available policies by the Council.

A Data Protection Policy was examined by Cllrs and taken away for possible approval at the July meeting.

The clerk pointed out that the adoption of further additional policies was an option in the future. – **noted**.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To note report of internal auditor. – **the report was noted and approved**.

6.1.2 To consider approve and sign annual return: governance statement. - **examined approved and signed**.

6.1.3 To approve accounts 31st March 2026.

print-out of Receipts & payments book; 3-year comparative summary;

bank reconciliation & explanation of variance;

bank statements to 31st March 2026

These were **examined and approved**.

6.1.4 To consider approve and sign annual return: accounting statements. - **examined approved and signed**.

6.1.5 To consider approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption from the Limited Assurance Review. - **examined approved and signed**. The clerk confirmed that the required documents would be published and Cllrs agreed that the Public Inspection Rights would commence on 2nd June 2026.

6.1.6 To approve accounts to 30th April 2026 (available at meeting).

The clerk advised that the bank statement had yet to arrive and provide an update on the anticipated current position.

This would be confirmed on arrival of the statement. – **noted**.

6.1.7 To note Information Commissioner: confirmation of registration renewal to 6/4/27. – **noted**.

6.1.8 To note VAT return situation - amount to reclaim **£1259.20** – **noted**.

6.1.9 To note Cumberland Council: precept payment **£8800.00**

See item 6.1.6

6.2 To approve the following payments.

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

6.2.2 Clerk: expenses: playground inspection re-imbursement £74.40 phone and broadband £55.02, postage etc £2.87, mileage 42 miles at 45p /mile £18.90 Total **£151.19** – **approved**.

6.2.3 CALC: subscription renewal 2026/27 – **£192.45** – **approved**.

6.2.4 Clear Insurance Management Ltd insurance renewal – **£596.63** – **approved**.

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6.2.5 P L Gauntlett: internal audit fee **£60.00 – approved.**

6.2.6 Information Commissioner: by direct debit and confirmation of renewal of registration **£47.00 – approved.**

6.2.7 Green Team Garden Services grass cutting (VAT £42.00) **£252.00 – approved.**

6.2.8 Cumberland Council – playground inspection report (VAT £12.40) **£74.40 – approved.**

See also item 6.2.2

7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

Cllrs continue to report potholes . The new signage at Saltcotes had been installed. One Cllr had received a complaint about the location of one of the signs, but Cllrs were happy that the correct location had been chosen.

8 Planning.

8.1 Applications on which Cumberland Council decision is awaited.

None – **noted.**

8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council.

8.2.1 HOU/2026/0028 Applicant: Mr David Hopkinson, Proposal: Erection of outbuilding, Location: The Old Vicarage, Newton Arlosh. Amended plan outline – permission granted. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order.

8.3.1 HOU/2026/0028 Applicant: Mr David Hopkinson, Proposal: Erection of outbuilding, Location: The Old Vicarage, Newton Arlosh. Amended plan outline. The clerk confirmed that Cllrs had no objections and the Authority had been informed.

8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.

None – **noted.**

9.1 Documents received for comment.

None. – **noted.**

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

9.2.1 CALC Circulars. – **noted.**

10.1 Any information brought by members of the Council.

No matters raised.

10.2 Any information brought by the Cumberland Councillor.

His report had been given earlier.

10.3 Any information from the clerk.

The clerk had no matters to report.

10.4 Police report

There had been no contact.

11 Meeting dates. (Provisional on item 1.4)

11.1 Date of next meeting Parish Council Meeting is **Thursday July 9th 2026 at 7.30p.m in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

11.2 Future date: **Thursday 10th September 2026 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

The dates were noted and the Chair closed the meeting at 8.55p.m.