

Minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council
Held in the Upper Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 16th of September 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Spedding – Chair Cllrs Johnston, Bremner, Brown, MacLennan and Berry Clerk – Janet Taffs
Cllr Pender 5 Members of the public in attendance

123/09/25 Apologies

RESOLVED that apologies for absence for received from Cllr Molton.be accepted.

124/09/25 Requests for Dispensations

RESOLVED It was noted that no member declared any interests on items on the agenda.

125/09/25 Declaration of Interest

RESOLVED It was noted that no member declared any interests on items on the agenda.

126/09/25 Minutes

RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council held on 15th of July confirmed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

127/09/25 Public Participation

127.1 To receive reports from

- **Police**

Following on from having no figures on the Police website, The Clerk contacted the department directly. They recently switched to a new internal system and as a result of this there was delay in syncing with the web site. Data was sent to the Clerk but she was unable to confirm what details were specifically for Hawkshead parish. Clerk to keep trying the website.

- **Westmorland and Furness Councillor**

Cllr Pender attended to update on the parking consultation meeting with LDNPA. The LDNPA have stated they are not able to reduce the charges for parking in Hawkshead as they would then need to reduce them across the board. They are a business and need to earn an income from the car parks. They suggested that the locals only spaces by the toilets and in the square were changed to 1 hour parking for visitors. This may encourage more visitors to stay without car parking charges. The PC discussed the suggestion, It was decided that they need to be locals only. On a safety note alone with seating outside the shops, and more cars coming and going into the square it would be hazardous. The consensus was to suggest that the LDNPA have spaces on the car park that are 1 hour free.

Having a mayor devolution. Cllr Pender gave a short version on the benefits and disadvantages. The PC decided on how to vote. All agreed to vote against.

- **National Trust**

No representation. Post on Facebook about a walk in Hawkshead. Takes you round the places the book was set. Suggested donation of £2 and available in the Tabitha Twitchit book shop.

127.2 Comments and representations from members of the public in relation to any item on the agenda.

A resident wanted to talk about point 129.8 issues with the parking Barnfield. People are parking and no one knows who the car belongs to; cars are left for days up there when they are not local. Barnfield has lots of residents that require carers to visit and they are not able to park. Cars are parking on both sides of the road on the pavement and leaving problems with access. It was discussed if one side of the road could be painted with double yellow lines. At least if it was one side that would reduce the chicane it causes parking both sides. To also look at residents only sign A statement was read providing details of how many cars belonged to residents and disabled drivers. All the detail will be passed onto Cllr Pender for consideration for double yellow lines. The Clerk to contact South Lakes housing to see if numbers can be added to the parking spaces or a larger residents only sign to be added.

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

128/09/2025 Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

- 128.1 UN RESOLVED snow plough and gritters. The meeting that was organised had technical issues and links were not received by some parishes. The meeting had been re organised and took place on 20th of August.
- Very positive feelings from all the parishes involved. The gritter man is prepared to attend a two and a half day training session It was suggested that the grant from W&F can be used to pay for the gritter man as this would benefit all parishes equally. The existing gritter is not fit for purpose. W&F have been contacted and do not have a gritter that we can utilise. The existing gritter can be sold it has got some life left in it. Possibly sell that to raise funds. Cllr Pender to contact the council to see if they have gritters to purchase or a lower rate way of buying. It was discussed if the PC would purchase another gritter or pay the gritter man with an extra hourly rate for using his own equipment. The gritter man to look into some costs. The Clerk will also contact Troutbeck to see if they have a gritter for sale. Road widths are an issue with the tractor. The gritter man to take a drive down the roads and suggest remedial works that need to be carried out before winter. Hawkshead PC will decide when the roads need gritting rather than W&F council. Back-up plan, for if the gritter man is unavailable, is to ask the Coniston gritter man do cover or ask W&F to step in. There was concern that as Hawkshead are organising and running the works what happens if there is a dispute between what is carried out and what was expected. To alleviate this problem the Clerk will draw up contracts between the PC's and all will be clear on estimated cost per gritting day and areas that are to be covered. This will include driving to and from the roads that need gritting. Clerk to sort a time and hourly rate in consultation with Shaun once it is known who will be purchasing the gritter.
- 128.2 UN RESOLVED The cracked water trough on Roger Ground E1/221633 Assigned to Highways last year. Clerk chased for an update
- 128.3 RESOLVED The request for a streetlight near Springwood – E1/234875 EI/243024 installed
- 128.4 RESOLVED Cllr Mclennon updated on Cumbria Action local housing project. It has been agreed that there is a need for local houses. 3-4 possible sites have been identified the most popular being the bottom end of the car park by the bins. They own the land. They are to approach the land owners of the other suggested sites to see if it would be feasible.
- 128.5 RESOLVED response from National Trust re Gallery building and HLF funding. Cllr Spedding to contact. This can now be resolved, as the application date has passed.
- 128.6 UN RESOLVED the building in the centre of the square and plans for future. To keep on the agenda until more is known. Clerk to contact for an update. The light is on, Clerk to mention this.
- 128.7 RESOLVED The placing SIDs posts. The agreement with the Woodland Trust was signed. Clerk attended a meeting with the W&F traffic management and team leader. There are permits to apply for to site SIDs. Forms received now and Clerk will be completed for all four SIDs. They have agreed to site the SID in the field by the side of the road.
- 128.8 RESOLVED the situation in North Square and the unsightly weeds. The owners have been approached and the Coop did sort. The other premises were not accommodating. They will be dying off now so to pick up again next year
- 128.9 RESOLVED the broken benches by Heelis Place. This has now been replaced and the old broken bench has been removed.
- 128.10 UN RESOLVED the litter bin by the Chocolate shop and on the Rec. We received a complaint that the rec bin was overflowing and resolved Clerk to contact the grass cutters to empty the bins more regularly. Photographs of the overflowing bin by the Chocolate shop to be sent to the clerk as evidence that a second bin is required.
- 128.11 UNRESOLVED The Hawkshead sign that is currently being stored in the Market Hall. Used to be in a wooden surround. Where can it go and how to restore it, Permission to put up and the cost were discussed. Clerk to obtain quotes for the work first.
- 128.12 RESOLVED Clerks contract wording and decide amount of Annual Leave. To be discussed following the meeting as a closed item

129/09/25 New matters arising

- 129.1 RESOLVED Report on the meeting with LDNPA and Cllr Suzanne Pender over parking costs in Hawkshead. This was discussed in public participation.
- 129.2 RESOLVED The signage and A board situation. 2 complaints have been received about the signage in the village. One specific to wording and one in general. The PC discussed what they could do but it was decided that they have no jurisdiction on this matter. Clerk to send general email letter to go out asking that access is kept clear and a boards and banners are only on their land. Look at having to VE day banners removed.

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

- 129.3 UNRESOLVED Clerks report on Gov.com web addresses. Archiving, banking and minutes Clerk has contacted the bank again to try and obtain access to the bank account. GOV.com training has been completed by the Clerk. Can update at a later meeting because of time constraints in the evenings meeting. Request by the clerk for extra hours to complete document archive and destruction of details to comply with GDPR e.g. parking permit details was granted. Clerk had attended an online planning session for information on Parish and Town Councils for background information on 1st September and had more details on planning responses now. The you tube video of the session was sent to Cllrs. Clerk needs to look at the website that does not comply with assertion 10..Clerk to collate quotes for the next meeting and decide how to progress with moving over to a GOV.uk domain and email.
- 129.4 RESOLVED Car parking permits for the Old Police Car Park. A member of the public contacted Tim Farron and complained that they had received a ticket while he had a courtesy car while in the Old Police Car Park. Clerk responded to both to advise that they contact W&F with proof of the courtesy car dates and request a refund. It was discussed if there was a way of providing temporary permits for this situation. It was decided that this was not an option and it is up to the car user to claim the parking fine back.
- 129.5 RESOLVED We have had a request from a member of the public to see if there is any way to help with the problem parking at Parking at Kings Yard. Clerk to send onto Cllr Pender to see what could be done.
- 129.6 RESOLVED There was correspondence from a member of the public concerned about the Himalayan Balsam at Black Beck footpath. The Clerk contacted LDNPA but was referred onto Invasive Non-Native Species Coordinator for South Cumbria Rivers Trust Unfortunately, It will be too late to tackle it this year but they can meet with the Clerk to look at the problem and give you resources for how to tackle it next year? It appears to be the land owners responsibility.
- 129.7 RESOLVED The grass cutting tender. All works have nearly been carried out now this year as the Grass cutting is between March and September and the Hedge clipping at the end of the season. Two contracts were signed to extend the current contract for another year. This will be put to tender in January.
- 129.8 RESOLVED A complaint was received over the parking at Barnfield and that it was established in November 2018 that the local only sign there cannot be enforced. The PC are not in a position to enforce this but as per 127.2, the issue of parking is to be looked at.
- 129.9 RESLOVED Email to request attendance at two virtual meetings per year. To agree when dates are and then will confirm attendance

130/09/25. Highways

To note Highways issues in the Parish

- 130.1 UNRESOLVED the drains blocked on the North Lonsdale Road E1/215144 and now all local drains need clearing E1/177362
- 130.2 UNRESLOVED The hole developing on the road edge near Lakes Lodges E1/110351. Chased and no further response.
- 130.3 UNRESLOVED potholes in the Outgate area E1/226058 Again a lot of communication between the Clerk and Highways. The case had been closed. WTW and photos sent as extra evidence.
- 130.4 RESLOVED The road edge as you head down the hill by the fishery EI/227474 There has been quite a lot of communication between the Clerk and Highways, they shut the case but it is now reopened with WTW and photographs uploaded as extra evidence. The pothole has now been repaired. Clerk to address the road degrading just down as a new complaint to see if we can get that addressed also.
- 130.5 UNRESOLVED The large pothole on the middle of the road at the bottom of the lake on the way to Sawrey E1/233208 E1/238788 E1/243043
- 130.6 UNRESOLVED potholes outside Gingerbread Shop EI/245629
- 130.7 UNRESLOVED the signs that have been knocked down opposite the T junction for Sawrey/Grizedale opposite Bowling club EI/245219 Wall back up not signs
- 130.8 RESOLVED the drains at Roger ground to Hawkshead. LA22 0QG E1/251035 Clerk has received notification that this has been resolved by attending and jetting a few gullies. Cllr confirmed this has been carried out. Water coming down from s bends, but will check and we will report as a new problem..
- 130.9 UNRESOLVED the grid at the Coniston Junction on the way to Outgate. EI/253802 Assigned to Highways on 22/7/25 Clerk found this pot hole while taking photographs at Belmont.
- 130.10 RESOLVED the signage at Vicarage Lane EI/253806 The Highways Agency responded to say that they have previously investigated this matter. They concluded that there is no provision to install signage on the Highway. Clerk to reply to the member of the public.
- 130.11 UNRESOLVED The grid at Springwood EI/253804 Assigned to Highways on 22/7/25

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date_____

130.12 UNRESOLVED The school road markings following the road resurfacing. EI/257392 Assigned to a highways team on 27/8/25

131/07/25 Finance & Governance Issues

131.1 To authorise payment of the following accounts:-

RESOLVED Clerk wage 2 months	£ 989.10
RESOLVED Lengthsman 1 months	£ 333.00
RESOLVED Plants	£ 40.00
RESOLVED CALC finance training for the Clerk	£ 00.00
There was an invoice from CALC for £42 but the Clerk contested as the courses were BOGOF	
RESOLVED Cllr Berry Expenses.	£ 41.00
RESOLVED Community Heartbeat Defibs	£ 72.00
RESOLVED Recreation ground	£4500.00

131.2 To acknowledge income sources:

RESOLVED Car parking permits	£ 160.00
------------------------------	----------

131.3 Monthly update of the finances.

RESOLVED unable to confirm at this time. Cannot reconcile without access to the bank accounts.

131.4 RESOLVED First quarter accounts check. Paper copies signed.

131.5 To consider items for the upcoming budget for 2026/2027 Clerk has attended a budgeting course. It was suggested to look at longer on going projects and add these items gradually over a couple of years. Playground, achive, gritting, GOV website and emails all need to be considered.

132/09/25. Planning Application

132.1 7/2025/5387 Lama Lodge, Hawkshead, LA22 0QB Replacement of wooden dwelling house with contemporary self-build dwellinghouse with associated works including new highways access (resubmission) As there was no August meeting or quorum the following decision was submitted by email on 13/8/25

RESOLVED The Cllrs were in agreement to ratify the following submission.

The Councillors viewed the plans and strongly object to the plans, their reasons being: -There has already been an illegal felling with a considerable number of trees to make this space, Safety concerns regarding proposed entrance is on a section of road with low visibility, narrow with bends. There were concerns previously about the current building being a holiday home without permission. The proposed new build is considerably bigger than the current building (this will impact on local utilities, local neighbourhood outlook). The visual impact is not in keeping with dwellings which surround it. No mention of local occupancy. There is no demand for any addition holiday homes in the area. There is a desperate need for local affordable housing. There is not any significant material change in this resubmission other than moving the garage from underneath to the side (increasing the size of the site plan).

133/09/2025 Planning permission decisions.

133.1 RESOLVED Cllrs noted the decision 7/2025/5140 Location: Belmont, Outgate, Hawkshead, LA22 0NJ Proposal: Material change of use of the building from use as a guesthouse to a flexible use as either a large holiday-let or as a single dwelling-house; conversion of the bank barn to create a dwelling as required for staff accommodation; new detached outbuildings; new conservatory within walled garden; works to boundary walls and gates; new sewage treatment plant and new ground source heat pump The Authority has made a decision (Granted) on this application

133.2 RESOLVED Cllrs noted the decision 7/2025/5141 Location: Belmont, Outgate, Hawkshead, LA22 0NJ Proposal: External and internal alterations to the house to reinstate as a single dwelling; open ironwork porches to north and west elevations with associated alterations to existing stone staircase; conversion of bank barn and detached outbuildings, alterations to existing stone gate piers and reinstatement of decorative ironwork fencing on the existing stone roadside walls The Authority has made a decision (Granted) on this application.

133.3 RESOLVED Cllrs noted the decision 7/2025/5279 Location Allens House Hawkshead Hill Hawkshead LA22 0PW replacement porch. The Authority has made a decision (Granted) on this application.

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

134/09/2025 Lengthsman

The verge and wall by Hawkshead Old Hall has been cleared.

Two benches have been restored.

There is a dead branch on the tree marked on the photograph that needs to come down. Todd can carry out this work with minimum disruption. Agreed to carry out Clerk to contact to give the go ahead.

135/09/2025 Councillor Matters

Rats seem to have become a problem in the village. It was suggested that if the Parish Council contact W&F you can report. Clerk to contact

Question about a new sign on a property. Clerk to establish the rules on signage..

136/09/2025 Correspondence

Request from SP electricity to attend a meeting in November 2025 to discuss the three scopes of work in and around Coniston and how it may impact travel in our area with roadworks/closures.

Request from the community development officer for details of toilets we own or run. Responded the PC do not own or run any such facility

Request on the Old Courthouse and how to access. The PC do not own and directed to our contact in the National trust.

The Environmental agency has provided a link to report water and odour pollution on line.

Plans to harmonise Westmorland and Furness Council's waste and recycling collections are to be discussed at a meeting on 9th September.

Invite to a workshop/session with Andrew McGuinness of Coach Passenger Transport Association to discuss how the area can work together to better position itself for the domestic group market. Hear best practice examples and discuss what this area could replicate. 14th of October 11.30-1pm

Clerk attended LDNPA planning meeting 1/9/25 Cllrs can ask to attend if the application goes to committee. Note on the response. There are three views from the Parish Council, Approve, refuse of neutral. We must state reasons why we decided the previous response.

Wray Castle restoration project underway to secure historic landmark's future.

Request for an assessment of Visitor Accommodation and the associated impacts on both communities and the landscapes of the Lake District National Park on behalf of the Friends of the Lake District. Late responses accepted. No details provided..

Neighbourhood policing teams update

Research update from Cumbria Tourism

Waste recycling arrangements to be decided on 9th September

137/29/25 Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting will be Tuesday 14th of October Hawkshead Lower Market Hall

Meeting concluded at 9.18pm

Continued as closed meeting to address the following employment issue.

128/07/2025.12 Clerks contract wording and decide amount of Annual Leave. Pay scale addition to the contract.