

Hawkshead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council

Held in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 7.30pm

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

153/11/25 Apologies

RESOLVED that apologies for absence for received from Cllr Spedding, Cllr Berry and Cllr Pender accepted.

154/11/25 Requests for Dispensations

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

155/11/25 Declaration of Interest

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

156/11/25 Minutes

RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th October confirmed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

157/11/25 Public Participation

157.1 To receive reports from Police

The web site is being updated now. No reports of any crime in the area.

Westmorland and Furness Councillor

Cllr Pender was unable to attend, nothing to report.

National Trust

Green End House is having works to repair parts of the front render and sash windows. They are collating costs for internal refurbishments. Awaiting revised plans and an update regarding United Utilities and their proposed SuD scheme planned for the field adjacent to the Post Office field. Had to look this up National standards for sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)

A quick reminder that they are awaiting the approval of the Listed Building Consent for Hill Top Farmhouse to carry out refurbishment along with important fire separation and fire alarm upgrade.

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

See 159.4 Annabel from SP electricity reported on the works in the area next year.

See 158.3 Housing action with communities in Cumbria progress report.

See 159.7 Details of the Fibus works were discussed.

A member of the public reported Blocked drains and shared concerns about the general tidiness of the Village. It was decided to request the road sweeper and the clerk to report the drains.

158/11/2025 Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

158.1 UNRESLOVED There was an update on the snow plough and gritters situation.
Shaun has completed the health and safety training and returned to complete the practical on the 3rd of November 2025.

The contract was signed between W&F and the Parish Council.

The grant has been invoiced for £1000 to pay for training by Shaun.

Shaun will invoice at £40 per hour. He suggested charging £50 per hour to the parishes as Hawkshead have the maintenance and logistics of organisation costs to cover. Plus the cost of the gritter that they will purchase. The hourly rate was discussed and it was felt that £55 was more reasonable. This is yet to be agreed.

W&F did go out in Coniston 56 times but it was felt with local knowledge that figure will be far less, 10-12 in previous years. W&F grit when it is going to rain and the decision by Hawkshead Parish Council will be not to grit when there is a chance of rain to wash the grit away. It is not cost effective. Hawkshead Parish Council will take the decision on when the roads will be gritted. All parishes will be gritted.

Shaun's insurance to clear snow and grit has been seen and a copy held on file.

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Clerk checked the insurance for the PC to cover gritting. The correct amount of 10 million has been confirmed, they also confirmed that if we have the correct policies on H&S we will be covered. The gritting routes had been discussed between representatives of all Parish Councils and a final draft will be sent to W&F.

It was felt that the logistics on running the gritting service would be finalised once the gritter has or has not been purchased. Cllr Brown to organise with Shaun the viewing of the gritter.

- 158.2 UNRESOLVED the cracked water trough on Roger Ground E1/221633 E1/238786 Clerk complained to W&F as this has been going on a year now. It needs looking at before this winter.
- 158.3 UNRESOLVED Housing Action with communities in Cumbria provided an update on the current situation and the next steps. On walking round the village areas that may be suitable were identified. LDNPA and South Lakes housing wanted to have a conversation in the community. It was agreed there is a need for social housing and the Parish council are keen to support. To consult the public There will be a survey on the residents feelings, then perhaps a public meeting to discuss the suggestions further If there are any land owners known that their land can be utilised for new affordable housing, they would be very grateful for details.
- 158.4 UNRESOLVED Clerk updated on the building in the centre of the square. Clerk emailed the agent for an update on 11/11/25 no response. It was expected that there would be some movement on the properties by now.
- 158.5 UNRESOLVED Cllr Brown updated on the SID situation. Both new posts that have been installed under a tree. They have been placed correctly as W&F Stated but these locations are not fit for purpose. The post in the recreation ground on public footpath is too low and people would bump their heads on the SID once installed. It was discussed and if the 20mpg zone towards Newby Bridge was extended then the original SID post could be utilised. Ongoing.
- 158.6 UNRESOLVED no progress on the litter bin by the Chocolate shop and on the Rec. More of a summer problem. Look again next year.
- 158.7 RESOLVED The Hawkshead sign was delivered to by the clerk to a gentleman that is Lengthsman for Colton and Haverthwaite. He was very impressed with the sign and it would be his pleasure to restore it for free.
- 158.8 UNRESOLVED Cllr Berry was unavailable for an update on the report of rats in the village. Clerk has contacted united utilities but no reply to date.
- 158.9 RESOLVED The LDNPA gate that was to be reported by the Clerk had already been fixed when Cllr Bremner checked. The footpath is eroding and it is a miles without styles. Clerk to contact LDNPA.
- 158.10 RESOLVED The Clerk reported the Gentleman in the village threatening the public. The Police responded to say that this was classified as hearsay and any members of the public should report incidence directly.
- 158.11 RESOLVED Cllrs updated on the noticeboard on the side of the Kings Arms. They went in and found the notice board. Clerk to email Kings arm to put it back up.

159/11/25 New matters arising

- 159.1 RESOLVED The Cllrs discussed the new ward boundaries. Hawkshead is now in the same ward as Coniston and Broughton. Claife, Skelwith and Satterthwaite are with Greenodd and Satterthwaite ward. If we have to merge then Claife is the obvious parish and it was agreed that this would suitable. Cllr Brodie requested that we put a complaint in about the ward boundaries changing without consultation. Clark to action.
- 159.2 RESOLVED The Cllrs discussed the possibility of becoming a coach friendly village. This was opposed, it was felt there are too many coaches and the road infrastructure is not adequate for more large vehicles.
- 159.3 RESOLVED The Cllrs discussed the setting up of a Facebook page. The Clerk explained that items such as the tree planting and road closures could be shared with a wider audience than those who read the minutes. Some meetings that are sent to us have passed before the date of the PC meeting. Having Facebook is a way to get the information out. Clerk to set up and maintain.
- 159.4 RESOLVED The Cllrs heard from SP electricity and discussed road closures. Sp electricity North West. Explained that they are looking at improving resilience in the area. To try and reduce the number of power cuts. The works will significantly impact Hawkshead, as work is to be carried out from Ambleside to Coniston with road closures from Hawkshead to Coniston. Much of the work they will try and carry out of hours where they can. SP would like to work with the community and asked for any dates in June 2026- winter 2026 that they could avoid. SP and the Clerk to liaise. SP details to be sent to Claife so they can be involved.

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- 159.5 RESOLVED The Clerk failed to attend the design code workshop at the coronation hall on 12th November as she was working on the gritting.
- 159.6 RESOLVED The letter from Kendal ACC 10k was discussed. The route will start at the north end of the village just before the junction with the road to Ambleside and the finish is on the B5285 from Far Sawrey as it nears Hawkshead. The race follows a route around Esthwaite Water travelling down the west side of the lake and cutting through at Eel House before coming back into Hawkshead from the east side of the lake.
It was decided that the serving of food was not a Parish Council matter and the ACC should contact the local council. Clerk to reply.
- 159.7 RESOLVED It was discussed the plans from Fibrus for works. With Cllr Brodie from Claife providing more information. This is to be carried out in November 2025. More details to follow once Cllr Pender speaks to Hyperfast Networks. Fibrus and Openreach are using posts. Poles where there were not any before. Two members complained about the poles and one for damage to land. As a Parish Council we will complain to Fibrus and Openreach.. Clerk to contact

160/11/25. Highways

To note Highways issues in the Parish

- 160.1 UNRESOLVED the drains blocked on the North Lonsdale Road E1/215114 and now all local drains need clearing E1/177362 Complaint submitted on 6/11/25
- 160.2 UNRESOLVED The hole developing on the road edge near Lakes Lodges E1/110351,
- 160.3 UNRESOLVED Potholes in the Outgate area E1/226058 Clerk submitted a complaint on the condition of the road. Reply from Highways We can confirm that our team have reviewed your enquiry regarding potholes on the carriageway at the location reported on the B5286, Outgate. The team have advised that our Safety Inspection team have recently raised this report and the relevant team have been made aware. Any appropriate action that may be required will be completed in due course. Thank you for the additional information you have provided, we have referred this to the relevant team.
- 160.4 RESOLVED 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 This has now been repaired.
- 160.5 RESOLVED potholes outside Gingerbread Shop E1/245629 Chased on 2/10/25 and what 3 words provided. Put a complaint in on 6/11/25 as water is collecting in them and you are unable to see. Clerk uploaded photos on 11/11/25
- 160.6 RESOLVED To update on signs that have been knocked down opposite the T junction for Sawrey/Grizedale opposite Bowling club E1/245219 Chased 2/10/25
- 160.7 UNRESOLVED the grid at the Coniston Junction on the way to Outgate. E1/253802 Assigned to highways, date not known.
- 160.8 UNRESOLVED the grid at Springwood E1/253804 Assigned to Highways on 22/7/25 Chased for a response 6/11/25
- 160.9 UNRESOLVED To update on the school road markings following the road resurfacing. E1/257392 Referred to the highways team School have chased.
- 160.10 UNRESOLVED Previously discussed, on agenda twice by mistake.
- 160.11 UNRESOLVED Unable to establish a location Cllr Berry to confirm with the lifting of the tarmac on Flag street.

161/11/25 Finance & Governance Issues

- 161.1 To authorise payment of the following accounts:-
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| Clerk wage | £ 510.65 |
| Lengthsman | £ 333.00 |
| Re issue of cheques missing in the post. | £ 269.38 |
| Andrew Thompson Grass cutting | £ 1440.00 |
| Stamps | £ 13.92 |
| Thomas Kirkbride | £6000.00 |
- 161.2 To acknowledge income sources:
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| Car parking permits | £ 10.00 |
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- Main street car park £ 1825.00
- 161.3 Monthly update of the finances. Balances of accounts as of 17/11/25 Current account 13,602.95 deposit £22786.44
- 161.4 The upcoming budget for 2026/2027 is still being considered and will be discussed more in December.
- 161.5 RESOLVED It was discussed the working from home allowance for clerks. Refused.
- 161.6 UNRESOLVED The clerk reported that she has contacted the internal auditor for Haverthwaite and is awaiting a price.
- 161.7 UNRESOLVED The clerk updated on the online banking situation. Currently waiting for Bankline to accept the request to have two signatories to authorise payments.

162/11/25 Planning Application The following planning applications were discussed

- 162.1 7/2025/5592 Location: Lama Lodge, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0QB Proposal: Use of land as domestic garden for Lama Lodge, Hawkshead There is no provision for consultation on this type of application.
- 162.2 St Michael & All Angels Church, Hawkshead, LA22 0PQ Proposal: Fell 3 Lawson cypress (T3, T4 & T5) APPROVED
- 162.3 1 Chapel Cottage, Flag Street, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0PE Proposal: Replacement of two windows on a like-for-like basis APPROVED

148/10/2025 Planning permission decisions. The following decisions were noted.

- 163.1 7/2025/5484 Location: Field North of Old Bark House, Field adjacent Old Bark House, Hawkshead Hill, Ambleside, LA22 0PW Proposal: Folly, viewing station field building The Authority has made a decision (Refused) on this application.

149/10/2025 Lengthsman

Shaun has offered to work with Tod on the drains in the village. Tod has been contacted and awaiting a response. Tod has on his list the playground fencing - weather dependent, and winter inspection of the highway grids to see if any are blocked.

The noticeboard in the Old Police Car Park is wobbly Clerk to report to lengthsman.

150/10/2025 Councillor Matters

There is a loose flag by the archway, north to south square. Clerk to report

Behind the Queens is a sign about a village restaurant. Massive sign. Complaints have been made. Clerk to check on planning regulations for the sign.

150/10/2025 Correspondence

- Request for signage to be agreed by the Parish Council. Referred to planning.
- Councils have said yes to a Mayor led authority.
- Tree preservation order received for Belmont Hall Outgate.
- Calc have contacted us regarding CALC providing internal audit service. Responded to that more information is required on cost.
- United utilities are looking to make improvements at both the Wastewater Treatment Works and the pumping station in Hawkshead. To inform the final solution at Hawkshead, they will be undertaking some ground investigation works and topographical surveys from 10 November 2025 and they expect this work to take approximately 8 weeks to complete. They will do their best to minimise disruption to the local community whilst we are in the area, and the work will not affect water or wastewater services.
- Cumbria Tourism research update document.
- Council invites residents, community groups and local organisations to apply for free trees and hedge packs as part of its One Tree per Resident project.
- The Cumbria Lieutenancy is proud to support the Veterans' Oaks Project - a county-wide campaign inviting communities to plant oak trees as living memorials to all those affected by war, both military and civilian. The Lieutenancy is encouraging schools, community groups, veterans' associations, faith groups, and residents to take part by planting native oak trees in places that matter to them- from village greens and school grounds to care homes, churches, and private gardens. Those interested in

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taking part can visit www.veterans-oaks.org for more information, including: Guidance on choosing and planting trees. Funding options via The Tree Council's Branching Out Fund Advice on sourcing trees from Plant Healthy Certified Nurseries

- Cumbria Action invite to What is the Local Plan for the Lake District and why is it important? 13th November.
- Is your community winter ready virtual meeting invite.
- An Email from a Member of the Public to question the transparency of the planning process if carried out by email. Reassured that this is common practice for many Parishes. This would only be implemented should we not be able to discuss at a Parish meeting as the LDNPA time restraints do not allow.
- Notice of closure of the footpaths at Grizedale.

150/10/25 Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting will be Tuesday 16th December Hawkshead Lower Market Hall

Meeting concluded at 21.00 pm

- 000/00/25** The 6 month performance review for the clerk was carried out in a closed meeting. It was unanimous yes to continue.