

Hawkshead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council

Held in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7.30 pm

Present: Chair Cllr Spedding; Cllrs Johnston, Brown, Bremner, MacLennan Berry and Clerk – Janet Taffs

7 members of the public in attendance

207/02/26 Apologies

RESOLVED that apologies for absence are received from Cllr Moulton and were accepted.

208/02/26 Requests for Dispensations

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

209/02/26 Declaration of Interest

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

Cllr Bremner declared that she is employed by the school for point 216.2 and Cllr MacLennan is a school Governor for the same agenda number.

210/02/26 Minutes

RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20th January 2025, were confirmed to be an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

211/02/26 Public Participation

211.1 To receive reports from

- **Police**

One report of Public order and one of violence and sexual offence both in The Square, Hawkshead. December 2025

- **Westmorland and Furness Councillor** No report, the email arrived after the clerk had left for the meeting, Cllr Pender is busy working for her constituents.

- **National Trust** No report to date

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

Hawksgarth, the road is subsiding now due to the drain issue. Clerk to photograph during her visit on Monday and report to W&F as a complaint.. Victoria Beck has a rat problem. United Utilities will be contacted again.

Concerns were raised over the Bragg Field site.

Concerns we raised to Hawkshead Hill from left to the beck. The drains are full of gravel and leaves, and the pipework is blocked, not just on top of the drains, but also needs to be cleared out of debris.

The water has been flowing over the adjoining land for the past 8 years, and the landowners are at their wits' end. Resulting in flooding on the road and ice in the winter months.

Speed signs have come down at Springwood.

212/02/26 Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

212.1 RESOLVED Gritting to stay on the agenda for updates. Haverthwaite Parish, Shaun has been round the route, and it takes 1.5 hours from Satterthwaite and back to Hawkshead. 2 hours if not carried out at the same time as the main gritting run. Colton are not wanting to go forward with this at this time but will keep on the agenda, they are currently working on an emergency plan.

212.2 UNRESOLVED the cracked water trough on Roger Ground E1/221633. Cllr Spedding and MacLennan have visited the trough to look at the damage. Something has hit it and taken the top layer off. Water is running off it. Now not safe and causing water across the road. Clerk to ask Cllr Pender to expedite.

212.3 UNRESOLVED Housing Action with communities in Cumbria is still continuing to look for available space.

212.4 RESOLVED Clerk has received an update from the building manager regarding the tenancies and the ongoing works in the building in the square. The first floor letting is completed, and the ground floor is pending completion. The works are due to start at the end of April.

212.5 UNRESOLVED The SIDs New posts are in and the units can now go on.

212.6 UNRESOLVED: no progress on the litter bin by the Chocolate shop and on the Rec. More of a summer problem. Look again next year.

212.7 UNRESOLVED The Old Hawkshead sign, still being restored and work is continuing.

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- 212.8 UNRESOLVED The noticeboard on the side of the King's Arms. The Clerk has contacted the King's Arms for an update on how this is progressing. They were not aware that this is not solely for the use of the PC and is a community notice board.
- 212.9 RESOLVED The pothole on the Miles without styles walk from Hawkshead to Wray on the LDNPA work program to repair. Done
- 212.10 UNRESOLVED The Emergency plan was discussed and it was felt that more information was needed for this to be completed successfully. The Clerk is to ask other Parishes about their involvement with the local community in compiling the plan and CALC.
- 212.11 UNRESOLVED The landslip Vicage lane on the walk has been reported to LDNPA. One of the rangers has closed the area off, and it has been added to their work program and will be prioritised against other rights of way work for completion.
- 212.12 UNRESOLVED The clerk has requested more regular enforcement patrols on the OPCP.
- 212.13 UNRESOLVED The parking situation on Hawksgarth. The clerk has emailed South Lakeland directly to establish if they are able to provide signage for residents only. She has arranged a meeting with a resident and South Lakes for Monday 23rd February at 9.30 am to discuss locations.
- 212.14 UNRESOLVED The clerk has applied for a Locality grant for Gritting reserves from Cllr Pender. This cannot be paid until the process opens again on April 1st.

213/02/26 New matters arising

- 213.1 RESOLVED The Clerk has relayed dates to SP Electricity from the Facebook feedback.
- 213.2 UNRESOLVED The Cllrs discussed the risk assessments of the Old Police Car Park and the Main Street Car Park. It was agreed that the Lengthsman was to remove the brambles, fence and broken sign. To look at the pot hole and sunken grid to see if he was able to rectify./ Clerk to contact. Cllr Brown to contact Pandora Signs for a quote for name signs for the main street car park spaces.
- 213.3 RESOLVED The tender for the Old Police Car Park and Hawkshead Village grass cutting was agreed, only one tender was received, it was advertised on the community Facebook page, Parish Council Facebook page and the notice boards. It was felt that wider advertising would not create further applicants due to the rural location of the works and the tender received was of a fair price, £1260 plus vat £ 1575.00 per year for three years. Last year was £1440 per year. The successful contractor will be contacted by the Clerk.
- 213.4 RESOLVED It was noted that Satterthwaite and Colton and are both agreeable to exploring the possibilities of merging or grouping. Skelwith are wishing to merge or group, but Coniston are not. Skelwith have noted Hawkshead as a second open in the documentation. Claife and Hawkshead have noted that a merge or group with Hawkshead is not the correct time but makes geographical sense long term. Hawkshead's response was No change at this time.
- 213.5 RESOLVED The proposed development at Bragg Field, planning application 7/2024/5178, for a convenience store and petrol filling station. LDNPA have requested a meeting with Cllrs to provide a balanced view of residents' view to meet. Cllr Bremner and Spedding have agreed to attend.. Clerk to arrange.

214/02/26. Highways

To note Highways issues in the Parish

- 214.1 RESOLVED the drains blocked on the North Lonsdale Road E1/215114
- 214.2 UNRESOLVED The hole developing on the road edge near Lakes Lodges E1/110351,
- 214.3 UNRESOLVED Potholes in the Outgate area E1/226058 Works have started.
- 214.4 UNRESOLVED 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
- 214.5 RESOLVED the grid at the Coniston Junction on the way to Outgate. E1/253802
- 214.6 UNRESOLVED the grid at Springwood E1/143070 Assigned to Highways on 22/7/25 Chased for a response 6/11/25
- 214.7 UNRESOLVED To update on the school road markings following the road resurfacing. E1/257392 Clerk to chase again directly, as the double yellow lines are also missing.
- 214.8 UNRESOLVED The tarmac on Flag Street and the Clerk to report to Highways. Assigned to a Highways team on 2/2/26
- 214.9 UNRESOLVED The flagstone near the Kings Arms has been reported to highways ref E1/267957

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- 214.10 UNRESOLVED. The drains near Hawksgarth have been reported to Highways EI/267960. Looking back, this has been reported previously on 10/1/23 EI110343 and 1/3/25 EI238785. So, a complaint has been submitted by the Clerk on 16/2/25. Clerk to meet as discussed in public participation, as the drains are now subsiding.
- 214.11 RESOLVED LDNPA lights in the main car park have been repaired. Water ingress into the light sensors were at fault
- 214.12 UNRESOLVED The grids at Betty fold EI/277900 Assigned to highways team 2/2/26
- 214.13 UNRESOLVED The pot hole outside the Red Lion EI/277902 W&F stated they were already aware of this problem, when reported! 2/2/26 Many complaints have been voiced by residents so the Clerk is to file a complaint.
- 214.14 UNRESOLVED The pot hole at Atwood EI/278054 assigned to Highways team 2/2/26
- 214.15 RESOLVED The request for a replacement grit bin by the doctors' surgery EI/278070 It does not show on W&F grit bin locations as having a grit bin but a request has been made. Assigned to a highways team. Response received that the location is not on an incline and does not meet the criteria for a grit bin. Declined.
- 214.16 RESOLVED The request for grit by the OPCP. As the doctors, the road does not meet the W&F criteria for the placement of a grit bin. Look at the risk assessment

215/02/2026 Finance & Governance Issues

- 215.1 RESOLVED authorised payment of the following accounts: -
- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| Clerk wages | £ 510.65 |
| Lengthsman | £ 321.34 |
| Zurich | £ 411.98 |
| Pandora | £ 456.00 |
- 215.2 RESOLVED acknowledged income sources:
- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Car parking permits | £ 30.00 |
| VAT return | £ 1108.20 |
| Claife Parish Council | £ 889.00 |
| Satterthwaite Parish Council | £ 500.00 |
| Skelwith Parish Council | £ 500.00 |
- 215.3 RESOLVED Monthly update of the finances and agree on the reconciliation for the third quarter. Current account Balance as of 16/2/25 £ 5769.71 Deposit account 16/2/25 £22841.07
- 215.4 RESOLVED The Cllrs were updated on the online banking situation. Natwest does not allow two-step authentication. Bankline charge £20 per month for this luxury, which is far more than the cost of the postage we are trying to avoid. Changing bank accounts is an option, but you will be charged £8 in monthly fees. It was felt that physical cheques were better despite the issues with post-delivery payments.
- 215.5 To agree on the internal Auditor for 2026/2027, Finona Ebb was appointed as internal auditor and has experience of working for many parish councils in the area.

216/02/26 Planning Application

The following planning applications were discussed

216.1 RESOLVED 7/2026/5012 Location: Fellfield, Outgate, Ambleside, LA22 0PY Proposal: Non-material amendments to application 7/2024/5618 (Alterations and extension) to level ground south of property, addition of 1m low wall. There is no provision for consultation on this type of application.

216.2 RESOLVED T/2026/0013 Location: Hawkshead School, Main Street, Hawkshead, Cumbria, LA22 0NT Proposal: Silver maple - 3/4m reduction. Ash - pollard. Whitebeam - 3/4m reduction. Norway maple - 4/5m reduction The decision was to approve.

217/02/26 Planning permission decisions. The following decisions were noted.

RESOLVED It was noted the decision 7/2025/5592 Location: Lama Lodge, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0QB Proposal: Use of land as domestic garden for Lama Lodge, Hawkshead The Authority has made a decision (Refused)

218/02/26 Lengthsman

The SID posts have been installed. The posts for the noticeboard OPCP have been purchased

219/02/26 Councillor Matters

The street light outside Parkhouse is not working.

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There is a car in Outgate that has been causing an obstruction since before Christmas with to a flat tyre. Opposite the pub on the Drunken Duck road.

Pot hole YHA to report

There have been lots of complaints about the pot hole outside the Red Lion. To submit a complaint.

220/02/26 Correspondence

- Groundwork grants information, passed onto the Rec treasurer
- Nomination form for the Royal Garden Party attendance
- Iconic Meadow Events Posters
- Locality board performance data
- Extraordinary meeting Coniston Parish Council agenda
- Temporary road closure 9th Feb 2026 for Fibrus
- Letter to Highways from Cllr Pender expressing concerns for the increased traffic in the lakes from the M6 closure.
- W&F Kinship care events
- W&F Proposed increase on the Council tax of 4,9%, the rise in Ferry costs and removal of free disability exemption and garden waste collection fees.
- Information on the Fred Whitton taking place on the 10th May 2026
- Information on the GP surgery in Coniston from Coniston Parish Council

221/02/26 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be Tuesday, 17th March 2026, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead Evonne away

Meeting concluded at 20.46pm