

**Minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council**  
**Held in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr Spedding  
Cllrs Moulton, Brown, Bremner, Johnston  
Clerk – Tracey Thornley

In attendance: 30 members of the public

66/2024 **Apologies**

RESOLVED Apologies received from Cllr Berry

67/2024 **Requests for Dispensations**

RESOLVED No requests received

68/2024 **Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items**

RESOLVED None

69/2024 **Minutes**

RESOLVED the Chair of the meeting was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**Police, Westmorland and Furness Council, and Public Participation**

70/2024 Police

The Clerk had looked on the Police.uk website on 19/5/24 the statistics showed were from March 2024 – 1 criminal damage/arson Nr Kings Yard – investigation complete no suspect identified; 1 drugs on or near Scarhouse Lane – further investigation not in the public interest.

71/2024 Westmorland and Furness Council

Cllr Pender not present, no report available.

72/2024 Public Participation

The attendance of 30 members of the public was mainly due to planning application 7/2024/5178 – Land at Bragg Field, Bragg Field, Hawkshead, LA22 0QW listed in planning below. The Chair asked for a show of hands for who was against and who was for the application three quarters of those present were against the application. The Chair gave each individual an opportunity should they wish to put their points of view across, below is a summary of these points:-

Against:

- Properties within the planned site area do not want a petrol station on their front door – health and pollution concerns including smell, sound and light.
- Concern about the noise from the fans from the Spar
- Concern regarding the bins which are to be placed against the resident property boundaries
- Fuel station is not necessary, the village has coped for 20 years without one – something to increase trade would be more appropriate
- Concern people would stop use the shop and not go into the village
- Home owners in the area felt it would de-value their homes
- Concern about the drilling to test the ground was shaking their properties what impact would this build have on their property foundations.
- Road infrastructure will not cope with additional delivery lorries and tankers
- The village Coop will suffer along with other businesses
- Concern regarding parking spaces for the doctors surgery and easy access for patients
- Upset that local residents who live next to proposed site have received no consultation/notifications of these plans
- Parking issues for houses on the site

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- It was felt that there is a need for a commercial property to enhance the village but not necessarily a petrol station the loss of the Post Office and the Beatrix Potter Gallery has had a big impact on the village.
- Staffing issues already a problem in the village – where are the extra staff going to come from?

For:-

- Concern that the village needs invigorating and with visitor numbers decreasing this may help
- It was felt a garage would encourage people to drive through to Hawkshead and stop and look round.

The Chair thanked the public for the input and Councillors agreed to do a site visit tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11 am and report their decision to the Clerk to forward on to the Planning Department, LDNPA.

The Chair from Hawkshead Show – had an issue with a road that was closed at last years event causing a lot of issues for participants. Action Clerk to contact Highways and Electricity North West to notify of the date Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August and ask if they could make sure there are no road closures on access roads to Hawkshead on that day.

Member of the public reported that all the drains are blocked – Clerk to continue to report them.

Laura Ruxton, National Trust new General Manager, attended the meeting was welcomed by the Chair, she gave a quick background introduction about herself and then gave an update: she confirmed that the National Trust are obliged to bring the Beatrix Potter artwork back to the Lake District but the gallery is not suitable due to humidity issues. They are currently digitalising the images. There is an art exhibition planned in the gallery August/September this year with local artists there will be digitalised copies of the Beatrix Potter images on display. There is work to be completed on the roof of the property. In mid July they will be launching a Beatrix Potter trail they have been working with a design company and children at Hawkshead Primary School.

The NT are helping to sponsor a bus service which will run until first week in November at the moment the service is not breaking even (not helped by the Ferry being closed) Mountain Goat are really hoping the numbers will pick up. Housing Castle Farm cottage viewing last week, Hawkshead Field Cottage out on the market in June will then have no vacant properties. They are looking at putting the old ticket office back to accommodation within the residential house. Laura also reported that long term visitor numbers dropped considerably in the local tourist attractions from figures 2018.

Members of the public voiced concern that the NT focus is on Wray Castle and are concerned that the Beatrix Potter gallery is a huge loss to the village, they felt that the paintings and properties were left to the trust to be kept in the local community and this is not happening.

Member of the public - Brathay marathon why was it on a Saturday? It was reported that Brathay was trying to generate more numbers to attract people to stay in the local area rather than come for the day. Although it was signed in advance some had not realised the day change however the later start time gave time for people to get out of the village, reports that there was someone on a quadbike who was speeding through outgate thought to be part of the event – Cllr Johnston will find out who is responsible.

Member of public - grass in Old Police Car Park has not been cut – it was reported that it had been cut in the last couple of days, broken fence and boundary fence – broken fence is being worked on by the Lengthsman, Cllr Spedding with contact the previous chair to ask what had happened regarding the boundaries.

Member of the public – the footpath from Roger Ground to Hawkshead is overgrown with brambles etc Clerk to contact Sara Spicer, LDNPA

Fieldhead road end where the off road footpath there is fencing that is broken and on the footpath – Cllr Johnston will find out who is responsible for this it is on Attwood land.

#### 73/2024 **Ongoing Issues Action Results**

UNRESOLVED snow gritter and plough – Clerk to ask Cllr Pender if there is any update on this.

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RESOLVED future ferry plans – its back in place

RESOLVED land in front of the Queens Head and Chemist – Highways have confirmed that this is a pedestrian area

UNRESOLVED Weed spraying – ongoing Clerk to ask Cllr Pender if she has managed to get someone to come out to Hawkshead

**74/2024 Highways Issues**

Highways issues in the Parish:

UNRESOLVED All drains along North Lonsdale Road are blocked with mud E1/79317, E1/177362 – report all of them again

UNRESOLVED Roadside near Lakes lodges a hole is developing in the edge of the road E1/1103351 E1/133268 E1/143069 ongoing

RESOLVED deep pothole on Hannakin hill E1/175112

UNRESOLVED loose slab/slate outside Tigers Eye E1/177640

UNRESOLVED loose slabs/slates outside the Queens and Chemist E1/177643

RESOLVED pothole near Eel House E1/199550

UNRESOLVED broken bollard by Merlin House E1/200971

UNRESOLVED leaning speed sign by Merlin House E1/200973

RESOLVED pothole by Rough Close E1/200974

RESOLVED manhole cover with disintegrated edges opposite the Coach House E1/200978

UNRESOLVED pothole at the junction near fishery E1/200980

UNRESOLVED potholes near Outgate E1/201056

RESOLVED potholes near Waterside House entrance Hannakin E1/201055

RESOLVED pothole outside Syke Cottage, Hannakin E1/201051

UNRESOLVED row of potholes outside Hawkshead School E1/201048

UNRESOLVED potholes at Gallowbarrow E1/201046

**75/2024 Finance & Governance Issues**

RESOLVED Councillors authorised payment of the following accounts:-

Clerk wages	£411.50
HMRC – PAYE	£103.00
Lengthsman	£492.45
Westmorland & Furness Council Main St CP Rates	£2470.05
Westmorland & Furness Council OP CP	£1347.30

RESOLVED Councillors acknowledged the following income sources:

Main St CP	£360.00
Westmorland & Furness Council – precept	£11704.00

RESOLVED Councillors reviewed the Asset Register numerous purchases throughout 2023/24 were included along with a slight increase in the value of the Main Street Car Park.

RESOLVED Councillors agreed to adopt new Financial Regulations (previously circulated)

UNRESOLVED Councillor were unable to agree and sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return as the accounts were not ready.

**76/2024 Planning**

The following planning had been received after publication of the Agenda due to deadlines Cllrs agreed to view and respond to the following:-

7/2024/5207 – Mere Lodge, Main Street, Hawkshead, LA22 0NS – Change of use of condition 2 (local occupancy) of planning permission 7/2011/5590 to the South locality as per the SPD. Cllrs viewed the plans and had no objections Clerk to report to the Planning Department

7/2024/5219 – Foxgloves, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0NR – Conversion of an existing outbuilding into a sunroom. Cllrs viewed the plans and had no objections Clerk to respond to the Planning Department

7/2024/5178 – Land at Bragg Field, Bragg Field, Hawkshead, LA22 0QW – Proposed local convenience store and petrol filling station with revised access from Bragg Field Car Park and a new access from North Lonsdale Road (B5285) including forecourt canopy, roof-mounted PV panels, underground fuel tanks, ATM, EV charging bays, staff and customer car parking, and associated landscaping, infrastructure, lighting, signage, footpaths and circulatory roads. Councillors decided a site visit would be appropriate and would meet on Wednesday at 11 am and report their final decision to the Clerk to report back to the Planning Department.

7/2024/5188 – Summer Hill Country House, Hawkshead Hill, Ambleside, LA22 0PP – Replacement of existing wooden workshop with timberframed oak garage/carport – Cllrs viewed the plans and had no objections Clerk to notify Planning.

7/2024/5230 – Hawkshead Old Hall, Hawkshead, LA22 0NN – Replacement garage door. Cllrs viewed the plans and had no objections Clerk to report to Planning Department.

RESOLVED Councillors acknowledged the following Notices of Grant/Refusal of Planning/Appeals/Withdrawn/information only applications:-

7/2023/5812 – Hawkshead Old Hall, Hawkshead, LA22 0NN – Single storey extension on east elevation Granted

T/2024/0048 – Coach House, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0QE – T15 Beech – Crown raise to 5m above ground level, prune to clear BT wires, garage and house by 3m. T12 Sycamore – reduce secondary leader over driveway, overall prune max 2m of upper crown. T10 Beech & T11 Sycamore – reduce canopy by 3-4m max. T19 Sycamore – remove. T23 Sycamore variegated – reduce by 1.5-2m and shape canopy. T18 Douglas Fir – fell to ground level. T20 – Norway Spruce – Fell to ground level. T22 & T21 Norway Spruces – fell to ground level. Granted

7/2023/5823 – Stevney, Outgate, Ambleside, La22 0NH – Main House: Demolition of an existing rear extension (northeast elevation) and lean-to structure (southwest elevation). New 2 storey extension, on a similar footprint to the original. Demolition of original porch and new replacement porch structure. New windows and roof lights in various locations within the existing house. Internal alterations throughout. New Garden Annex: New garden annex building formed within the existing vegetable garden. Annex accommodation to form office space for home working, a gym, storage, and a bedroom to provide additional accommodation to the main houses for visitors. Granted.

#### 7/2024 **Hawkshead Destination Project**

The clerk attended a Teams meeting on Monday and was able to provide a brief update:-  
Communication channels have been opened with Electricity North West (ENW) this will hopefully stop a situation happening like the recent road closure as well as the ferry out of service. Village visitor numbers there is no pattern to numbers but it was felt that in general they are down, hoping for a busy half term to start the season. Discussion regarding a number of events in the area in one weekend, it was felt that this results in lower visitor numbers.

Transport was discussed, good news that the ferry is back on, the foot ferry had completed 2,000 trips and bus had taken public from Ferry Nab. Staff from the ferry, bus service etc were invited to a visit to Hawkshead to see what is on offer to help market the village. Social media has “I love Hawkshead” facebook and Instagram sites and the number of followers continues to grow.

Car parking looking at 30 min disc parking in Hawkshead like they have in Ambleside. Social housing was discussed, with 2 possible sites which need to be assessed by LDNPA, Cllr Pender has asked for a PC Cllr to be a representative on the committee.

78/2024 **Lengthsman**

The Lengthsman to continue with mending the fence in the old police car park, Clerk will purchase compost and then ask the Lengthsman to top up the pots in village before the plants arrive. If time allows ask to have a look at cleaning the road signs.

79/2024 **Councillor Matters**

An opportunity for Councillors to raise issues on behalf of residents. *Note: no decisions can be made on these matters but they may be placed on a future agenda of the Council*

Local Housing was briefly discussed and where 2 sites had been identified, Cllr Pender is leading discussions but is keen to have a Parish Councillor on the committee.

80/2024 **Correspondence (for information only)**

To note the following e-mails received since last meeting

Westmorland and Furness Council – School warning sign replacement; Results of Parish Election; Windermere Ferry out of service; Ferry Update; Licensing list 26 22/4/24; Freshen up for the Ferry in week 3; 20 mph Application update Outgate; Post election information; Weekly list 6/5/24; Declaration of interest query; Proposed location of SIDS (response required) *Clerk to repond to ask for the sign on the park as you head into Hawkshead from Hannakin to be closer to the football hut rather than where the entrance to the ground is*; Rates address issue

Committee – Hawkshead Destination – meeting; Notification of next meeting and notes; Leaflet distribution; Meeting reminder 20/5/24

Claife PC Agenda and Minutes

CALC- Local Council Aware Scheme Information; Wednesday update; Cilca Training; Invite to Community Power Workshop; Official notification to submit your authority's return 2023/24; Street Lighting Policy; CALC training event; Wednesday update 17/4/24; Focus on Funding April 24; Courses in Ulverston; Furness line to reopen; NALC Sector snapshot survey; A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme; Wednesday update; Northern Trains – ASLEF Industrial Action; Wednesday update 1/5/24; Healthy Home Guide to Damp and Mould; Letter from LDNPA; Model Financial Regulations for Local Councils; Partnership press spring 24; April 24 legal bulletin; Help shape Westmorland and Furness Councils new Customer Charter/Promise; Local Nature Partnership update; Fibrus Community Fund open; Adult learning workshops Dementia Forum and Numeracy Day event; Wednesday update 8/5/24; CALC AGM 24 save the date;

Coniston PC – Agenda and Minutes; Annual meeting notification

Member of Public – 5 Free spaces at Hawkshead from LDNPA

Cllr Brodie – WLC Pedestrian Ferry; Ferry Stakeholder newsletter;

NALC – Job list; Chief Executives bulletin; Events; Events; Newsletter; Chief Executives Bulletin;

Member of public – Old Police Station Car park

Rural Service Network – the Rural Bulletin 16/4/24; Rural Bulletin 23/4/24; Bulletin 30/4/24; Newsletter; Bulletin 8.5.24; RSN Rural Funding Digest May 24; Rural Bulletin 14/5/24

Cumbria Tourism – Hawkshead & West of Windermere VAMP workshop; Destination Hawkshead Free online Carbon Literacy Training; Worker Transport Survey;

Cllr Pender – re Road closure at the same time as Ferry off; Road Closure urgent TTROW9890; Surgery this week; Council matters; Ferry MCA Inspection and refit week 2 update; April newsletter; Road closure diversion signs; Initial discussion on Society Housing; Ferry update week3; Ferry update week 4; Traffic issues in the central lakes today;

Sisters in the wild – Womens Social cycle ride 8 & 9 June

Member of public – planters

Veloretro – Velo Retro Vintage Cycling

Organisers – LAP Trail Race 11 May 24 and 14 September 24

Cumbria Police – April 24 Newsletter Ulverston, Low Furness and High Furness; Newsletter Lakes and Rural Lakes

Lengthsman – update, invoice etc; photo update

Member of the public – Planning application petrol station

Member of the public – Concerns over planning application 7/2024/5178

Member of public – Filming permission

81/2024 **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.30 pm in the Lower Market Hall

The meeting closed at 8.51 pm

Chair Initials ..... Date .....