

Hawkshead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council

Held in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 7.30 pm

Present: Chair Cllr Spedding, Cllr Johnston, Brown and Moulton

Clerk – Janet Taffs

1 member of the public in attendance

1/04/26 Apologies

RESOLVED. Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Bremner Berry and MacLennan

2/04/2026 Requests for Dispensations

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

3/04/2026 Declaration of Interest

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

4/04/2026 Minutes

RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council held on Tuesday, 17th March 2025, were confirmed to be an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

5/04/2026 Public Participation

5.1 To receive reports from

- **Police:** Nothing to report
- **Westmorland and Furness Councillor.** Cllr Pender was unable to attend but sent the following
 1. Good news that Coniston Doctors surgery has been saved
 2. Locality Board grants are now open again [Community Fund | Westmorland and Furness Council](#)
 3. Big green grants for community events in June [Great Big Green Week grants available to support community climate action | Westmorland and Furness Council](#) closing date 4th May
 4. WF have painted the yellow lines at the school
 5. WF have also set aside funding and staff time for a review of parking provision in Hawkshead – the PC will be fully engaged, this is because they receive so many issues re parking
 6. I have raised the issue of ferry performance which seems to be on the decline again and asked for an update at the next Highways Working group – I will keep you informedThe Council is really struggling for government funding and many services are being cut
- **National Trust** Hawkshead & Claife Well Head Cottage – been let – new tenant moving in shortly Sykesidenow back in-hand since end of March. The property will need a major refurbishment – options being considered. 1 Green How – contractors have been instructed – minor works and will then be let through Rightmove. Green End House – Listed Building Consent has been submitted to National Park for certain internal amendments. Front render work to elevate damp ingress happening with our in-house team. Specification being drawn up by our Building Surveyor before applying for central funding. Harrowslack House – contractor estimates being gained.

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

A member of the public commented that the 20mph sign is still missing, it was confirmed that this has been reported There is a pothole at Barnfield at the start of the road. Clerk to report this.

6/04/2026 Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

- 6.1 RESOLVED To stay on the agenda until next month as the monies are to be refunded that were not used to the Parishes. Haverthwaite routes have been agreed by W&F, and this route is now ready to be gritted. Clerk to send a contract as per the other parishes next year. Shaun would like more notice when he needs to go out, if he knew by lunchtime, so he could go at 3. Have a lad in the yard fill the gritter for him. This was agreed, but it was felt that lunchtime was too early to assess the road conditions for that evening, and that this might lead to the roads not being gritted, as the decision would be made not to grit.
- 6.2 UNRESOLVED the cracked water trough on Roger Ground E1/221633. The Clerk has contacted Cllr Pender to establish if W&F are to be removed. Look at it again in Sept. It was felt that this had been addressed, as a natural soakaway had been dug at the location. To confirm if this has solved the problem during the next heavy rainfall.
- 6.3 UNRESOLVED Housing Action with communities in Cumbria is still continuing to look for available space. The Clerk had been asked if a local Farm had been approached for consideration; this had already been addressed several times, and the owner is not willing.

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

Hawkshead Parish Council

- 6.4 UNRESOLVED: Progress on the litter bin by the Chocolate shop. The clerk has been in contact with a gentleman from W&F who stated the bin at the shop is emptied daily. The problem is similar to one they have in Grasmere, that the sheer volume of visitors in one go overwhelms the bins. W&F asked if the Parish Council were in a position to purchase bins, as this had previously been discussed. The fees and charges were supplied, and the Parish Council felt that the LDNPA should be approached. Their policy on take your litter home causes issues with how quickly the bins at the chocolate shop and the rec fill. The clerk will approach the LDNPA on the subject.
- 6.5 UNRESOLVED The Old Hawkshead sign, work has halted while the lengthsman is on holiday.
- 6.6 UNRESOLVED The noticeboard on the side of the King's Arms, awaiting further update from them.
- 6.7 UNRESOLVED The Emergency plan was discussed, and information is still being collated
- 6.8 UNRESOLVED The landslip on Vicarage Lane on the walk has been reported to LDNPA
- 6.9 UNRESOLVED The parking situation on Hawksgarth. The Clerk has contacted South Lakes housing, and they are still in discussion with W&F to obtain permissions for the signage.
- 6.10 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. The Clerk has chased this and hopes to produce an invoice for W&F shortly
- 6.11 UNRESOLVED The works in the car parks. The lengthsman has filled the potholes in the OPCP. The clerk finally got someone to quote for the OPCP. This has been circulated to the Cllrs, and it is quite a substantial amount of money to raise. A second quote will be sought by the clerk. The lengthsman has found the drain in the main street car park needs to be built back up. This has been built up with bricks and left to set. The National Trust has a few branches drooping to car level in the Old Police Car Park. The Clerk has a response, and they will look into trimming these.
- 6.12 RESOLVED See 6.15. The clerk must have been having a moment and added this to the agenda twice.
- 6.13 UNRESOLVED The damaged grass areas of land by the pole installers at Hawksgarth. The Clerk has chased this and is awaiting a reply.
- 6.14 UNRESOLVED The rat situation in the village. The Clerk managed to obtain the details of someone to contact and provided Cllr Berry's details for direct liaison. They stated they could come to the village and assess the situation. A pest control job has been raised for a team to investigate. If they find signs of rodent activity, then they will bait the manhole chambers and return in 14 days to see if the bait has been taken.
- 6.15 RESOLVED The poles installed on W&F land at Hawksgarth. The Clerk contacted W&F and the following explanation was provided. Fibrus uses BT Openreach's existing infrastructure such as telegraph poles and underground ducts, through an agreement called Physical Infrastructure Access (PIA). This lets Fibrus build its own full-fibre network faster and more cheaply by using what's already there, instead of digging new trenches everywhere. Essentially, Fibrus have the relevant legal protections any major infrastructure company has under the Telecoms Act. Consequently, they don't need to seek our permission or have an agreement in place

7/04/26 New matters arising

- 7.1 UNRESOLVED There was a discussion on the complaints from visitors to the village on the parking rates in the LDNPA car park. The Clerk has been working with Cllr Pender as there is now a new contact at LDNPA. The clerk, Cllr Pender and a couple of business owners are meeting with the new contact to discuss the parking issues in the village. If the parking issues in BarnField and Hawksgarth could be addressed at the same time, people park in residents-only spaces due to the high cost of parking, this would address two avenues of complaint.
- 7.2 UNRESOLVED 20MPH proposed limit at Outgate is now live on the W&F website, and the Clerk is promoting comments for this with posters. Cllr Johnston has suggested taking two for Outgate. The pub especially welcomes the 20MPH zone as it is treacherous crossing of the road to the car park.

8/04/26. Highways

To note Highways issues in the Parish

- 8.1 UNRESOLVED The hole developing on the road edge near Lakes Lodges E1/110351 was reported to be growing in size.
- 8.2 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

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

Hawkshead Parish Council

- 8.3 UNRESOLVED the grid at Springwood EI/143070. Assigned to Highways on 22/7/25. Chased for a response 6/11/25
- 8.4 RESOLVED To update on the school road markings following the road resurfacing. Following chasing by the Clerk and Cllr Pender this has now been resolved.
- 8.5 UNRESOLVED The tarmac on Flag Street and the Clerk to report to Highways. Assigned to a Highways team on 2/2/26
- 8.6 UNRESOLVED The flagstone near the Kings Arms has been reported to Highways ref EI/267957
- 8.7 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. The complaint was submitted by the Clerk, and the drains had been jetted, the drain is still overflowing in heavy rain. The clerk has requested that the case be reopened.
- 8.8 UNRESOLVED The grids at Betty fold EI/277900. Assigned to the highways team 2/2/26
- 8.9 UNRESOLVED The pot hole at Atwood EI/278054 is assigned to Highways team 2/2/26
- 8.10 UNRESOLVED The missing speed limit sign near the school EI/282439

9/04/2026 Finance & Governance Issues

- 9.1 RESOLVED The authorising of the following accounts: -

2025-2026 year	
Patsy Haddow	£ 240.00
2026-2027 year	
Clerk wages	£ 510.65
Lengthsman	£ 197.67
Shaun Taylforth	£ 192.00
CALC	£ 219.23

- 9.2 RESOLVED The acknowledgement of the income sources:

Car parking permits	£ 40.00
---------------------	---------

- 9.3 RESOLVED The agreement of the quarter 4 accounts.

9.4 RESOLVED Monthly update of the finances were provided and the report on the end-of-year budget. Stating how far over budget the Parish Council was due to loss of projected income from the Old Police Car Park, the installation of the SIDs not being budgeted for, the lengthsman being over budget but £233 of this has been allocated to OPCP earmarked for repairs and the wrong amount being used for the contractors in the budget calculations last year. So 26/27 will be a tight year as the precept will not cover the outgoings.

- 9.5 RESOLVED The risk assessment and risk management for 2026/2027 was agreed

9.6 RESOLVED The asset register for 2026/2027 was reviewed and the original purchase price of the Main Street Car Park is to be sought.

9.7 RESOLVED It was agreed to move money from the earmarked fund to cover invoices paid to the lengthsman for works in the car parks. Todd has carried out works totalling £237.33 on repairs to the car parks, which can be transferred from earmarked to c/a, as the earmarked funds have been accrued from permit payments, not grants. To also transfer the invoice above as this month's invoice was solely for the two car parks.

The car park permits for the Main Street Car Park were discussed. Historically, these were invoiced in April, as the clerk was new last year, starting in the May, they were missed and invoiced late in the year. The previous clerk was of the understanding that the permits ran April 1st to March 31st the following year. The decision was made to move the date in line with the OPCP and run from 1st June to 31st May annually.

10/04/26 Planning Application

The following planning applications were discussed

10.1 Reference: 7/2026/5162 Location: Yewfield, Hawkshead Hill, Ambleside, LA22 0PR Proposal: Garden Studio multi-purpose room Approved It was felt that the room was not seen from the road and inkeeping with the surrounding area.

10.2 Planning appeal Address: Lama Lodge, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0QB Description of Development: Use of land as a domestic garden for Lama Lodge, Hawkshead Application reference: 7/2025/5592 Appellant's name: Mr Christopher Kelly Appeal reference: APP/Q9495/X/26/3378264 Appeal start date: 9 April 2026 No further comments views already stated in the previous statement

10.3 Reference: 7/2026/5147 Location: Wayside Cottage, Hawkshead Hill, Ambleside, LA22 0PW

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date _____

Hawkshead Parish Council

Proposal: Upgrade of septic tank to treatment plant discharge Approve no issues

11/04/26 **Planning permission decisions. The following decisions were noted.**

11.1 Application Number: 7/2026/5048 Location: Wayside Cottage, Hawkshead Hill, Ambleside, LA22 0PW Proposal: Installation of wheelchair accessibility lift from ground to first floor. Decision permission granted.

11.2 Application Number: 7/2026/5116 Location: Orchard Cottage, Outgate, Ambleside, LA22 0NH Proposal: Replacement of the existing conservatory. Decision permission granted.

12/04/26 **Lengthsman**

Todd has been working on the OPCP by filling in the pot holes and working on the Main Street car park, fixing the new sign up, clearing the brambles and building the collapsed drain up. Going to start work OPCP Fence on grassed areas.

13/04/2026 **Councillor Matters**

Nothing to report. The parking at the Rec was brought up, but the discussion was directed to the Rec committee.

14/04/2026 **Correspondence**

- A place called home poster from W&F
- Minutes and agenda from Coniston Parish Council
- Parking cost complaint for the LDNPA car park
- Chief Officer of CALC Sonia Hutchinson retires
- Neighbourhood policing guarantee
- Garden waste subscription applications open
- 20MPH consultations open
- Request for a septic tank date meeting that took place
- Youth service questionnaire
- Mental health campaign
- Family help website information
- W&F high street scheme
- Copy of a letter from Giles Archibald, cabinet member, regarding the recycling collections
- Village heat share scheme
- LDNPA invite to meetings
- Friends of the Lake District Stronger Communities Campaign Letter
- Letter requesting details of the community orchard fencing
- Legal bulletin from CALC
- The Hawkshead Society details of applications being sought for a part-time administration officer.

15/04/26 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be Tuesday, 19st May 2026, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead

Meeting concluded 20.50 pm

Initials of the Chair _____ --Date_____