

BLINDBOTHEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Blindbothel Parish Council held at Yew Tree Hall, Lorton on Monday 12 May 2025 at 6.50 pm following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present: Cllrs. A. Baker, J. Clark, P. Jenkinson and S. Riley
Also present: J. Perry, Cumberland Councillor
J. Rae (Clerk)

34/25 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Nominations were invited for the election of Chair for council year 2025/26. On the proposal of Cllr. A. Baker, seconded by Cllr. S. Riley it was therefore RESOLVED that Cllr. P. Jenkinson be re-elected Chair for the ensuing year.

35/25 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr. P. Jenkinson signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

36/25 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED that Cllr. J. Clark be re-appointed Vice Chair for council year 2025/26.

37/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. R. Bell. The reason for absence was noted and accepted.

38/25 MINUTES 3 MARCH 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2025 were signed as a correct record.

39/25 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS

The Financial Regulations and Standing Orders were reviewed with no amendments made.

40/25 REPORTS

Cumbria Police - The newsletter for the Cockermouth/Keswick area had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. Cllr P. Jenkinson reported that although the Parish falls within the Cockermouth area he had been invited to an online meeting for the Keswick area arranged by the Neighbourhood Policing Team. One of the items discussed was how the public can report non-emergency crimes by using the 101 email facility which is more effective than calling on the 101 phone number.

101Emails@cumbria.police.uk

Cumberland Councillor – Cllr J. Perry reported that the results of the Housing Needs survey will be published by the end July. The fortnightly waste collection service will start at the end of May. Residents should check Cumberland Council's website for updates. Potentially all households should receive kerbside collections for recycling by the end of September. The Local Government Boundary Commission is due to publish the results of their review of the Cumberland Council wards in July.

41/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

42/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance.

43/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING ON 3 MARCH 2025

Min Ref 32/25 – Cllr P. Jenkinson reported that he had contacted the landowner of the willow plantation at Rogerscale.

Subsequent to this the landowner had contacted Cllr S. Riley and harvesting of the willow had started approximately three weeks ago. It was noted that only part of the land had been harvested and work had stopped. It was agreed to monitor this.

Min Ref 30/25 – Cllr J. Perry had reported the litter bin at Lorton Bridge not being emptied. It was noted the bin has since been emptied.

44/25 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received and circulated by email:

CALC News January and February
CALC - Town and Parish Council Devolution Briefing April 2nd
Hyperfast GB Newsletter - Spring 2025
Cumberland Council Newsletters
CALC - Building Safe and Strong Communities, Principles of collaboration between Town and Parish Councils, Cumbria Association of Local Councils and Cumberland Council
Cumberland Council Housing Strategy - Formal Stakeholder Consultation
Cumberland Council - Update: Update on waste and recycling changes
CALC - Litter Champions Event
Peter Walter's Newsletters
PSPO and Dog Fouling Event - 1 May 2025

45/25 ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(a) The financial statement had been circulated with the agenda.

Balance at 31st March, 2025	£3,216.33
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Income Received:

Cumberland Council Precept	£3,740.00
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Balance at 30th April, 2025	£6,742.33
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(b) Payment of Accounts

The following accounts were authorised for payment:

CALC – Annual Subscription	£134.83
Internal Auditor	£ 65.00

46/25 ANNUAL AUDIT

- (i) Internal Audit - The internal audit had been carried out with no issues reported
- (ii) Annual Governance Statement –The Annual Governance Statement was considered. RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement.
- (iii) Accounting Statement – The accounting statement for 2024/25 was considered. RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign the annual return.
- (iv) Certificate of Exemption - Members resolved that the Certificate of Exemption should be signed by the Chairman and Clerk certifying that the Parish Council is exempt from a limited assurance review and during the financial year 2024/25 the gross income for the year or gross annual expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000.
- (v) Period of Exercise of Public Rights – Members noted that the period for the exercise of public rights will commence on 3 June and will end on 14 July. A notice will be displayed on the parish notice boards notifying electors of their rights to inspect the accounts.
- (vi) Publication on website – The Clerk reported the requisite documents will be forwarded to the administrator of the Melbreak Communities website to be published on the website.

47/25 PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications received since the last meeting:

7/2025/2070 – High Mosser Gate, Mosser, CA13 0SR
Garden Room

7/2025/2041 – Wood Farm, Mosser, CA13 0RB
Change of Use of Unit 1 and Unit 2 from holiday let to residential use. Creation of new car parking spaces to serve residential units. Demolition of lean-to barn.

(b) Decisions:

7/2024/2229 – Mansion House, Brandlingill, Cockermouth, CA13 0RD
Proposal: Proposed installation of a domestic package treatment plant (Marsh Industries Shallow Ensign 16) **GRANTED**

Members noted that the planning application for United Utilities at Crummock Water had been suspended.

48/25 ROADS AND HIGHWAY MATTERS

Cllr J. Clark reported that the highway verge is overgrown and blocking visibility at the A5086 and Mosser junction.

Cllr J. Perry agreed to follow up with Highways why the missing road sign for Mosser had still not been installed.

49/25 BROADBAND

Cllr. A. Baker provided Members with an update and reported that he had recently attended a co-ordinators meeting and will be attending a further meeting to discuss the properties that Fibrus have/have not included in their list for the Project Gigabit contract.

50/25 VACANCY

The vacancy on the Parish Council has not yet been filled.

51/25 PARISH MATTERS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

52/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 7th July, 2025 at 7.15 pm in the Supper Room, Yew Tree Hall, Lorton.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

Signed.....Chairman Date.....