

BLINDBOTHEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Blindbothel Parish Council held at Yew Tree Hall, Lorton on Monday 3 November 2025 at 7.15 pm.

Present: Cllrs. A. Baker, J. Clark, V. Jay, P. Jenkinson (Chair) and S. Riley
Also present: J. Perry, Cumberland Councillor
Members of the public: None
J. Rae (Clerk)

81/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

82/25 MINUTES 1 SEPTEMBER 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2025 were signed as a correct record.

83/25 REPORTS

Cumbria Police - The newsletter for the Cockermouth/Keswick area had been circulated by email prior to the meeting.

Cumberland Councillor – Cllr J. Perry reported there will be a road closure in Lorton commencing 15 November. Details will be on the Network One website. Cllr Perry enquired if there had been any issues with the new bin/recycling collection service.

84/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

85/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

86/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2025

None

87/25 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received and circulated by email:

GMC Community Chaplain Update
LDNPA - Notice under Article 38 Of Proposal for Local Development Order Granting Planning Permission.
CALC - Cumberland Libraries News
CALC - EV Charging Infrastructure Event - Monday 20 October 2025
CALC - Slides from the Hyperfast broadband Event
CALC - Online food conversation invite 4 November 2025.
Cumberland Council - New reporting system for environmental issues
Peter Walter's Newsletter
CALC Devolution Update
Cumberland Council Newsletters
Raise – Funding for Tree Planting
LDNPA – Meet and Greet Event 18 November – Threlkeld Village Hall
CALC – AGM rescheduled to 15 November 2025

88/25 ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- (a) The financial statement had been circulated with the agenda.
Balance 31 October 2025 £4,985.27

- (b) No accounts were presented for payment:
- (c) Banking arrangements – The completed mandate was signed by two existing signatories to remove former councillors P J Poole and J F Moore. It was resolved that Cllr V. Jay would be added to the mandate as an authorised signatory.
- (d) Budget 2026-27

The draft budget for financial year 2026–27 had been circulated with the agenda. The usual expenditure was considered. It was agreed that an amount should be included in the budget to cover the potential costs of registering .gov councillor email accounts. RESOLVED that as agreed in the previous financial year the precept should increase by 10%. The Clerk was asked to enquire why the council tax bill for 2025-26 did not reflect the parish council’s recommended increase.

89/25 PLANNING MATTERS

- (a) Applications received since the last meeting:

7/2025/2094 - Whinfell Caravan Park, Low Lorton, CA13 0RQ
 External fabric (wall and roof) refurbishment, window/door replacement, solar panel installation and external deck installation to existing bungalow. Repairs to the building.

- (b) Decisions: None

90/25 ROADS AND HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members discussed the recent temporary road closure on the B5292 and the diversion route put in place which had led to vehicles using the minor roads in the parish not suitable for large amounts of traffic. It was suggested this issue and road closures/suggested diversion routes should be raised in the Highways and Transport Services public consultation which is available on Cumberland Council’s website and closes on 31 January 2026.

<https://consult.cumberland.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-survey>

91/25 BROADBAND

Cllr. A. Baker advised there was no update to report. Cllr A. Baker will be attending a meeting at the end of November at Newton Rigg.

92/25 DIGITAL AND DATA PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

Cllr A. Baker provided members with a summary of the research carried out by the Clerk to Lorton, Loweswater and Buttermere regarding registration of a .gov domain and .gov email accounts. The costs from the four companies that responded were considered. It was resolved that Cllr A. Baker would speak to the company providing the lowest quote for clarification on the costs.

It was noted that Melbreak Communities website is compliant with the website requirements in assertion 10 of the Practitioners Guide.

93/25 PARISH MATTERS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr A. Baker reported on the issue of litter being left on the land at Mosser road end and whether it would be beneficial to have a litter bin installed near the noticeboard. Following a discussion it was agreed to monitor this issue. Cllr J. Perry advised that litter pickers are available from Cumberland Council and Cumberland Council will collect any bags of litter from an agreed location.

94/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 5 January 2026 at 7.15 pm in the Supper Room, Yew Tree Hall, Lorton.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm

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