

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 3rd December 2024 at 6.30pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge

Present: Cllr J Thursz (Chair), Cllr R Maxwell (RM), Cllr R Outhwaite (RO), Cllr S Parker (SP), Cllr B Wright (BW).

Clerk: J Coltman (JC).

Guest Speakers: Rachel Oakley, Wild Ennerdale & Lesley Graffin, Caseworker for Josh MacAlister

Also seated at the meeting table: Nancy Rowson & Paul Rowson.

Other members of the public: 11

Meeting Started: 18:30

Minute Number	Item	Action
1086/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Welcome</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mrs Rowson interrupted to request a change to the order of the agenda.</p>	
1087/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Apologies</p> <p>The Clerk had received apologies from Cllr Guise due to work commitments. Resolved to approve the absence.</p>	
1088/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Declarations of Interest</p> <p>As requested, the Chair agreed to hear declarations of interest next. Mrs Rowson said that she had an outstanding code of conduct complaint against the Chair, so he should not take part in the discussion. The Chair said that it had been confirmed to him that there was no outstanding complaint against him from Mrs Rowson, so he did not have an interest to declare. None declared.</p>	
1089/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">To Approve Minutes</p> <p>Cllr Outhwaite said that the minutes were presented wrong, because the Council hadn't been asked for the absence to be approved. Cllr Parker said that the minutes reflected the actual events. There were interruptions from a member of the public and the Chair asked them to be quiet. Mrs Rowson interrupted with comments about the Chair. She was asked to moderate her behaviour and keep to the topic on the agenda. Cllr Outhwaite proposed an amendment which fell for want of a seconder.</p> <p>Resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16/07/24.</p>	JC
1090/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Disqualification of Councillors. To accept the direction of Cumberland Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair said that there was some confusion over the word "direction", so perhaps a better wording for the resolution should be found. Cllr Outhwaite said that he hadn't seen anything to say that the councillors had been disqualified. The Chair said that he had been sent all correspondence. Cllr Parker read out an email from the governance lawyer at Cumberland Council, that had been sent to Mr & Mrs Rowson, which the Clerk had shared with the 	

	<p>full Council; this email stated that they were disqualified from 21st November 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of members of the public interrupted and the Chair again called for quiet. • Cllr Outhwaite raised the question of their attendance at a Meet and Greet event hosted by the Lake District National Park National Park meeting. The Clerk explained that to qualify as a meeting for the purposes of the Act, councillors would have to be appointed as representatives of the Council, by a resolution of the Council. • Cllr Outhwaite proposed that the Council should refuse to accept the direction and should challenge Cumberland Council. Mr & Mrs Rowson supported this proposal. Three councillors voted against Cllr Outhwaite's proposal and there was one abstention. • The Chair would not discount the opinions of Mr & Mrs Rowson while there was a suggested challenge, and would not use his casting vote. He suggested that the matter was referred back to the monitoring officer for clear instruction. • No decision was made. 	JC
1091/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Suspension/postponement of Meeting</p> <p>The Chair said that as the Council could make no progress, he proposed to suspend the meeting until such time as it had a response to any challenge. Resolved to suspend the meeting.</p>	
1092/12/24	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing of meeting</p> <p>The Chair apologised to those that had attended, as well as those speakers that had come to give valuable input to the Parish.</p>	

Meeting closed at 19:00

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....