

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Jane Ollerenshaw
54 Gosforth Road, Seascale, Cumbria CA20 1PJ
clerk@eandkpc.co.uk

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting **Held on 20th May 2025 at 7.00pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge**

Present: Cllr J Thursz (Chair), Cllr C Ayling (CA), Cllr S Guise (SG), Cllr M Lachlan (ML), Cllr R Maxwell (RM), Cllr R Outhwaite (RO), Cllr S Parker (SP), Cllr B Wright (BW).

Clerk: J Ollerenshaw (JO).

Guest Speakers: Rachel Oakley (Wild Ennerdale) & Neil Thirkell (National Trust)

Members of the public: 4

Meeting Started: 19:00

Minute Number	Item	Action
1146/05/25	To elect the Chair of the Council Resolved Cllr Thursz was elected as Chair and signed his declaration of acceptance of office.	
1147/05/25	To elect the Vice-Chair of the Council Resolved Cllr Parker was elected Vice-Chair and signed his declaration of acceptance of office.	
1148/05/25	Apologies None.	
1149/05/25	Declarations of Interest Cllr Lachlan said that he was a shareholder of The Gather if any related business arose.	
1150/05/25	To Approve Minutes Resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18/03/25.	JO
1151/05/25	Exclusion of Press and Public Resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from agenda items 21 due to it being a confidential matter relating to members of the public.	
1152/05/25	Wild Ennerdale - Update Rachel Oakley had submitted a written report which is appended to the minutes. Neil Thirkell updated on the activities of the National Trust. The fencing had already been mentioned. An area in Croasdale was being planted with Cumbria Community Forests, this was due to happen in the winter. Kinniside common was being monitored for water levels to determine what work was needed. It was queried if the work on the fells would impact a fell race. Rachel Oakley would check. Rachel Oakley was advised that the Nature Watchtower at the old mill was storm damaged and an update on when the interpretation board would be built was requested. She was asked when the notice regarding the off-road bikes would be installed.	
1153/05/25	Report from Cumberland Councillor Cllr Jones-Bulman had another meeting, so was unable to attend. It was raised that overgrown hedges were creating difficulties on the road. This would be reported online to Highways.	RM

1154/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Clerk's Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The theft of the tourist sign had been reported to the insurers. • The internal auditor had completed the work. A brief meeting would be called before the Parish Meeting on 29th to approve the accounts. • Signage was being installed at Sawdust Lonning. The Clerk was the primary point of contact to pass sightings on, but a log was being kept so that evidence to support an application for a Kent Carriage Gap could be passed to landowners. • Moo Moo Bridge. The Clerk was asked to try to get an idea of how long this would take. • A number of road markings that had faded had been reported to Cumberland Highways. 	<p>JO</p> <p>JO</p>
1155/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Councillor Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG said that there would be a meeting regarding the emergency plan in the first two weeks of June. They had contact details for a resilience officer and intended to work on some template documents to prepare a draft. ML stated that part of the emergency evacuation plan for the school was to keep the phone box near the school working, because mobile phone signals could not be relied upon in the area. Their plan may have changed. The phone box may not be still functioning. BW & SG would speak to the school. • BW said the Home Group had made contact about the lights. The Home Group staff member had reported all the faults and had suggested reflectors to help with the very bright light. Although interested in the dark skies initiative, any action would be dependent on funding availability. ML asked about the adoption of the lights at the far end of Vicarage Lane. BW had spoken to the residents, but they did not want the lights adopted at the moment. • BW had attended the online Police Neighbourhood Liaison meeting. A few key issues were covered. Speeding - the police were looking for speedwatch volunteers. Farm machinery - they were using spray DNA which had resulted in a reduction in thefts. Trail bikes – the advice is to report this with as much detail (time, colour, registration etc) as possible, Ultimately the bikes can be seized and destroyed. • RO had met with representatives of ACTion for Cumbria and had a lot of information. He would send something to the Chair for the next full meeting to call for public involvement. 	<p>BW & SG</p> <p>RO</p>
1156/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Public Participation</p> <p>A member of the public said that there appeared to be Japanese Knotweed in the village opposite the Shepherd's Arms, and she had been told by a member of the Wild Ennerdale team that there was also some near the playing field. The Chair advised that this would be the owner's responsibility, but could be reported through Cumberland Council. SG said that it was too far from the river for that authority to be involved.</p> <p>A member of the public mentioned a missing road sign and asked if this was the one that the Council were missing. It was explained that</p>	

	it was a different sign. The road sign did not belong to the Parish Council.	
1157/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning</p> <p>7/2025/4035 Crag Farm House. It was raised that this ought to be a retrospective application as a significant amount of work had already been carried out. This was confirmed by several councillors. The banking had been dug out, exposing the lower building and the retaining wall had already been built. It might be creeping development. This was the third recent application on this property, the first of which had been retrospective. On this application, the work seemed to be being done sympathetically, however a large part of the development was the new metal bridge, and there was no photo of what the bridge would be like, not enough detail of the planned bridge. Councillors agreed that there was not enough detail of the bridge. Concern was also raised about owls being present in the barn. It had been confirmed previously by a specialist that owls were present. Resolved to recommend refusal based on a lack of design detail for the bridge. It would also be noted that work had already commenced. (RO abstained)</p>	JO
1158/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning response under delegated authority</p> <p>Resolved to note the response (RO abstained)</p>	
1159/05/25	<p style="text-align: center;">Items considered under Standing Order 5J.</p> <p>V. Review of delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, staff and other local authorities; Resolved to accept current arrangements.</p> <p>VI. Review of the terms of reference for committees; Resolved to accept current terms of reference</p> <p>VII. Appointment of members to existing committees; Resolved to keep current membership.</p> <p>VIII. Appointment of any new committees in accordance with standing order 4; None proposed.</p> <p>IX. Review and adoption of appropriate standing orders and financial regulations; Resolved the Clerk to bring a draft to the July meeting.</p> <p>X. Review of arrangements (including legal agreements) with other local authorities, not-for-profit bodies and businesses. None in place</p> <p>XI. Review of representation on or work with external bodies and arrangements for reporting back; Resolved to continue as: Regen – RO, Neighbourhood policing – BW & Clerk, Wild Ennerdale – SG & RO. Clerk to add the three as a standing item on the agenda</p> <p>XII. In an election year, to make arrangements with a view to the Council becoming eligible to exercise the general power of competence in the future; N/A</p> <p>XIII. Review of inventory of land and other assets including buildings and office equipment; The asset register had been updated and would be uploaded to the website and brought back to the July meeting.</p> <p>XIV. Confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks; The renewal document was expected to be received in time for the July meeting.</p>	<p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p>

	<p>XV. Review of the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies; Resolved to continue membership of CALC, to provision for a contribution towards SLCC membership if required.</p> <p>XVI. Review of the Council's complaints procedure; Resolved to accept the current procedure.</p> <p>XVII. Review of the Council's policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligations under freedom of information and data protection legislation (see also standing orders 11, 20 and 21); Resolved Clerk to bring a new draft to a future meeting.</p> <p>XVIII. Review of the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media; Resolved SP would review and bring any recommendation to the July meeting.</p> <p>XIX. Review of the Council's employment policies and procedures; responsibility to remain with the staffing committee</p> <p>XX. Review of the Council's expenditure incurred under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the general power of competence. Resolved to accept the figure of £25 for the poppy wreath.</p> <p>XXI. Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council. Resolved to accept the schedule of dates submitted (Third Tuesday of the Month). Time 18:30, venue The Gather.</p>	JO
--	--	--

	<p>3) She had a new template for the stolen sign and had been speaking to the LDNP to see if they could assist with a replacement. She was hopeful of a response in June.</p> <p>A member of the public said that she had collected over 700 bags of dog waste so far this year. BW would ask if another bin could be provided.</p>	BW
1164/05/25	<p>Date of next ordinary meeting</p> <p>Confirmed as 15th July 2025 at 6.30pm</p>	
1165/05/25	<p>Date of the Parish meeting.</p> <p>Confirmed as 29th May 2025 at 7.30pm.</p>	
1166/05/25	<p>To consider a response to a number of emails.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the Council of two items of correspondence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Several emails from non-parishioner A. Resolved that no further correspondence is entered into. 2. Email from parishioner A, further to the Council's response to their previous complaint. Resolved that no further correspondence is entered into. <p>The Chair had received several emails from one person.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Several emails from parishioner B. There were a number of emails received, 5 of which were received within 19 minutes on 28th March. The emails had been sent in a scattergun approach, and although potentially vexatious, the Council considered the content. Resolved that no further action is taken and no correspondence is entered into. 	

Meeting closed at 20:50

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

wildwaterforestmountains ennerdale

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council Meeting Tue 20th May 2025: Wild Ennerdale update

1. Wild Ennerdale Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteer team for continued support, many of whom are parish residents. Main areas of work for spring & summer '25:

- Native tree planting
- Fencing (installing new & removing old)
- Wildflower planting at Bleach Green
- Drain clearance along lakeshore
- Bat surveying
- Litter picking
- Butterfly web counts
- Path maintenance
- Species prep works
- First Aid training

2. Riverlands

Work is planned for this June by the National Trust Riverlands team. Main focus is on the River Liza with interventions along the canalised section below Irish Bridge to re-naturalise this section. This in turn will lead to a more naturally connected wetter zone between the Liza and the lake, in the Char Dub area. Over time, this will improve habitat diversity and create more wetland habitat for wildlife and fish spawning. More information will be provided on the website and on site.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lake-district/riverlands>

3. Southern ridge boundary repairs

The southern boundary fence between the end of the Iron Crag Wall and the Steeple ridge is due to be replaced this summer. The work will likely start in June and run for up to 5 months. Contractors & a welfare base including overnight accommodation and toilets with a small generator will be on site during this period. The contractors will be staying up overnight for 3 nights a week to save on the otherwise daily long walk in and out. The new fence will comprise metal posts, net & line wire for durability. A wall top net will also be installed along sections where the wall is intact. Once the new fence is completed, the welfare base will be removed. The old metal fence materials will be flown back down to be recycled. If the fence doesn't get completed this year the welfare base will be dismantled down and left onsite to be re-erected next summer to allow the work to be completed.

This complements the National Trust work to rebuild/replace the boundary further west along Iron Crag to prevent sheep encroachment from the Common into The Side (designated Site of Special Scientific Interest).

4. Coast to Coast upgrade/Partnership working with LDNPA

We are continuing to support the Coast-to-Coast upgrade to a National Trail. Regular updates have been provided to the Parish by the LDNPA project team, the latest was in May. Further work relating to the upgrade to National Trail is in the process of being scoped. The LDNPA hopes to be in a position to confirm the activities planned for the remaining 10 months of the upgrade project shortly.

Memorial Bridge: A site visit has taken place involving FE and LDNPA staff. Not formally on the route of the Coast to Coast, plans for a replacement bridge are in the early stages and are dependent on identifying funding. It may be some time before replacement. In the meantime, signage is in situ advising visitors of alternative crossing points.

Galloway Bridge: (locally known as Moo Moo bridge), over Woundell Beck is scheduled to be replaced shortly (likely June 2025). Given the key significance of this bridge with regards to all types of user and its connectivity as a 'loop route' to the Coast to Coast, Natural England, the LDNPA and Forestry England have worked together to enable a replacement bridge to be installed before the current bridge becomes unsafe for use. The LDNPA thank Forestry England and their appointed contractors for their assistance in enabling the replacement of the bridge to happen in support of wider benefits delivered by the National Trail's establishment.

Fix the Fells/National Trust: As part of the Coast to Coast becoming a National Trail, Fix the Fells North and West path teams have been working together to implement some Natural England funded path improvements since late April this year. The team started together on the upper section, as the path exits Loft Beck and heads over towards Honister pass. With the dry weather they are adapting ways of working to minimise the chance of turfs drying out and turning to dust. There is still plenty of work to do to remain working on site for the coming months.

5. Forestry Update (Gareth Browning)

Contractors working for Forestry England are continuing work on felling larch in response to ongoing Phytophthora disease in the valley. Tree felling and extraction have completed in Silver Cove/Deep Gill and this area is open again to public access. However, felling of unproductive small or difficult to reach larch trees is continuing at both these sites. The Euroforest harvesting team are currently working in Latterbarrow to the north of Ennerdale YHA. A second team is planning to start in late May/early June at Broadmoor.

In advance of each site the woodland is surveyed for squirrel dreys and any drey trees marked with yellow paint and the letter "D". These trees are left standing. In addition, a buffer of trees is also marked around each tree and where possible a canopy connection of trees is left standing to the edge of the area being felled. If these trees are larch, they will be killed standing or felled after the squirrel breeding season finishes. Both Broadmoor and Latterbarrow sites will continue operating through the summer into the autumn.

In the southern Broadmoor block nearest Bleach Green, the mature larch along the roadside and the car park are diseased and will be felled also. To reduce the impact of felling, an arboriculture team will clear and chip the understory and debranch and chip the larch branches to leave bare poles to be felled. Traffic management will be in use to protect members of the public accessing the car parks. For a time the smaller car park will be closed.

More information can be found at <https://www.wildennerdale.co.uk/managing/forest/>

In addition to the above, tree felling contractors will start on reducing the dominance of non-native conifers along the River Liza between Middle Bridge and Woundell Beck. Contractors will fell up to 30% of the conifers over 10cm in diameter and 100% of the conifer regeneration growing on the river gravel beds. This is aimed at protecting the open gravel bed areas for invertebrates such as butterflies, Tiger Beetle and Stiletto fly.

6. Species update (Hayley Dauben)

An expression of interest (EOI) for free-living beavers in Ennerdale and the River Ehen catchment has recently been submitted. This is the first step in a multi-step process with more work to come if we are invited to submit a full application. A web page is up and running which explains the process in more detail. <https://www.forestryengland.uk/ennerdale/beavers>. Here you'll find a link to the full expression of interest document.

7. United Utilities West (Phil Chadwick)

Works to create/enhance ponds to act as sediment traps downstream of the village have now been complete – just need some rain now to fill them!

As previously mentioned, works to remove revetment/embankment at Low Moor End are planned for delivery this June/July subject to weather etc. Catchment surveys and works to manage INNS (Invasive non-native species), injurious weeds and fields for the marsh fritillary butterfly are ongoing.

8. Community Led Plan

We look forward to working with and supporting the PC with the refresh of the Community Led Plan as appropriate.

9. Newsletters

A Wild Ennerdale newsletter was included in the April edition of 'Contact' and the next one is due in July. We are grateful to the Lamplugh with Ennerdale Parochial Church Council & volunteers for their continued support with the distribution of the newsletters.

Rachel Oakley, Partnership Officer. 20.5.25