

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

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

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on 18th March 2025 at 7.00pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge

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

Cumberland Councillor: Cllr L Jones-Bulman.

Clerk: J Ollerenshaw (JO).

Members of the public: 12

Meeting Started: 19:00

| Minute Number | Item | Action |
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| 1124/03/25 | Declarations of Acceptance of Office ML read and signed his declaration which was countersigned by JO. Resolved that Chris Ayling would be permitted to sign his declaration of acceptance of office before the next meeting. | JT JO |
| 1125/03/25 | Apologies Chris Ayling was unwell. Resolved to accept his apologies. | |
| 1126/03/25 | Declarations of Interest None. | |
| 1127/03/25 | To Approve Minutes BW proposed an amendment to minute 1103/01/25, which should read Croft Foot Cottage. Resolved to accept the amendment. Resolved to approve the amended minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21/01/25. | JO |
| 1128/03/25 | To Note Receipt of Minutes Resolved to note receipt of the Staffing Committee minutes of 19/11/24 | |
| 1129/03/25 | 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 22 due to it being a confidential employment matter, items 23 and 24 which were confidential relating to members of the public. | |
| 1130/03/25 | Wild Ennerdale - Update Rachel Oakley had submitted a written report which would be appended to the minutes. | JO |
| 1131/03/25 | Report from Cumberland Councillor A finance report had been released showing a high risk for Cumberland Council in some areas. Work was continuing to produce Copeland Borough Council accounts for 2022 & 2023. | |
| 1132/03/25 | Clerk's Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Group were still to respond regarding the streetlights • The theft of the tourist sign was still to be reported to the insurers. • The drop at Scarny Brow would be included in an assessment due in April. • The Clerk confirmed that she had now changed her name on Council documents to her married name, which she had recently adopted. | JO JO |
| 1133/03/25 | Councillor Updates | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BW said the Home Group had still not done anything about the lights, but the Clerk would continue to press. • SP said that due to personal circumstances he had been unable to make any progress on the Emergency Plan. Resolved that SG would now take the lead on this item. • Resolved RO would take the lead on the Community led plan. RM said that the board of the Gather had offered to help with this. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1134/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Public Participation</p> <p>A member of the public asked about a number of items not on the agenda. They also said that the Clerk's contract should be shared publicly. The Chair responded that as this was an employment document, he would expect it to be confidential, but he would take advice.</p> | JT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1135/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Planning</p> <p>The decision notice regarding Croft Foot Cottage had been received and was noted.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1136/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Cumbria Constabulary – Neighbourhood Policing</p> <p>Resolved that BW and JO be appointed as the representatives to attend the virtual meetings.</p> | JO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1137/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Risk Assessment</p> <p>Resolved to approve the updated risk assessment</p> | JO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1138/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Internal Auditor</p> <p>Resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk to appoint between two suggestions, according to cost and availability.</p> | JO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1139/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Payments for Approval</p> <p>Resolved to approve the following payments:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>The Gather</td> <td>Room Hire</td> <td>£ 30.00</td> <td>000728</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ollerenshaw</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£ 47.10</td> <td>000729</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ollerenshaw</td> <td>Wages</td> <td>£ 2,133.83</td> <td>000730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE/NIC</td> <td>£ 587.53</td> <td>000731</td> </tr> </table> | The Gather | Room Hire | £ 30.00 | 000728 | Ollerenshaw | Expenses | £ 47.10 | 000729 | Ollerenshaw | Wages | £ 2,133.83 | 000730 | HMRC | PAYE/NIC | £ 587.53 | 000731 | JO |
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| 1140/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Finance Report</p> <p>Resolved to accept the finance report</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1141/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Councillor Matters</p> <p>No new issues to raise</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1142/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Date of next meeting</p> <p>Confirmed as 20th May 2025</p> <p>19:25 Members of the public left the room.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1143/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Recommendation from the Staffing Committee</p> <p>Resolved to approve the amendments to the Clerk's contract of employment as negotiated and agreed with her previously, and detailed in the confidential report. The amendments were signed by the Clerk & Chair.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to include the amendments within the minutes as far as possible, with personal information redacted where required under legislation. The redacted amendments report is appended to these minutes.</p> | JO JO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1144/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Consideration of, and update on complaints</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from parishioner A, through the monitoring officer. Resolved to respond to the monitoring officer that individuals should contact the Council directly. 2. Email from parishioner A regarding Lane Foot. This was not recognised by the Council as a response from the Complaints Committee. Resolved The Clerk would check if this was sent in error. 3. Several complaints from parishioner A. There were a number of emails received by various councillors around the same theme. Resolved the Clerk was asked to respond to ask for these to be consolidated and resubmitted in a concise format, sent to the correct person, in accordance with the Council's complaints procedure. 4. Complaint from parishioner B. This was a re-send of one of the complaints from 3. Resolved the Clerk to respond that they would reply to person A and this complaint was closed. 5. Complaint from non-parishioner A. The complainant had said that they were reporting their complaint to the monitoring officer, so it was Resolved that no further action needed to be taken. 6. Complaint from parishioner A. Resolved that the complaint is considered to be vexatious and there will be no further action. 7. Complaint from parishioner B. This had been dealt with by the Vice-Chair who had explained that neither of the points raised were matters for the Council to deal with and indicated the correct process to follow. | <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> |
| 1145/03/25 | <p style="text-align: center;">Updates on Information Commissioner matters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complaint to the ICO by parishioner C. regarding documents that do not exist, not being provided. ICO taking no further action. 2. Complaint to the ICO by parishioner A. Claim of a data protection breach. ICO states that personal data was not inappropriately disclosed, therefore no infringement. 3. Complaint to the ICO by parishioner D. Complaint to the ICO that their request was not being dealt with correctly. Clerk spoke to the ICO with an explanation and they responded to say that the case is closed. 4. Complaint to the ICO by parishioner A. That information provided was incomplete. Clerk confirmed that was all that was held. Case closed. 5. Complaint to the ICO by parishioner D. That their request was not being dealt with correctly. Case closed. 6. Appeal to the GRC by parishioner A. The ICO had found no fault against the Council in a previous decision, so an appeal was lodged against that decision by parishioner A to a first tier tribunal. This was heard before a judge and a panel who ruled that the case was without merit and the ICO decision was correct. 7. Outstanding FOIA requests. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-parishioner A. One request was outstanding. | <p>JO</p> |

Meeting closed at 20:59

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council Meeting Tue 18th March 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 early spring '25:

- Native tree planting in upper valley
- Fencing (installing new & removing old)
- Wildflower planting at Bleach Green
- Drain clearance along lakeshore
- Litter picking

Our annual 'thank you' meal at The Shepherds Arms was enjoyed on 7th Feb by all.

Natural England (NE) has funded the purchase of new equipment/tools for the volunteer team (through the 'wider benefits' funding of the Coast-to-Coast upgrade) for their weekly work parties. We are grateful to NE and also LDNPA for enabling this to happen.

Wild Ennerdale would like to acknowledge the long-standing efforts by Muir Lachlan as volunteer co-ordinator for the Ennerdale Community Red Squirrel Group. Muir has tirelessly worked for many years to organise the monitoring, reporting and management of both Red & Grey Squirrels in a bid to support Red Squirrels and reduce the impacts of Grey's. Muir has also represented Ennerdale at meetings and events with the Northern Red Squirrels group. This work will now be handed over to other local community members in the parish.

Thank you Muir for all your brilliant efforts.

2. Riverlands

Work is being scheduled for this summer by the National Trust Riverlands team. As mentioned previously, the work will mainly focus 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. The Side

The National Trust ranger team have been busy on the southern boundary high fells in March, covering a long stretch of boundary along the ridgeline. The task involved maintaining the existing wall (rebuild any gaps) and install a new top wire to prevent sheep encroachment from the Common into The Side (designated Site of Special Scientific Interest). It's a big job involving many staff and work is ongoing.

4. Coast to Coast upgrade

We are continuing to support the LDNPA Coast-to-Coast Project team with the Coast-to-Coast upgrade. Regular updates have been provided to the Parish by the project team, the latest was in Feb. Additionally, the new bridge by Black Sail is now in situ and the (storm) damaged 'memorial' bridge below Pillar has been removed from site. This will be replaced by LDNPA but no timescale as yet.

5. Forestry Update (Gareth Browning)

Contractors working for Forestry England started work on felling larch in response to continuing Phytophthora larch disease in the valley. Tree felling and extraction works started in Silver Cove in February and are likely to continue into late spring. All the larch trees within the red shaded areas will be felled as they are infected with Phytophthora larch disease. Some rights of way will be diverted (with signage on site).

Forestry England have completed construction of a new temporary turning point and extension of the existing facility in Broadmoor. There is no confirmed date for when harvesting will start here but it is likely to be in the late spring/early summer.

Over winter, Forestry England contractors and Wild Ennerdale volunteers have planted around 45,000 native trees across the valley.

Forestry England is planning to start work on replacing the fence line along the valleys southern ridge between Pillar and Silver Cove over summer 2025. This will involve helicopter flights to airlift the new fencing material up to the ridge and fly in toilets and shelter for contractors. Once the new fence is completed, the old metal fence materials will be flown back down to be recycled.

6. United Utilities West (Phil)

Several works to improve in river habitat including fencing and tree planting are ongoing/complete. Works to remove revetment/embankment at Low Moor End (as previously discussed) is planned for delivery this summer subject to weather etc. This project will remove some of the artificial channel constrains and create new in-channel features. This in turn creates a more naturally functioning and resilient watercourse and floodplain for freshwater and terrestrial species including both freshwater mussels and Atlantic salmon. It will increase the quantity and quality of the habitat within the area whilst helping to slow the flow of water downstream during times of flood. The resilience of the habitat to climate change would also be increased by allowing water to better utilise the floodplain, reducing gravel washout and improving redd survival.

Works to create/enhance ponds to act as sediment traps downstream of the village are planned for delivery in the next few weeks. These works will reduce nutrient and fine sediment entering the River Ehen, open up fish habitat, increase storage capacity and improve biodiversity. Some of the works are on/near to the footpath, however banksmen and signage will be in place to ensure safe access for the footpath is available.

Catchment surveys and works to manage INNS (Invasive non-native species), injurious weeds and fields for the marsh fritillary butterfly are ongoing.

7. Community Led Plan

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

8. A Wild Ennerdale Spring newsletter will be included in the April edition of 'Contact'. 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. 18.03.25

This is a contractual amendment to the Employment Agreement between Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council and Jane Coltman dated 16th November 2021.

Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council and Jane Coltman do now mutually desire to amend certain terms of the Employment Agreement by entering into this Amendment to the Employment Agreement ("Amendment").

Both parties agree to amend their Employment Agreement as follows:

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| CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT header page currently states: | This is amended to: |
| THE EMPLOYEE: Jane Coltman | THE EMPLOYEE: Jane Ollerenshaw |

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| Section 9.2 currently states: | This is amended to: |
| You have been appointed to a single salary point and the Council will review your salary annually on the anniversary of the appointment. | You have been appointed to a single salary point and the Council will review your salary annually on the anniversary of the appointment. At each annual salary review, commencing from the 2024 review, you will be advanced one point on the [REDACTED] , subject to satisfactory achievement of objectives and performance, as reviewed annually through the Appraisal process; subject to Staffing Committee and Full Council approval. The maximum point on the [REDACTED] that can be reached is [REDACTED] . Pay increases resulting from salary review will become effective from the start of the next financial year. |

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| Section 9.3 currently states: | This is amended to: |
| One salary point will be added to your salary, up to a maximum of four points, for success in obtaining or already holding any of the following relevant qualifications: | One salary point will be added to your salary, effective from the start of the next financial year, for success in obtaining or already holding any of the following relevant qualifications: |

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| Section 9, between clauses 9.1 and 9.2, currently states: | This is amended to: |
| THEN EITHER | remove the words "THEN EITHER" |

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| Section 13.1 currently states: | This is amended to: |
| You are required to work 17.5 hours per month. | You are required to work 234 hours each financial year, based on an expected 4.5 hours of work per week. |

Note: your continuous service date from 16th November 2021 will not be affected by this amendment to contract.