

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Jane Ollerenshaw
54 Gosforth Road, Seascale, Cumbria CA20 1PJ
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on 15th September 2026 at 6.30pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge

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

Clerk: J Ollerenshaw (JO).

Members of the public: 5

Meeting Started: 18:30

Minute Number	Item	Action
1344/09/26	Apologies Resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Parker due to family commitments.	
1345/09/26	Declarations of Interest RM declared an interest in item 16 relating to the polling place.	
1346/09/26	To approve the minutes of the meeting of 28/07/2026 Councillors considered an email from a resident objecting to minutes 1327/07/26 and 1342/07/26 where the small number of residents involved had been commented on. No amendment was proposed to minute 1327/07/26. An amendment was proposed to minute 1342/07/26, but the motion did not carry. Resolved to approve the draft minutes as presented.	JO
1347/09/26	Exclusion of press and public. Resolved to exclude the press and public from items 24 as a staffing matter and 25 as this contained confidential information.	
1348/09/26	Reports from invited speakers. An update was received from Jo Wilmott which is appended. UU updated on small survey works planned, but they would be circulating information locally. Rachel Oakley updated on the work of Wild Ennerdale, her report is appended.	
1349/09/26	Report from Cumberland Councillor. Not present.	
1350/09/26	Clerk's Updates Wayleave – an offer had been made towards solicitor costs and quotations from solicitors were still being sought. Josh MacAllister had a local surgery on 1 st October. The consultation on proper practices had been received. The Council agreed that the clerk should complete as RFO. Public toilet survey – clerk to complete. Thanks had been received from grant recipients. The CLP group still required a response from ACT before setting a parish meeting date.	JO JO JO
1351/09/26	Councillor Updates I. Emergency Plan – SG - The Gather board confirmed that the designation of The Gather as an emergency reception centre had been agreed. The plan was now agreed and the Emergency	

	<p>Group would now be established. More members of the public would be asked to join.</p> <p>II. Parish Enhancement – BW – There were ongoing problems of dog fouling at Bleach Green. She would connect with UU to discuss.</p> <p>III. Community Led Plan – RO discussed various methods of consultation and said that this coincided with the LDNPA and Cumberland Council developing their local plans. SG said that the response that they had from ACT did not give them the information that they needed. The Clerk was asked to research survey formats/platforms etc. with quantitative and qualitative responses in mind.</p> <p>IV. Neighbourhood Policing – BW - There had been no meeting. JT said that he had spoken to the police regarding signage for the riding centre on Cold Fell and they had advised that there was already signage in place, but the owners were able to place their own signage out too if they thought that it would assist. They also advised that they had no authority to prevent drivers from using the road. ML asked if we could write to Sellafield Ltd to urge contractors not to use the road. Clerk to write.</p> <p>V. Wild Ennerdale – the meeting was tomorrow, but councillors were unavailable to attend.</p>	<p>JO</p> <p>JO</p>
1352/09/26	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>A member of the public said that they wished to speak to items 19 and 25. Comments were made regarding the external audit, but did not relate to the agenda item. For item 25 they stated that since January 2025, the Council had been sent over 15 FOI requests and SAR requests for the legal basis on which 2 councillors were removed from office. The Council had still not provided the legal advice on which the action was based. The person asked if their requested amendments to the minutes had been agreed or not, and JT confirmed that the minutes had been approved without amendment, to which they stated that they would make another complaint to the Monitoring Officer.</p>	
1353/09/26	<p>Planning applications.</p> <p>None.</p>	
1354/09/26	<p>Delegated Planning Responses</p> <p>None.</p>	
1355/09/26	<p>LDNPA – Parish & Town Council forum</p> <p>JT confirmed that he would attend. The Council had no matters to put forward for the first meeting.</p>	JT
1356/09/26	<p>Footpath 407055</p> <p>Resolved to support the amendment to the map.</p>	JO
1357/09/26	<p>National Salary Scales</p> <p>Resolved to accept the national agreed pay rise, backdated to 1st April.</p>	JO
1358/09/26	<p>Contractual Scale Point addition</p> <p>Resolved To approve the addition of one scale point for obtaining a relevant qualification.</p>	JO
1359/09/26	<p>General Power of Competence</p> <p>Resolved to confirm that the Council is eligible to adopt the GPC and agree to adopt it.</p>	JO

1360/09/26	Polling Place Review The Council had no concerns about accessibility for the church. The Gather was no more accessible. The location was widely known. Moving to The Gather was likely to impact regular community events, whereas the church was used far less often, so disruption would be less likely. The Council did not support the change. Resolved that the Clerk reply to share these comments.	JO																																				
1361/09/26	Visitor Sign Councillors considered the quotes. Rachel Oakley would ask if there was any money available to assist. BW was asked to confirm the materials being used. It was suggested that installation was not required. Resolved to earmark £900 for the sign.	BW JO																																				
1362/09/26	Temporary Footpath Closure RO queried whether the works were appropriate. There were no details of the work. Resolved to agree to the closure, but to ask for it to be minimised and to ask for details of the work being carried out.	JO																																				
1363/09/26	External Audit Fee Resolved to vire the funds from the contingency budget.	JO																																				
1364/09/26	CALC AGM Resolved that the Clerk would attend as representative for the Council.	JO																																				
1365/09/26	Payments for approval Resolved to agree the schedule of payments – grant cheques issued between meetings. <table><tr><th>Payee</th><th>Description</th><th>Amount</th><th>Cheque number</th></tr><tr><td>Lamplugh Sports Committee</td><td>Grant*</td><td>£ 300.00</td><td>000776</td></tr><tr><td>ECRAG</td><td>Grant*</td><td>£ 452.00</td><td>000777</td></tr><tr><td>Lamplugh Ennerdale PCC</td><td>Grant*</td><td>£ 640.00</td><td>000778</td></tr><tr><td>Ennerdale Hub</td><td>Room Hire</td><td>£ 40.00</td><td>000779</td></tr><tr><td>Moore</td><td>External Audit</td><td>£ 852.00</td><td>000780</td></tr><tr><td>Ollerenshaw</td><td>Wages</td><td>£ xxx.xx</td><td>000781</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC</td><td>PAYE & NIC</td><td>£ xxx.xx</td><td>000782</td></tr><tr><td>Ollerenshaw</td><td>Expenses/Office Costs</td><td>£ 57.98</td><td>000783</td></tr></table>	Payee	Description	Amount	Cheque number	Lamplugh Sports Committee	Grant*	£ 300.00	000776	ECRAG	Grant*	£ 452.00	000777	Lamplugh Ennerdale PCC	Grant*	£ 640.00	000778	Ennerdale Hub	Room Hire	£ 40.00	000779	Moore	External Audit	£ 852.00	000780	Ollerenshaw	Wages	£ xxx.xx	000781	HMRC	PAYE & NIC	£ xxx.xx	000782	Ollerenshaw	Expenses/Office Costs	£ 57.98	000783	JO
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1366/09/26	Councillor matters RM asked if there was another way to report the overgrown hedges to Cumberland Council. RM would send the EI numbers to the Clerk to chase. SG asked what was supposed to happen with grey squirrels. Contact details were shared. The Clerk would add a slot for the parish priest to speak at future meetings.	RM JO JO																																				
1367/09/26	Date of the next meeting Confirmed as 17 th November 2026.																																					
	Members of the public left the meeting																																					

1368/09/26	Staffing Committee Budget Resolved to note and ratify the Staffing Committee decision to allocate budget to permit the Clerk to spend additional hours to produce a comprehensive disclosure document, covering the subject matter being repeatedly requested.	JO
1369/09/26	Freedom of Information Requests The Clerk reported that she had cleared the outstanding requests, apart from a lengthy request that she had just received, which would now be dealt with.	JO

Meeting closed at 20.14

Chairman's

signature.....Date.....

Appendix

LDNPA and other staff changes

- Kate Dziubinska (Ranger previously covering Ennerdale) left LDNPA in the summer due to family circumstances and relocated down south. Carl Bradford (who was Area Ranger for the North but has now moved into a Ranger role), will be picking up Kate's work.
- There's no longer *dedicated* Coast to Coast support (the Natural England Coast-to-Coast funded project concluded at end of March 2026). Jo Willmott was retained on limited hours over the summer to help progress some of the outstanding work and tidy up project files is no longer contracted specifically on the Coast to Coast.
- As 1st Sept, Jo Willmott has moved into a perm role for the LDNPA covering 'the North'. Jo is continuing, at present, to support some Coast to Coast related activities alongside taking up her new responsibilities.
- Richard Frank remains Area Ranger covering Ennerdale Bridge/Kinniside.
- Sharon Hodgson presently not in the office (long term absence).
- Mark Askew has joined LDNPA as a Project Manager on a 1 year National Lottery Funded Nature Recovery project. Mark is supported by additional project colleagues employed by National Trails UK and YDNPA. The project objective is to *scope* the opportunities presented with the existence of the National Trail in terms of establishing a continuous Nature Corridor and enabling people (visitors and locals) to connect to Nature. The focus is on *scoping* rather than delivering, working with existing initiatives and communities.
- Outside of the realm of the LDNPA Angela Hobson (was Jo Willmott/Sharon Hodgson's equivalent at YDNPA) has been recruited to be Coast to Coast Path National Trail Partnership Officer. Her role is hosted by Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, but Angela will oversee and liaise with all of the authorities and Natural England regarding the Coast to Coast route. Angela's role will be part-time.

Coast to Coast

- **Nannycatch:** ... has been high-lighted as experiencing increase in illegal scrambling. We're aware of forthcoming meeting being organised by NT with graziers and will continue to support where we can
- **Scarny Brow down to Old Vicarage:** Ranger team has scoped the proposed pathwork. A project plan will be sent to the PC next week for their consideration/approval to release grant funds. If receive approval we've provisionally scheduled works to begin end of October/early November & completion by Christmas (believe Richard has provided a more detailed update to Ric separately)

- **Lane Foot Cottages and the Old Vicarage** (RoW alignment): Consultation on diversion to FP (simply to 'tidy up' the legal line so reflects the walked trod) has commenced
- **Linking the village to the Jubilee Path 1:** Survey recently took place (4th Sept) to better understand buried assets associated with the intended off-road path. Number of things of significance have come to light
- **Linking the village to the Jubilee Path 2: Question about opening up access to strip of field.** As per email from Steve Tatlock to Ric Outhwaite "We own this strip.... It would seem obvious to allow people to use it, however if we do that the Authority, even if only tacitly, is encouraging people to use it. Again this would seem fine from a common sense point of view. However, should someone step out from the grassy corridor onto the road and be involved in an accident with a road user, the Authority may be held liable through encouraging or allowing such use. When we get planning permission and carry out the work required this issue will be managed out through the creation of improved sightlines and potential signage. In the meantime we have, as you know, cut back the roadside verge to allow people to step off the road should they need to".
- **Linking the village to the Jubilee Path 3:** Procurement activities associated with commissioning support for a second planning application have commenced.
- **Miles without Stiles (Ennerdale Views)** Again, as per email from Steve Tatlock to Ric Outhwaite "We still hope to make improvements to the MWoS routes (Ennerdale views) and had intended to do as part of the contract to deliver the Ennerdale Bridge off road route, but as you'll remember this project was de-railed by one of the landowners withdrawing support and hence the need to submit new planning application/s. We are working through upgrading repairs to a number of MWoS routes using core funding and Ennerdale Views remains on the list for such work which we'll get to asap".
- **Anglers Crag:** Procurement activities associated with trying to complete path repair work at Anglers Crag has commenced.
- **Loft Beck Bridge:** Has been installed.
- **Pitching the path at Loft Beck:** Fix the Fells have resumed additional pitching work (in continuation of work undertaken in 2024 & 2025)
- (elsewhere on CtoC within LDNP but not Ennerdale related: bridges have been installed at Far Easedale near Grasmere, and on the approach to Shap Abbey). A permit has been issued by Environment Agency for a replacement bridge near Burnbanks, Haweswater (date for work underdetermined)

Non Coast to Coast

- **Memorial Bridge:** Update from Richard Frank. "The authority has approached several grant funders but with no success as yet. We continue to explore all avenues and are liaising with Josh MacAlister MP who is offering his support behind any funding applications. We are exploring various styles of bridge that may lend themselves better to sponsorship of sections, but the cost of replacement could be £70,000 plus".

United Utilities

Project Number: 80066533 – 9

16 September 2026

Hello,

We're carrying out survey work and investigations in your area

To create a more resilient region, we've committed to improving the health of rivers, lakes and water bodies across the North West helping to make them stronger, greener and healthier.

This commitment includes major investment in our wastewater network and wastewater treatment infrastructure, so we can continue to reduce the frequency of storm overflow operations. To help us develop our plan for improvements in your area, we need to carry out some survey work, including ecology and habitat surveys, on land around the existing septic tanks. This survey work will be carried out by our specialist partners, who will be in the local area through **September to December**, to carry out surveys on our behalf. Colleagues will have identification and will be happy to show you this.

What will the ecology survey work involve?

Our specialist partner will be carrying out a combination of ecological surveys in your area:

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) Survey Revalidation

Since surveys were undertaken in 2025, due to the mobile nature of many species, the survey will revalidate previous findings. This will involve checking for the presence or evidence of protected species like badger, bats, otter, water vole, amphibians, reptiles and birds, including any nests.

Carry out a preliminary roost assessment (PRA) for bats in any trees or buildings within 50m of the septic tank proposed works. Walkover surveys may extend beyond proposed works area, in order to identify mobile ecological receptors.

If the walkover identifies evidence of protected species, further follow up surveys may be required to monitor use of any features i.e., burrows/setts. These will inform measures to minimise environmental impact.

UK Habitat Survey

Walking over each land parcel and recording any botanical species on site including any invasive non-native species. Photos will be taken of each habitat surveyed.

Barn Owl Survey

Tree climbing surveys using specialist climbing equipment to identify the potential presence of barn owl roosts, or features capable of supporting breeding barn owls.

What other survey work will happen?

As part of our ongoing design development work for the Septic Tank Programme, you may see survey teams carrying out topographical (Topo), utilities and GPR surveys.

- **Topographical**
- **Ground Penetrating Radar**
- **CCTV / Utilities Survey**

These surveys will help us build an accurate understanding of the site and surrounding environment so that future designs can be developed using up-to-date information. These surveys are non-intrusive and do not involve any construction work. Landowners who may be directly affected by survey activities will be contacted separately.

It's important that we carry out these investigations and we'd like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience. Our team will do all they can to minimise any disruption to you. The surveys will not affect your water and wastewater services, which you can continue to use as usual.

We're here to help

We'll provide further updates as our plans progress, but if you have any queries, please give us a call on 0345 672 3723 quoting project reference **80066533 – 9** or if you prefer you can contact us via our social media channels, and we'll be happy to help.

Thank you,

Customer Services

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council Meeting

Tue 15th Sept 2026: Wild Ennerdale update

1. Wild Ennerdale Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteer team for continued support, main areas of work for Summer/Autumn work:

- Marsh Fritillary web counts (Low Moor End)
- Fenced exclosures for native tree planting (Broadmoor)
- Species reintroduction support (Water vole & Hairy Wood Ant monitoring)
- Tree shelter removal (Black Sail area)
- Smithy Beck path repairs
- Litter picking
- Drain runs

2. Coast to Coast upgrade/Partnership working with LDNPA

Jo has now finished in role as Coast-to-Coast project officer and changed role to Area Ranger in North Lakes.

Mark Askew is new Nature Recovery project manager: 1 year funded post by National Lottery to support a continuous nature corridor & connect people and nature along the route.

New National Trail Partnership Officer: Angela Hobson.

Loft Beck bridge is now installed. Fix the Fells team working on final pitching works on adjacent path.

Anglers Crag: proposed pitching works along some sections of the path. Possible path closure for c. 6 weeks between end Nov – end March. Will Hinchcliffe (LDNPA RoW- officer).

3. River Liza works & Bird Surveys

Riverlands final chute (below Irish Bridge) has been completed by National Trust and site will be monitored this autumn winter to see how the delta area responds during high rainfall events.

Thank you to the two tenant farmers for their support during these works.

Bid monitoring is continuing to establish a baseline species and breeding territories. Report will be available by late spring '27.

4. Films & publicity

Campaign for National Parks – annual National Park Protector Awards (est. 2011). Wild Ennerdale one of 20 shortlisted projects for the 'Marsh Award' & involves a visit to the House of Commons on 14th October.

This award recognises the contribution of a group, project or campaign that has put nature at the heart of their work. Creating and elevating landscapes that capture the wild spirit of National Parks, keeping them safe for the future. [National Park Protector Awards - Campaign for National Parks](#)

Rewilding Network: short film by Rewilding Britain to promote the work of the network and the benefits of joining. Released 16/9.

History of Rewilding: Clapham Film Unit. Collection of oral histories for those involved in rewilding to make a documentary and for stories to be stored at the British Library. Wild Ennerdale included as a project featured. [The History of Rewilding - Clapham Film Unit | Storytelling, workshops, screenings, commissions](#)

5. Temperate Rainforest Monitoring

Temperate rainforest is extremely rare globally. Defined by combination of specialist plants & climate.

Training by specialist Ben Averis highlighted importance of this habitat and Ennerdale hosts some of the best examples in terms of richness, extent and quality in the Lake District and nationally (Side Wood & Latterbarrow).

Temperate Rainforest in the UK - Woodland Trust

Stewardship Plan will include this as an area for monitoring & management.

6. Forestry Update (Gareth Browning)

- Harvesting

Jenkinsons are continuing to fell the remaining trees at Latterbarrow. Hopefully they will finish in a month or two.

- Pillar ridge fence

Fencing is continuing on the Pillar ridge. This work will likely continue for some months, maybe paused over winter and continue again next spring.

- Tree planting

We will start planting trees in October on the area recently felled opposite the Ennerdale YHA. To protect the trees from grazing we will be trialling small 5m square net exclosures. This work will be carried out by our Wild Ennerdale volunteers.

- Contractors have started erecting fence exclosure on part of the Latterbarrow site which we will plant with native trees in March and April next year.

- Forest road grading

The forest road has been graded from Bowness Knott through to middle bridge.

- Tarmac road pothole repairs at Broadmoor/Bleach Green

This work is planned for the second week in November.

7. Species update (Hayley Dauben)

- August water vole release completed – 68 more voles in Ennerdale at the head of the valley.

- Monitoring of hairy wood ant nests is continuing – annual nest measurements before winter hibernation is coming up.

- Beaver engagement slower than hoped – will continue over the months ahead.

8. United Utilities West (Phil Chadwick)

- Phase 2 river restoration works at LME now complete-

- Fish easement on Fleet Gutter complete

- INNS management - Himalayan balsam management in the Upper Ehen (WE and local volunteers), Japanese knotweed treatment planned for the couple of weeks

- Working up further river restoration and pond opportunities in the catchment

- Annual fish surveys complete.

- UU PC meeting with Heather & Matt from UU on 8th Sept. Future public engagement planned for early into 2027.

9. Community Led Plan

We look forward to working with and supporting the PC with the refresh of the Community Led Plan. Any updates on this as the plans progress would be welcome.

10. Wild Ennerdale newsletters

An autumn Wild Ennerdale newsletter will go out with the Oct or Nov 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 15.09.26