

Loweswater Parish Council

Minutes of the annual parish meeting of Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 6th March 2025 at Loweswater village hall at 7.30pm followed by the March parish council meeting.

Meeting opened: - The chairman declared the parish meeting open at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs D Robinson (chair), C Todd, M Astley, L Meadley, K Leck, P Battrick

Clerk, Mike Milner. No members of the public.

Apologies, R Thompson (LPC)

Chair had circulated his annual report, so taken as read.

No other parish club or society reports.

Meeting closed at 7.32pm

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 7th March 2024 at Loweswater village hall commencing 7.32 pm.

Apologies, R Thompson (LPC), Cumberland Councillor Jill Perry.

748.00 Apologies for absence, as noted above.

749.00 Declarations of interest. None

750.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 7th January 2025, as a true record.

750.01 Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

751.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

752.00 Police Matters.

752.01 No police reports. Clerk had circulated the police e-newsletters.

753.00 Applications for development.

753.01 Ashill Farm, Fangs Brow, Loweswater, CA13 0SU. Reposition one yurt, approved.

754.00 Matters concerning Cumberland Councillor. Cllr not present, but she had sent a written report which was taken as read. No questions from its content.

755.00 Resolve to update HSBC mandate signatures, Safeguard review.

755.01 clerk advised that that afternoon he had undergone an HSBC Safeguard bank account procedure. He had completed all to HSBC's satisfaction, but an additional bank mandate signature was required. All resolved Cllr PB would be the additional signature. Clerk to make the appropriate arrangements with the councillor.

756.00 UU Crummock Water, weir removal planning application, latest status.

756.01 clerk advised that there had been a complete change of personnel dealing with the application, but he had been advised that the planning application will be presented to LDNP Planning Authority by mid-March 2025.

757.00 LDNP visitor management personnel changes and latest strategy.

757.01 clerk advised that the current Head of Visitor Management at LDNP Tony Watson was leaving at the end of March, moving to North Yorkshire National Park to a similar position.

757.02 at the present time the new management structure and personnel had not been made public knowledge. It was to be hoped the present system of reporting issues by email to the team would remain as efficient as it has been. Clerk was able to report that he understood that a car park was going to be opened up at Rannerdale by one of the NT tenants this coming Bluebell season under the 28 day rule.

758.00 Mockerkin Green grass contract renewal for 2025 season.

758.01 clerk advised Cllrs that he had established that due to government changes to NIC rates and the minimum wage rate changes local grass contractors had been seeking an average price rise of 10.7%. Clerk had discussed the price increase with the chair and as it would involve a price increase per cut at Mockerkin from £33 to £36.53 ex VAT the clerk should contact current contractor, Cluran Landscapes, and offer the price increase. The contractor was happy with the offer and signed a new contract, only 6 cuts per year so total increase £20 ex VAT.

759.00 Progress reports, clerk.

759.01 the precept request had been submitted to Cumberland Council and acknowledged. All other matters dealt with at agenda items.

760.00 Councillors reports.

760.01 none apart from the chair who had attended the Melbreak Community group meeting, who are actively seeking a Recruiting Secretary and Co-Ordinator, position to advertised in the LINK, no other items of importance.

761.00 Correspondence.

761.01 clerk had already mentioned the HSBC Safeguarding procedure processes.

761.02 GNAAS had written to thank the parish for its recent donation of £100.

761.03 Melbreak Community had sent an invoice for £50 to cover the webhosting facility for 2025 which it offers the parish. This fee has been approved.

761.04 Cumberland Council have circulated material about changes to the bin collection system across the council's area to bring it all into line. However, parts of Loweswater do not have the current bin or waste recycling schedule as majority of old Allerdale area, so it will be interesting to see what system is implemented across the parish.

762.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay173, £154.60, salary February, no expenses claimed paid 21/2/25

HMRC PAYE Intpay174, Clerks tax £38.60, February PAYE, paid 21/02/2025

The above payments made to conform with HMRC reporting and payment legislation.

M Milner Intpay 175, £214.31, salary £154.72 Feb'. £59.59 expenses. Feb/Mar'.

HMRC PAYE Intpay 176, £38.60 PAYE Mar'.

Melbreak Community 177, £50.00 annual web hosting charge 2025.

HSBC Feb/march monthly bank account charges of £8.00 per month.

All approved

Meeting closed 7.50pm.

763.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 1st May 2025 at 7.30pm, at Loweswater Village Hall.