

Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr. R. Bennett, Bridge End Cottage Soutergate Kirkby-in-Furness Cumbria LA17 7TW

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 19th June 2025 at the Parish Rooms, Woodland

1. Apologies for Absence (received in writing):

Cllr. D. Wilson, A. Pye, M. Irving

2. Attendance

Cllr. G. Grieve (Chairman), R. Saunders, L. Walkden, R. Bennett, S. Rhodes, M Parkinson, V. Sarson, J. Byrne

3. Declarations and Dispensations

a) Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

b) Declaration of Interests

Cllr. Walkden – 12a) 3), Cllr. V. Sarson – 12a) 3).

4. Minutes from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the last meeting were approved and signed.

5. Open Forum

A member of the public had attended the meeting in relation to Item 12 a) 3) on the Agenda. Cllr. Bennett proposed that this item therefore be brought forward. This was agreed by all Councillors.

12. Planning

a) Applications received

Cllr. Bennett noted that Cllrs. Walkden and Sarson had made a Declaration of Interest in respect of Item 12 a) 3) and therefore both Councillors left the meeting.

Cllr. Bennett reminded Councillors of the criteria for objecting against a planning application.

3) 2025/1020/HOU – Perry Bracken Barn, Kirkby-in-Furness

A member of the public made representations in respect of this application. The Parish Council discussed the application and unanimously agreed there was no objection or comments.

Cllrs. Walkden and Sarson returned to the meeting.

6. Governance and Reports

a) **Chairman's Remarks** - Cllr. Bennett informed that he will raise any remarks under the relevant item on the Agenda.

b) **Vice-Chairman Remarks** – Cllr. Walkden informed that she will make any remarks under the relevant item on the Agenda.

c) **Reports from the Westmorland and Furness Councillor** - Cllr. Brereton was not in attendance at the meeting.

d) **Matters Arising from the previous meeting**

- 1) Cllr. Bennett had contacted Peter Thornton and introduced himself as new Chairman. He had raised the Parish Council's continued concerns with the wall subsidence at Marshside. A friendly response had been received from Cllr. Thornton, congratulating Cllr. Bennett on his appointment, however, he did not address the continuing concerns of the Parish Council with regard to the wall.
- 2) Cllr. Brereton was to contact Mike Hooper to see if he would be willing to be a Hub Champion with Fibrus for this Parish. As Cllr. Brereton was not in attendance at the meeting, this will be placed under the Ongoing Actions on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- 3) Cllr. Brereton was to raise the issue of the ill-placed telegraph poles with Fibrus. As above, this will also be placed under Ongoing Actions on the Agenda.
- 4) The Clerk had contacted Grizebeck Community Centre for contact details to add to the Emergency Plan and this is now complete.
- 5) Cllr. Grieve had contacted the resident who cuts the grass verges regarding insurance and will discuss this at the relevant item on the Agenda.
- 6) The Clerk had forwarded a copy of the previous Kirkby Ireleth Parish Plan to Cllr. Bennett and Grieve. She is in the process of sending a copy to Cllr. Sarson.
- 7) Cllr. Grieve had prepared a statement on the passing of Joss Curwen on behalf of the Parish Council and forwarded this to Cllr. Bennett to put in the Newsletter.
- 8) Cllr. Bennett had placed the above statement in the Newsletter.

e) **Deferred and/or Ongoing Actions Review**

None.

7. **Parish Initiatives and Infrastructure**

a) **Traffic and Highways**

- 1) **Speeding concerns throughout the Village** – It was noted that Cllr. Byrne is still awaiting a response from Helen Karasalan regarding setting up a meeting to discuss this, together with other highways issues in the Parish.
- 2) **Road Signage Improvement** - It was noted that this is also one of the issues to be addressed in discussion with Helen Karasalan.
- 3) **A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme** - Cllr. Irving was not in attendance at the meeting.
 - i. **Milestones** – It was noted that the Contractors are now working within the area of the milestones and the Victorian Signposts. The Clerk to email the A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme and remind them of the need to retain these.

Action: Clerk to email the A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme and remind them of the need to retain the milestones and Victorian Signposts.
 - ii. **Victorian Signposts** – As Item 7 a) 3) i) above.
 - iii. **Speed Indicator Devices – A5092** – Nothing to report.
- 4) **Portal Reports and progress** – It was noted that the give way signs on the road at Woodland had still not been repainted despite the issue being reported some years ago. This was discussed. The Parish Council believe a reason for this is that the workman who had attended to paint the sign had not been able to find the exact

spot. Cllr. Grieve to obtain the what-3-words location and forward to the Clerk for her to report on the portal.

Action: Cllr. Grieve to obtain what-3-words location of give way sign on road at Woodland and forward to Clerk

Action: Clerk to report give way signs at Woodland on the portal

b) Parish Plan Updates

1) **Community Facilities** – Nothing to report.

2) **Resilience & Emergency Plan** – Approval of the Emergency Plan will be on the Agenda for the next meeting. The Clerk to forward the plan out to Councillors prior to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to forward the Emergency Plan to Councillors prior to the July meeting

3) **Planning** – Cllr. Sarson gave a brief summary of Westmorland and Furness's draft Local Plan and the possible impact on the Parish.

4) **Highways** – There was nothing further to report than what has already been discussed.

5) **Website and Social Media** – Cllr. Bennett will prepare a QR code link for the Parish Council website and provide the Clerk with this for her to put on the noticeboards.

Action: Cllr. Bennett to prepare a QR code and forward to the Clerk for her to put on the Noticeboards

Action: Clerk to put QR code on noticeboards

6) **Footpaths and Cycleways** - Cllr. Bennett informed that the fences on the footpath between Herschel Terrace and Sandside have now been repaired and therefore the matter is resolved. The resident who raised this issue has been informed.

7) **Cumbria Constabulary Report** – Nothing to report.

8. Current Matters

a) Cutting back of hedges/verges (by Probation Service)

Cllr. Walkden has now spoken with the Probation Service. However, they have informed that the procedure has changed and a written agreement needs to be in place before they can carry out any work. They had informed that in any event they will not be able to carry out any work until next year. This was discussed. Cllr. Walkden to contact Probation again to confirm a written agreement is necessary.

Action: Cllr. Walkden to contact Probation to check a Written Agreement is necessary for them to carry out work

b) Road/Wall subsidence – Marshside

Nothing to report.

c) Beckside – Road and footpath

No further update at this time.

d) Parking issues at Soutergate

It was agreed that the Parish Council have now taken this issue as far as it is possible for them to do so. Cllr. Bennett will write to the resident who contact the Parish Council about this issue. The item will be removed from the Agenda.

Action: Cllr. Bennett to write to the resident who raised the issue of parking at Soutergate and advise Parish Council have tried to resolve the issue as far as they are able to

e) Soutergate car park boundary wall

Cllr. Grieve informed that he has contacted a Stonewaller to carry out the work and still awaits a quote from him.

f) **Telegraph Poles erected by Fibrus**

Together with the ongoing issues of the placing of certain poles, Cllr. Bennett informed of other issues that local residents have experienced with Fibrus. Concerns of Engineers entering gardens without residents permission have been raised. This situation is to be monitored.

g) **Defibrillator at Soutergate/Refurbishment of telephone box**

Cllr. Bennett proposed this item be removed from the Agenda as no-one has been forthcoming with an offer for it to be placed on their land, which is needed due to the defibrillator needing electricity. With regard to the refurbishment of the telephone box, Cllr. Bennett will go back to the person who raised this and suggest that they take the lead on this if they wish this project to go forward.

Action: Cllr. Bennett to contact resident who raised refurbishment of telephone box to see if they will take the lead on this

h) **Devolution (Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA))**

It was noted that there will be nothing further on this from Westmorland and Furness until the Autumn, Cllr. Sarson gave a brief summary on how this could affect Parish Councils, with regard to planning, if passed.

i) **Westmorland and Furness Lighting Policy**

This item is to be kept on the Agenda until Westmorland and Furness have adopted the 5 street lights.

j) **Insurance – Grass verge cutting**

Cllr. Grieve informed that he has revised the email from Highways received on this issue and that they are not keen for a Volunteer to carry out the work without certain provisions being in place, i.e. insurance and risk assessments. Cllr. Grieve will continue to try and resolve this issue with Westmorland and Furness. It was agreed that a paragraph is to be placed in the Newsletter advising the verges are not being cut at the present time due to issues with Highways and insurance.

Actions: Cllr. Bennett to place a notice in the Newsletter regarding the reason for the uncut grass verges

9. Statutory Requirements

None

10. Village Trusts and Associated Matters

a) **CGP Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council Trust Fund**

No meeting to be held following this meeting.

b) **Kirkby Charities Group Trust Fund**

Cllr. Grieve informed the next meeting of the Trust Fund will be 30th June. He reminded Councillors of the Trust Funds criteria for awarding grants.

11. Finance and Accounts

a) **Recurring/Routine Payments**

- 1) The Clerks salary of £281.78 and expenses of £16.88 for June 2025 were approved.
- 2) The Payment of £2.60 to HMRC for PAYE was approved.
- 3) The payment the Woodland Parish Rooms for the hire of the hall for the meeting was approved.
- 4) The payment of £24.24 to Hudson Hill Consulting being the monthly payment for the Exchange online and Microsoft 365 Business subscriptions was agreed.
- 5) The payment of £2.40 to Hudson Hill Consulting being the monthly payment for the Webroot Antivirus

- 6) The payment of £338.33 to Mr. J. Metcalfe being the second payment for the cutting of the grass verges was approved. It was noted that the second payment will be made in lieu of work already carried out.
- b) **Exceptional Payments**
None.
- c) **Community Infrastructure Levy payments**
No further requests for consideration have been received.
- d) **Finance Subcommittee / Review of Accounts**
 - 1) The Finance Sub-Committee gave a report on the Annual Governance and Accountability Return prepared by the Clerk/RFO and made a recommendation that the Full Council approve this.
 - i. The Full Council approved the Annual Governance Statement
 - ii. The Full Council approved the Accounting Statement.
 - iii. The Chairman presented the Internal Auditors report. Hornby's had carried out an internal audit on the account and found everything to be in order.

12. Planning

- a) **Applications received**
 - 1) 2025/0909/HOU – Meadowbank Farm, Chapels, Kirkby-in-Furness – The Parish Council unanimously agreed there was no objection to this application.
 - 2) 2025/1022/LBC – Wreaks Causeway – The Parish Council unanimously agreed there was no objection to this application.
 - 4) 2025/0994/HOU – Bay View, School Road, Kirkby-in-Furness - The Parish Council unanimously agreed there was no objection to this application.
- b) **Planning Notifications**
 - 1) 2025/0603/HOU – Fell Foot, Kirkby-in-Furness – Approved with conditions
 - 2) 2024/0259/FPA - Land of West of A595 School Road, Kirkby-in-Furness – Refused
- c) **Local Plan – Call for sites briefing**
It was noted that this had been discussed under Item 7 b) 3) on the Agenda.

13. Correspondence

- a) An email had been received from a local resident regarding the dumping of rubbish in the Grize Beck. This was discussed. It was agreed that as the resident would be able to advise as to the exact location of where the rubbish has been dumped it would be best for him to report it to Westmorland and Furness. The Clerk to forward the resident a link to the Westmorland and Furness portal.

Action: Clerk to forward Westmorland and Furness portal link to resident who reported the dumping of rubbish in Grize Beck.

14. Parish Councillors Reports

- Cllr. Bynre advised that a resident had raised parking issues on School Road with her.
- Cllr. Parkinson informed that a local resident had asked her to pass on their thanks for all the hard work the Parish Council does.

15. Date of next Meeting:

Date: Thursday 24th July 2025

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kirkby-in-Furness Community Centre, Beckside

16. Close of Meeting

Cllr. Bennett closed the meeting.

Alison Field - Clerk of Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council