

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 21st August 2025 at Grizebeck Community Centre

1. Apologies for Absence (received in writing):

Cllrs. L. Walkden, J. Byrne

2. Attendance

Cllr. R. Bennett (Chairman), R. Saunders, G. Grieve, S. Rhodes, V. Sarson, D. Wilson, A. Pye, M. Irving, M Parkinson

Cllr. M. Brereton, Westmorland and Furness Council

3. Declarations and Dispensations

a) Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

b) Declaration of Interests

Cllr. M. Irving 7. a) 3)

4. Minutes from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the last meeting were approved and signed.

5. Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

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 was not in attendance at the meeting.

c) **Reports from the Westmorland and Furness Councillor** - Cllr. Brereton provided the following report:-

- He believes there may be a drop-in session for the general public to learn more about the roll out of Full Fibre Broadband. He was unsure whether or not a date for this has been set but believes it will take place at Grizebeck Community Centre.
- He confirmed he had raised the issue of the cutting of the grass verges at the last full Council Meeting.
- An on-site visit of the A595 Improvement Scheme is to take place on 3rd September 2025 between 10-12pm for invited guests only, which he believes will include members of the Parish Council. If any member of the Council wishes to attend they are to inform the Clerk and she will advise Cllr. Brereton.

Action: Any member of the Parish Council wishing to attend A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme site meeting on 3rd September 2025 to advise the Clerk and she will inform Cllr. Brereton

d) Matters Arising from the previous meeting

- 1) The Clerk and emailed the relevant ongoing actions to Cllr. Brereton for his attention.
- 2) The Clerk is in the process of writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner setting out the Parish Council's concerns with regard to speeding throughout the Village.
- 3) The Clerk had written to the A595 Improvement scheme asking for the temporary traffic lights by the Community Hall, Grizebeck to be switched off when Contractors are not on site.
- 4) Cllr. Bennett had contacted Hudson Hill requesting updated quotes for hosting the website.
- 5) All Councillors were to consider/note works that needed carrying out on local footpaths around the Village. Cllr. Bennett had noted that the noticeboard and sign at Marshside need repairing.
- 6) Cllr. Bennett had emailed Cllrs. options of how/if to proceed with the Parish Plan.
- 7) Cllr. Grieve had instructed the Contractor to carry out the rebuilding of the wall at Soutergate car park.
- 8) Cllr. Bennett had contacted Storys with regard to filling the pot holes at the Soutergate car park and they have now kindly carried out the work.
- 9) Cllr. Grieve had made enquires with regard to hiring a private contractor to cut the grass verges as a one off job and, as agreed by Councillors at the last meeting, this work has now been carried out.
- 10) Cllr. Irving had carried out the 3 monthly check of accounts.
- 11) Cllr. Bennett had placed a notice in the Newsletter advising Westmorland and Furness Council are not making a decision on whether or not sites put forward for development in the call for sites, are viable, until September 2025.

e) Deferred and/or Ongoing Actions Review

- 1) Cllr. Brereton is in the process of contacting Mike Hooper to see if he would be willing to be a Hub Champion with Fibrus for this Parish.

Action: Cllr. Brereton to contact Mike Hooper to see if he would be willing to a Hub-Champion with Fibrus for the Parish

- 2) Cllr. Brereton had contacted Libby Bateman, Fibrus regarding the position of ill-placed poles. She had advised that in certain instances they would agree to move them where they posed highways dangers or reduced sightlines etc. and that in the first instance they should be reported on the Westmorland and Furness portal. It was noted that Cllr. Grieve has already done this and Westmorland and Furness advised they had passed this on to Fibrus. Cllr. Brereton suggested that the Parish Council contact Libby Bateman direct with regard to any poles causing concern.
- 3) Cllr. Walkden had contacted Probation and this will be covered under relevant item on the Agenda.

7. Parish Initiatives and Infrastructure

a) Traffic and Highways

- 1) ***Speeding concerns throughout the Village*** – Nothing further to report at this time.
- 2) ***Road Signage Improvement*** – Nothing further to report at this time.
- 3) ***A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme*** – Cllr. Irving provided a report on the progress of the Improvement Scheme. He informed the work is currently one month ahead of schedule.

- i. **Milestones** – Nothing to report at this time.
- ii. **Victorian Signposts** – Cllr. Irving informed that Storys are now ready to order a replacement for the Grizebeck sign which was stolen. In addition, they have recovered the sign which had been in place at Chapels opposite the Crown Cottage, (formerly the Crown Inn). The sign is badly damaged and missing arms. Storys have asked for any photographs that the Parish Council may have of the signs in order they can restore them. Cllr. Grieve will contact the Lengthsman to see if he had taken any photographs of the signs.

Action: Cllr. Grieve to contact Lengthsman to see if he has photographs of Victorian sign at Grizebeck and Chapels.

Action: Clerk to forward any photographs of Victorian sign at Chapels (opposite Crown Cottage) and the Grizebeck sign to Dave Newton, Construction Manager, Story.

The Clerk informed that the A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme had written to advise that the Victorian signposts at Chapels (at the bottom of the triangular piece of ground) has now been removed as part of the work but propose it will be replaced at (or very close to) the existing location, unless the Parish Council would like it placing elsewhere. This was discussed. The Parish Council agreed to the A595s proposal, as set out above. The Clerk to inform the A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme.

Action: Clerk to write to the A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme to advise they wish the Victorian sign at Chapels (bottom of the triangular piece of land) be replaced at (or very close to) the existing location, once the work has completed.

- iii. **Bus Shelter at Chapels** - Correspondence has been received from Westmorland and Furness with regard to the bus shelter at Chapels (which is the responsibility of the Parish Council) advising that they were considering upgrading the shelter to a living roof bus shelter and had provided the Parish Council with information on this. This was discussed. The Parish Council agreed that they wished to retain the current wooden shelter and the Clerk to ask the Scheme if it can be moved to the temporary stop at Chapels whilst the work is ongoing and then re-sited to the relevant position once the work has been completed.

Action: Clerk to write to the A595 Improvement Scheme advising the Parish Council wishes to retain bus shelter that is in place at Chapels but ask for it to be moved to the temporary bus stop whilst work ongoing and re-sited to relevant position once work complete.

- iv. **Speed Indicator Devices – A5092** – Nothing to report.
- 4) **Portal Reports and progress**
Nothing to report.

b) **Parish Plan Updates**

- 1) **Community Facilities – Grizebeck Community Centre** - Cllr. Irving informed that the levelling of the car park by Story is taking place imminently.
- 2) **Resilience & Emergency Plan** – Nothing to report.

- 3) **Planning** – Cllr. Sarson is to attend a Teams briefing on Westmorland and Furness Planning on the 1st September 2025, organised by CLAC. The Clerk will also attend the session.
- 4) **Highways** – Cllr. Saunders reported that stones in the wall at Moorhouse are dislodged.
- 5) **Website and Social Media** – The packages offered by Hudson Hill for the hosting of the website was discussed and compared to that of the current host, the APP Office. Councillors agreed Hudson Hill to take over the hosting of the site on their basic package of £9.99 + VAT per month as they handle the rest of the IT related requirements for the Parish and this will consolidate everything under one provider making things simpler going forward. The cost will be less than the £192 currently paid under the APP Office.

Action: Cllr. Bennett to inform the APP Office of the termination of the contract and instruct Hudson Hill

- 6) **Footpaths and Cycleways** – It was noted that the footpath between Chapels and Grizebeck has now been cut out.
- 7) **Cumbria Constabulary Report** - Nothing to report.
- 8) **Revision of Kirkby Ireleth Parish Plan** – Cllr. Bennett will look at this and report back at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr. Bennett to review Parish Plan

8. Current Matters

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

Cllr. Walkden has now received a response from the Probation Service. They have advised that a written agreement does need to be in place for them to carry out work within the Parish. They had informed her that they will try and draft this and send it out to her in the next few days, so work can begin as soon as possible. They would appreciate a list of work that the Parish Council wish them to carry out. This was discussed. It was agreed that at the current time it would be much appreciated if they would carry out with the cutting back of the hedges/verges between Soutergate and Chapels.

Action: Clerk to advise Cllr. Walkden of above

Action: Cllr. Walkden to advise the Probation Service of the work to be carried out

b) **Road/Wall subsidence – Marshside**

Nothing to report.

c) **Beckside – Road and footpath**

No further update at this time.

d) **Soutergate car park boundary wall**

Cllr. Grieve informed that he has still had no response from the Admiral Insurance regarding the quote he sent for the work to repair the wall but, as already reported under Item 6. D) 7) on the Agenda, he has now instructed the Contractor to carry out the work. The Parish Council will pay the Contractor and then recover the cost from the Insurance Company.

e) **Telegraph Poles erected by Fibrus**

It was noted that this was covered by Item 6. e) 2) on the Agenda.

f) **Refurbishment of telephone box**

This is now in hand and the Volunteers who are carrying out the work have applied for funds to do so from the CGP Trust Fund.

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

Nothing further on this at this time.

h) **Westmorland and Furness Lighting Policy**

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

i) **Insurance – Grass verge cutting**

A response from Cllr. Peter Thornton for progress on this issue is awaited.

j) **Signage at Moorhouse, Beanthwaite Hill**

Cllr. Saunders had raised this at the last meeting. Cllr. Byrne was to contact Highways on this but was not in attendance at the meeting.

Action: Cllr. Byrne to contact Highways with regard to signage at Moorhouse

k) **NALC Survey on planning for flood resilience**

The questions were discussed. It was agreed for Cllr. Bennett to respond to the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

Action: Cllr. Bennet to complete and submit the NALC survey on planning for flood resilience

l) **Removal of hedgerows on A595 Improvement Scheme**

Cllr. Sarson informed that local residents had raised this with him. They had sought confirmation that the A595 Improvement Scheme had the proper authorisation to do this. Cllr. Irving informed that they have needed to do this to progress the scheme and that some of the hedgerows removed has actually been replanted elsewhere (which by law they have to do). He advised that it is their intention to plant more hedgerows than was there, once the work has been completed. He produced a plan of the proposed work. Cllr. Sarson said he would pass this information on to the residents.

9. Statutory Requirements

- a) The dates and Venues for the Meetings for the next 12 months were agreed. Clerk to book venues.

Action: Clerk to book venues for meetings for the next 12 months

10. Village Trusts and Associated Matters

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

A meeting is to be held following this meeting.

b) **Kirkby Charities Group Trust Fund**

Nothing to report.

11. Finance and Accounts

a) **Recurring/Routine Payments**

- 1) The Clerks salary of £281.98 and expenses of £16.88 for August 2025 were approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Rhodes Seconded: Cllr. Grieve Approved unanimously.

- 2) The Clerks salary of £281.78 and expenses of £16.88 for September 2025 were approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Wilson Seconded: Cllr. Pye Approved unanimously.

- 3) The Payment of £2.40 to HMRC for PAYE for August 2025 was approved.

Proposed Cllr. Sarson Seconded: Cllr. Grieve Approved unanimously.

- 4) The Payment of £2.60 to HMRC for PAYE for September 2025 was approved.

Proposed Cllr. Greive Seconded: Cllr. Sarson Approved unanimously.

- 5) The payment of £30.00 to Grizebeck Community Centre for the hire of hall for the meeting was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Parkinson. Seconded: Cllr. Grieve Approved unanimously.

- 6) The payment of £2.40 to Hudson Hill Consulting being the monthly payment for the Webroot Antivirus

Proposed: Cllr. Irving Seconded: Cllr. Pye Approved unanimously.

- 7) Unity Trust Bank – monthly bank charge - £6.00. It was noted that this payment had been approved in the Annual Budget.

The Clerk informed that at the current time Hudson Hill have advised there is a delay with the 365 invoicing which they are currently trying to resolve. Therefore the monthly payments for this service for June/July/August 2025 have not yet been invoiced. These will need to be paid once received.

b) **Exceptional Payments**

- 1) The payment of £672.00 to D&S Rhodes being the one of payment for the cutting of the grass was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Wilson Seconded: Cllr. Sarson Approved unanimously.

c) **Community Infrastructure Levy payments**

An application has been received from Grizebeck Community Centre for the setting up of a new website. The application is for £2400. This was discussed. Due to the strict guidelines as to what CIL can be used for, Cllr. Bennett to contact Westmorland and Furness Planning and confirm with them that it can be used for this purpose.

Proposer: Cllr. Bennett proposed this be awarded in full on the condition Westmorland and Furness, Planning, confirm that the CIL money can be used for this purpose.

Seconder: Cllr. Wilson

Approved: Unanimously

Action: Cllr. Bennett to contact Westmorland seeking confirmation CIL money can be used for a website as per application submitted by Grizebeck Community Centre.

Action: Clerk to make payment to Grizebeck Community Centre once confirmation has been received from Westmorland and Furness

d) **Finance Subcommittee / Review of Accounts**

- 1) **Review of Accounts** – Cllr. Irving carried out the review of the 3 monthly accounts and reported everything was in order.

12. Planning

a) **Applications received**

- 1) 2025/1383/HRN – Hedgerow removal notice – No objection on the provision that the hedgerow will be returned to pre-used state when the work is finished.
- 2) 2025/1333/FPA – Moorland Stores & Post Office School Road – Object unanimously on basis of “loss of Community space”
- 3) 2025/1505/HOU – Buckhorn, Grizebeck, Kirkby-in-Furness – No objection.

b) **Planning Notifications**

- 1) 2025/0994/HOU – Bay View, School Road – Approved with conditions
- 2) 2025/1020/HOU – Perry Bracken Barn, Kirkby-in-Furness - Approved with conditions
- 3) 2025/1022/LBC – Wrecks cause repair – Approved with conditions
- 4) 7/2025/5350 - The Hill Farm, Grizebeck, Kirkby-in-Furness - Granted

c) **Local Plan – Call for sites**

Nothing to report.

d) **Online Planning Session**

Cllr. Sarson to attend this session on 1st September 2025 as reported above.

13. Correspondence

None

14. Parish Councillors Reports

- Cllr. Parkinson informed that Network Rail are continuing to carry out flood defence work in the area. She informed as part of the work they were to carry out a survey on the Natterjacks and she has asked them to confirm this has been done and awaits a response.

15. Date of next Meeting:

Date: 16th October 2025

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Grizebeck Community Centre, Grizebeck

16. Close of Meeting

Cllr. Bennett closed the meeting at 20:40.

Alison Field - Clerk of Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council

DRAFT