

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held at Natland Village Hall at 7pm.
On Monday 24th February 2025

25/15 Present: Councillors Smith (Chairman), Ball, Clark, Harkness, Ibbs and Kelly, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Jonathan Brook, two members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Westmorland & Furness Councillor Doug Rathbone.

25/16 Public participation: None.

25/17 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Smith declared a personal interest, as a member of the Village Hall committee, should anything be discussed regarding the Hall, and Councillors Ibbs and Kelly, should anything relating to St Mark's Church be discussed.

25/18 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

25/19 Co-option of a new Councillor:

Philip Wilson was unanimously co-opted to the Council. He had completed the official application, is currently away on holiday but will sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

25/20 Westmorland & Furness Councillors:

Councillor Brook mentioned the following:

- a. The government consultation on Devolution Is now open and it runs until 13th April. Details are on the website. Individuals, Councils and groups can respond.
- b. There will be a road closure at Helm Lane on 10th March for one day.
- c. Local government targets have been set for housing development under the new Local Plan. Westmorland & Furness Council will be working with Parish Councils in order to progress this.
- d. The letter sent by Natland PC to Westmorland & Furness Highways is acknowledged and Councillor Brook is following this up.

25/21 Planning:

The following application was considered and there were no objections:

2025/0183/HOU Bower House, Oxenholme Lane, Natland. Householder application for new gables at first floor levels at front & rear, new roof windows & infill section of wall & roof to rear.

25/22 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to make the following grants:*

Kendal Mountain Rescue Team	£100.00
Great North Air Ambulance	£100.00
North West Air Ambulance	£100.00
Cumbria Foundation	£100.00
Citizen's Advice South Lakes	£100.00

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

c. John Chandler was present and agreed to obtain two estimates for the renovation of the War Memorial. The Council agreed in principle to finance some or all of the work, depending on the cost, which may be between £2,000 and £3,000. There are no new names to be added to the memorial

d. The Clerk reported that, following the signing of forms which he will arrange, the account at Lloyds, which is now open, should be active. It is believed that the Barclays account is operating fully now, but the signatories need to be ratified.

25/23 Trees on The Green:

The quotation from Bergen Tree Services, for trimming the oak and the birch on the Village Green as quoted and to provide a survey report suitable for insurance purposes, had been circulated and it was resolved to accept this.

25/24 Pedestrian safety on Natland Road:

This had already been discussed under minute 25/20d and a response is awaited.

25/25 Reports from Councillors:

- a. Highwayman: a number of potholes have been dealt with.
- b. Footpaths Officer: No report.
- c. Village Hall Representative: Quotes are being obtained to treat woodworm in the roof of the Hall.
- d. CALC: No report.

25/26 Annual Parish Meeting 2025:

This will be held on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7pm at Natland Village Hall. The Clerk agreed to have the Interim Accounts ready by 24th March. The Chairman will issue the agenda, the notice for the meeting and the minutes of last year's meeting.

25/27 Correspondence:

A resident had contacted the Chairman regarding the state of the verges opposite the Jones development. The verge between Rowan Gardens and St Marks Fold is deeply rutted and dangerous to walk on. The ruts cannot be seen at the moment due to the length of the grass. It would be impossible to mow and keep tidy.

The Chairman agreed to speak to representatives of Jones Homes.

25/28 Date and place of the next meeting:

Monday 31st March 2025 at 7pm at Natland Village Hall.

25/29 Agenda item for the next meeting:

'To consider supporting (with funding) for a school playground'.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed:

Dated: