

**NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**Held at Natland Village Hall at 7pm.**  
**On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**25/97 Present:** Councillors Smith (Chairman), Catnach, Clark, Harkness, Kelly and Wilson. Westmorland & Furness Councillor Doug Rathbone and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Ibbs and received from Westmorland & Furness Councillor Jonathan Brook.

**25/98 Public participation:** None.

**25/99 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Kelly, should anything relating to St Mark's Church be discussed.

**25/100 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**25/101 Westmorland & Furness Councillors:**

*Councillor Rathbone reported as follows:*

- a. The Cabinet has agreed that there is to be an elected Mayor. The combined authority will form in 2026, prior to an Election in 2027.
- b. Miranda Cannon is the new Chief Executive of Westmorland & Furness Council.
- c. A peer review of Westmorland and Furness Council has taken place and has been successful.

**25/102 Planning:** None

**25/103 Resilience:**

Councillor Clark had attended a conference on resilience at Rheged which had been useful. Natland's Resilience Plan is in need of updating. The Clerk will find the draft revision, which was never actually adopted, and send it to the Chairman and Councillor Clark for action.

**25/104 Community Governance Review for Westmorland and Furness:**

*(Councillor Rathbone, as a member of Kendal Town Council, declared an interest in this matter)*

This concerns parish boundaries and it is possible that proposals will be made for the area around 'The Beeches' to become part of Kendal parish. The last time this happened, Natland Parish Council strongly opposed such a move and it was agreed that this should again be the view of this Council.

Councillor Smith will produce a draft response to the consultation and circulate to all Councillors. It can then be approved at the next meeting, in order to meet the deadline for responses of 8<sup>th</sup> December.

It was emphasised that this is a public consultation and members of the public can make individual responses.

#### **25/105 Speed Limit enforcement:**

The Council has one SID (Speed Indicator Device). Councillor Clark will follow up a previous request and ask W&F Highways for the process to be followed to gain permission to install it. He will ask for permission to site it at two alternate locations; one on Natland Road, before Park Close, and one on Sedgwick Road, near Cracalt.

Councillor Rathbone updated the Council on plans to install a SID on the A65 which are progressing. Councillor Wilson reported that the Police were introducing new technology in November, which may assist in enforcement.

*(Councillor Catnach left the meeting at 8pm)*

#### **25/106 ‘Assertion 10 – Digital & Data Compliance’:**

It is clear the Council needs a new website, in order to meet compliancy regulations before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and the Clerk had obtained a quotation from a local firm at £400 plus VAT. It was resolved that the Clerk would obtain one further quotation. Details will be circulated to all Councillors and the Clerk will use his delegated authority to make all necessary arrangements.

#### **25/107 School playground renovation:**

Following a complaint having been received from a resident, concerning noise from the playground area, it was resolved to ask Councillor Ibbs to ask the school to make contact with residents neighbouring the field to resolve any issues.

#### **25/108 Remembrance Sunday:**

It was resolved to contribute £100 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and that a wreath should be laid at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

#### **25/109 Finance :**

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

St Mark’s PCC	£600.00	Grant – churchyard maintenance
Lune Valley Landscapes and Grounds Maintenance Limited		
	£225.00	Grasscutting
K M Price	£161.48	Quarterly expenses to 30 <sup>th</sup> September
		Including use of home office and travel.

b. The monthly cash and budget statements were noted.

- c. The reported that the £20,000 had now been transferred to the Council's interest-bearing account.

### **25/110 Reports from Councillors:**

**Highwayman:** *Councillor Clark reported as follows:*

- a. He had a circulated the response he had received from National Highways, addressing issues he had raised concerning new road markings at Brettargh Holt; other locations were mentioned including Crooklands roundabout and Plumgarths interchange.
- b. Potholes are being repaired promptly at present.
- c. There has been no further response from W&F Highways, following the request from Councillor Harkness for road markings in the village to be reinstated. The Clerk will re-send this information and copy in Councillors Rathbone and Peter Thornton, as it is now over six months since the request was made and acknowledged.

**Footpaths:** No report.

**Village Hall:** *Councillor Wison reported as follows:*

- a. The hall will be closed for refurbishment/repair from 21<sup>st</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026.
- b. The Craft Fair will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**CALC:** Councillor Smith said the postponed AGM is to be held online on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

### **25/111 Correspondence (including emails and phone calls)**

- a. Jan Evans; regarding enforcement of the 20mph speed limit. Councillor Smith will respond.
- b. John Inglesfield, suggesting possible locations for a village notice board. The Clerk had responded, saying this has been an ongoing issue. It will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

### **25/112 Date and place of the next meeting:**

***Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7pm at Natland Village Hall.***

*The meeting closed at 8.20pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*