

**NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**Held at Natland Village Hall at 7pm.**  
**On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**25/59 Present:** Councillors Smith (Chairman), Clark, Ibbs and Wilson. Westmorland & Furness Councillor Doug Rathbone (from 7:30pm), three members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harkness and Kelly and Westmorland & Furness Councillor Jonathan Brook.

**25/60 Resignation of Councillor Philip Ball:**

The Chairman announced the resignation of Councillor Philip Ball. The Council were very grateful to Philip Ball for his service to the community and directed that the Clerk would send a formal letter of Appreciation.

**25/61 Public participation:** None.

**25/62 Declarations of Interest:**

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

**25/63 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**25/64 Co-option of a Councillor:**

There had been one application for co-option to the Council from Carol Catnach. Her appointment was agreed on a majority vote and would be formalised at the next meeting.

**25/65 Calendar of meetings:**

*The following dates for meetings were agreed:*

Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Precept Meeting
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Council Meeting

### **25/66 School playground:**

Councillor Ibbs read an update from Louise Hinton, Head Teacher at the school. It is likely that the playground project would cost in the region of £27,000 and fund raising has not reached halfway yet, after which an application for funding from the Parish Council could be considered.

The school has enquired about the installation of 'kiddie signs', indicating the voluntary 'one-way system' that operates at school opening and closing times. The Council will be guided by W&F Highways on this matter. It was resolved that Councillor Ibbs will draft a letter to be sent from the Council to Louise Hinton, asking for it to be made clear that this system does not apply to villagers, including delivery vehicles.

It was noted that the playground is open for access by the public, when the school is not in use.

### **25/67 Planning: None.**

### **25/68 Finance:**

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

Lakes and Dales Window Cleaning Ltd		
	£48.00	Cleaning bus shelter
Marion Thonton	£70.00	Internal Audit – honorarium
Lune Valley Landscapes % Grounds Maintenance Ltd		
	£150.00	Grass cutting

- b. An overspend in the Budget for grass cutting was agreed, if necessary.
- c. The cash and budget statements were noted. It was agreed that £20,000 would be transferred to the interest bearing account.
- d. The transfer of the Council's banking arrangements to Lloyds Bank is still in hand and the Clerk will make further contact with the bank.
- e. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption, the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements.
- f. The report from the Internal Auditor was noted, with thanks. The Clerk would contact Dave Sharpe for a VAT invoice to allow the Council to reclaim the VAT for the work to remove the bus shelter.

## **25/69 Development between Natland Road and Burton Road:**

(W&F Councillor Rathbone joined the meeting at this stage.)

The proposed response by the Parish Council to this proposal had been circulated to all Councillors. The Chairman thanked Councillors and residents for their input to the comments made by the Council which have now been submitted. Councillors Brook and Rathbone had also seen the response. The Chairman will now submit these comments to W&F Council, and it is hoped to the Planning Officer. Councillor Rathbone joined in the discussion regarding the Story Homes development and answered a number of questions. He explained that the infrastructure and services required to support the development would fall to the relevant authorities once the planning application was out for consultation.

## **25/70 Reports from Councillors:**

- a. **Highwayman.** Councillor Clark continues to report potholes and encourages others to do so too.
- b. **Footpath Officer.** No report.
- c. **Village Hall representative.** Council Wilson reported that two building firms have been asked to quote for work on the parts of the roof space that are affected by woodworm. He agreed to ask Jones Homes about the position of wild areas as the development progresses and he expressed concern about the drainage at the development.
- d. **CALC representative.** Nothing to report.

## **25/71 Correspondence (including emails and phone calls):**

- a. Parking on Natland Road – Councillor Brook is following this up.
- b. SID on A65 or pelican crossing – further news is awaited.
- c. Cllr Clark will write to B&Q regarding access issues.
- d. A resident in Natland drew the Council's attention to the many faded road markings in Natland. This had also been raised at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Council will contact W&F Council again.
- e. A resident in Natland raised two issues:
  - i. Parking on Sedgwick Road and suggesting double yellow lines from where the Post Office was to just beyond the entrance to Appletree. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.
  - ii. A suggested that Natland Road should have a speed limit of 40 mph on it, in view of the danger to both cyclists and walkers/runners. It was noted that this is planned.

## **25/72 Date and place of the next meeting:**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 7pm at Natland Village Hall**

*The meeting closed at 8.30pm*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*