

**Claife Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at High Wray Village Hall**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Attendees:** Parish Councillors S Denyer, S Hilton (Vice Chair), K Keighley, M Stanton & J Whitworth & Parish Clerk L Prescott.

014/2024 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillor A Brodie & Unitary Councillor S Pender.

015/2024 **Requests for Dispensation**

None.

016/2024 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

017/2024 **Minutes**

**Resolved** The Council approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

018/2024 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

The Clerk reported that there were no reports to the Police in the Parish in January 2024.

ii) Unitary Councillor

No report.

iii) National Trust

b) Members of the Public

None

019/2024 **Councillor Matters**

None

020/2024 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

a) Windermere Ferry

The Clerk reported that Councillor Brodie has advised that the planned Windermere Ferry meeting did not take place.

b) Road gritting/snow ploughing arrangements

Councillors attended Highways meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Councillor Stanton asked Highways for road closed signs to be installed where roads are blocked by snow and Councillor Hilton asked for road closure signs to indicate the location of the closures. An email has since been received from Highways outlining their training requirements for contractors & contract conditions for farmers employed by Highways to snowplough. Highways are undertaking a review of gritting arrangements and confirmed they are prepared to provide salt to Parish Councils but not to contractors as this has been difficult to manage in the past. Additional Grit Bins can be requested from Highways. Highways will be undertaking a review in the summer of winter arrangements for 2024/5. The Clerk advised that the specified LANTRA courses (according to the LANTRA website) are available through Cumbria County Council, which presumably is now the Unitary Council.

**Resolved** To request details and costings of LANTRA training.

c) Council Land

Councillor Hilton reported the Alistair Irving is undertaking the work on the path near Esthwaite. The Clerk reported that Councillor Brodie has advised that Richard Tanner of the National Trust has agreed to walk the Esthwaite public access land with her to identify trees that have been affected by Ash dieback disease once the leaves appear.

d) Environmental & Water Quality

Councillor Denyer advised that a response has been received from United Utilities, on questions submitted following attendance at the event regarding water management at Near Sawrey, but they are not in sufficient detail or satisfactory. United Utilities (UU) state that they plan to advise residents and local organisations once they have decided how to proceed, but do not intend to consult on proposals. She also advised that the National Trust similarly would prefer that UU

engage at an early stage in the process as it will affect how the National Trust manage their properties and land. Councillor Denyer also advised that UU are exploring a project similar to the Lake Annecy Project with the aim to stop sewage discharges into Lake Windermere by installing sewage pipelines along the side of Lake Windermere then south through the Cartmel Peninsula to a proposed treatment plant at Grange-over-Sands before discharging into Morecambe Bay. Windermere & Lakes Town Councils have both adopted statements supporting the project (referring to an email issued by United Utilities which Claife Councillors have not received) and Windermere Town Council has also set up an advisory group. Councillor Stanton suggested that disconnecting surface water from the sewage system would solve most of the problems. Councillor Hilton is concerned that the cost of the project is three times the annual income of United Utilities. Councillor Denyer proposed that Claife issued a statement supporting sewage system improvements including the Lake Annecy Solution. The Clerk advised that Peter Cook of Windermere Town Council has offered to attend Parish Council meetings to explain more about the Lake Annecy solution.

**Resolved** To invite United Utilities to a future meeting to explain the proposals for Near Sawrey and Lake Windermere in more detail and also invite representatives from the National Trust to attend.

**Resolved** To obtain a copy of the United Utilities email referred to in Windermere Town Council's statement.

**Resolved** To invite Peter Cook to a future meeting to explain Lake Annecy solution in more detail.

**Resolved** To defer consideration of Claife Parish Council making a statement on sewage system improvements until more information is received from United Utilities.

The Clerk reported Councillor Brodie has advised that she has attended the first Wilfin Beck water quality training day including sampling and analysis. Six points were sampled and analysed by 2 volunteers, South Cumbria Rivers Trust staff and Lancaster University staff. The next sampling days are 28<sup>th</sup> March and 25<sup>th</sup> April.

e) Improving Footpath Signage

The Clerk reported that Councillor Brodie has advised that the Lake District National Park Authority have put up a green bridleway sign on the section of the community path leading to the Playground. The National Trust will be putting up a larger sign on the gate at the same location and at the gate at the other end of the path. Councillor Brodie will meet with the Amy McGowan of the National Trust on 19<sup>th</sup> March to consider the location for a sign near the defibrillator before the National Trust order this.

f) Harrowslack Lake Shore

Councillor Keighley reported that three drop in events have been held by the National Trust (NT), she attended the first one & Councillor Braithwaite attended the one in Far Sawrey. The NT were asking attendees for their suggestions of solutions rather than putting forward any specific proposals. She reported that there continue to be large groups camping at Harrowslack, particularly at weekends but the National Trust security patrols will not take place until the end of March, so the only option available is the phone the Police. Councillor Staton stated that there is a difficulty in removing trespassers unless they are committing a specific offence.

g) CALC training courses

The Clerk reported that she has emailed the neighbouring Parish Councils regarding sharing the Planning Training and Coniston have expressed an interest. As the meeting calendars vary it is likely she will have responses from the others before the next meeting.

h) Registering Parish Council Land

The Clerk reported that she met with Councillor Brodie in relation to registered the Parish Council land and now has an additional 2 boxes of documents in her possession. She is progressing well with collating the information in relation to Chapel Cottage land and next will do the same for the Ash Landing land and the land at Tarn Hill.

i) 20 mph speed limit on Wray road

Councillor Whitworth reported that he has only spoken to 1 resident who supports a 20 mph speed limit at Wray. Councillor Denyer reported that some Colthouse residents are concerned with the high speeds of some vehicles. Westmorland and Furness Council are not yet accepting applications for locations where the national speed limits apply.

**Resolved** To reconsider once Westmorland and Furness Council are accepting 20 mph speed limit applications for locations where national speed limits apply.

j) Council Emergency Plan

Councillor Hilton reported that he supports the use of Parkhouse as a potential Emergency centre as it includes accommodation and non-electric facilities. Councillor Pender has also supported this suggestion.

**Resolved** Councillors Hilton and Stanton to meet to consider proposals for the Emergency Plan.

k) Signage and drainage on land in front of Firbank Old School, Far Sawrey

Councillor Hilton reported that the sign has been removed, the post remains but the owner is arranging for it to be removed by a contractor. He also advised that the installation of the pipe under the track onto the road has resulted in damp being reduced in the neighbouring house, so is a 'least worse' solution.

021/2024 **New Agenda items**

a) Notice of continuing trespass to trespassers occupying land at Waterside registered to Claife Parish Council (Land Registry CU315570) with a statement of outstanding rent

**Resolved** To issue a Notice of Continuing Trespass with a statement of outstanding rent.

022/2024 **Planning Applications**

a) The following Planning Applications were considered:

i) 7/2024/5020. 1 Crabtree Cottages, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LX. Extension to form home office and covered dining area.

**Resolved** No objections.

ii) 7/2023/5255. Pearsall House, The Ferry Landing, Far Sawrey, LA22 0LP. Conversion and change of use to hotel with associated landscaping. Revised Drainage Strategy document.

**Resolved** To object to the Revised Drainage Strategy relating to the foul water proposals for the following reasons:

- There is a statement on page 9 that extra storage for sewage has been made available by works undertaken by United Utilities in January 2024, however there is no indication as to the volume of extra storage this has created and whether this would be sufficient for the new development.
- The calculation on page 17 of Previous Foul Flows for Office of 70 staff relates to staff working in both Pearsall House and Ferry House in 1982. Ferry House has since been converted to 13 apartments (Planning Permission 7/2004/5432) and no calculations have been made to indicate what the increased resulting flows were. Taking an average of 35 members of staff in each office block, this would indicate that Pearsall House staff would have been responsible for around 3,150 litres of foul water and that the Proposed Foul Flows for the Hotel (8,900 litres) would result in an additional 5,750 litres of foul water. There is no explanation of how such a large increase would be accommodated.
- The foul water storage currently has to be emptied by tanker several times a week and this will increase substantially with increased foul water flows requiring more frequent tankers. There is no indication of how this would be managed during poor weather conditions when the roads are impassible, potentially resulting in large sewage overflows into Lake Windermere.

b) The following Planning Decisions were noted:

i) T/2024/0003. Lakefield, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0JZ. Western Red Cedar tree (listed as T1 in notification) - Fell to ground level. No objection.

ii) 7/2023/5739. Peaks Barn, 1 Woodrose Mews, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LE. Removal and installation of skylights as shown on submitted plans. Certificate of Lawfulness Granted.

iii) 7/2023/5614 Rose Cottage, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LF. Construction of outhouse to form WC and utility room to rear garden of dwelling. Approved with conditions relating to plans.

iv) 7/2023/5615 High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Erection of part replacement stone faced boundary wall; and metal estate railing. Approved with conditions relating to plans.

v) 7/2023/5779 The Bield, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. Demolition of the existing boathouse, construction of a replacement boathouse and jetty, localised dredging and associated site works. Refused.

023/2024 **Financial Matters**

a) Bank Balance

Noted that the bank balance at 31 January 2024 was ££18,612.60

b) Payment of Accounts

**Resolved** To authorise payment of the following accounts:

A2A Advertising (Annual website hosting)	£60.00
Postage Stamps (2 <sup>nd</sup> class)	£6.00
A4 printer paper	£10.75

024/2024 **Highways**

a) Highways items to be reported

None.

b) Highways items reported

Date	Reference	Details	Response
01/11/2021	EI/23846	Road junction markings faded / washed out . Junction of Stones Lane, Near Sawrey with B5285	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23783	Road surface deteriorating with multiple pot holes developing. B5285 near Sawrey House Hotel	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23796	Road surface from Belle Green to the entrance to the last house on the left of the lane.	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23831	White lines at road junctions on B5285 in Near and Far Sawrey are faded / washed away and need replacing.	Assigned to Highways Team
07/07/2022	EI/70844	White lines faded at junction with B5285, half way up the ferry hill road.	Assigned to Highways Team
30/01/2023	EI/119690	Blocked grid near High Wray Farm	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131765	Tarmac infill eroded- B5285 from Hawkshead to Sawrey East side of Pool Bridge	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131782	Drain blocked with debris. B5285 at Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team
27/04/2023	EI/147748	Edge of road and potholes B5285 between Near and Far Sawrey	Temporary Repair
03/05/2023	EI/148768	Grit bin requested for Near Sawrey	Refused
10/06/2023	EI/156272	A pipe has been installed by a resident which discharges directly onto the B5285 Road.	Householder contacted
12/07/2023	EI/161952	Spoil from Brant Howe dumped on B5285 ferry hill	Assigned to Highways Team
31/07/2023	EI/164653	Deep culvert on B5285 by water trough on right hand side of road if traveling from Near Sawrey .	Closed but further works required
19/08/2023	EI/166424	Fence alongside the road has collapsed due to the posts being rotten adjacent to Chapel Cottage, LA220LQ.	Assigned to Highways Team
20/11/2023	EI/176550	A large slab of rock has fallen from rock face on B5285 near Ash Landing.	Assigned to Highways Team
04/12/2023	EI/178712	Grit heap requested for road from Near Sawrey down to bottom of Esthwaite.	Refused
17/01/2024	EI/185625	Grit bin requested for Stones Lane, Near Sawrey	Refused
31/01/2024	EI/188656	Edge of road is being eroded due to flow of water coming down bridleway behind Cuckoo Brow Inn	Assigned to Highways Team
31/01/2024	EI/188672	3 interconnecting drains blocked with grit and leaves at Near Sawrey.	Assigned to Highways Team
31/01/2024	EI/188695	Drains blocked near Far Sawrey Post Box	Assigned to Highways Team
05/02/2024	EI/189687	Deep pothole which is widening, passing place near Far Sawrey.	Completed
05/02/2024	EI/189694	Side of road disintegrating and extended pothole developing near West Vale.	Assigned to Highways Team
05/02/2024	EI/189699	Road surface breaking up. Water leaking from under road surface between West Vale/Cuckoo Brow Lane.	Assigned to Highways Team
19/02/2024	EI/192508	Stone Wall between B5235 and Lake Windermere collapsed in several places.	Assigned to Highways Team
20/02/2024	EI/193143	Directional road sign to Hawkshead pointing the wrong way and obscuring the Windermere via Ferry sign.	Assigned to Highways Team

025/2024 **Correspondence (for information only)**

The circulated correspondence was noted.

026/2024 **Date of Next Meeting**

Noted that the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date