

CLAIFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Held at

Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey at 7.30pm on Tuesday 25th February 2025.

Attendees; Cllrs A Brodie (Chair and Acting Clerk), S Hilton (Vice Chair) M Stanton (Acting Responsible Finance Officer) S Denyer, J Whitworth, D Knight, Seonag Porter NT, and one member of the public

15/2025 Apologies

None Received

16/2025 Declarations of Interest and Requests for dispensations to speak or vote on any item on the agenda by elected or co-opted members.

None Received

17/2025 Minutes

Resolved Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025 as a true record

18/2025 Public participation.

a) Reports:

i Police; No reports received

ii Unitary Councillor; No reports received

iii National Trust; Ms. Porter reported that a plan for the future management of the NT land at Harrowslack is being worked on and will be shared with the Council.

To report anti-social behaviour and illegal camping at Harrowslack, call Police no.101.

Ms Porter offered to arrange a visit to Hill Top for Councillors to view recent changes to the exhibits and to discuss changes to the car park and access to the Ticket Office.

b) Representations from members of the public

Resident attending raised concerns about the continuing problems with the Ferry. In addition to significant periods where the Ferry has been out of service for planned maintenance, users have experienced an increasing number of breakdowns with associated interruptions in service. His concern is that there appears to be no clear plan to address these issues. The Chair confirmed that a Windermere Ferry Stakeholders meeting is scheduled at which she will inform WF Council of the detrimental impact of service shortcomings on residents and businesses.

19/2025 Councillor matters

Cllr Brodie: A resident has reported increased incidents of dog fouling around Tarn Hill Playground and asked if Council could take some action. **Resolved;** Councillors to inspect area and assess the extent of the problem before taking the matter further.

Cllr Denyer: Reports have been received of anti-social behaviour at High Wray Bay Jetty. **Resolved;** Ms. Porter confirmed that NT were aware of the problem and would respond to Cllr Denyer on the matter.

Signed by.....date.....

Cllr Brodie: A recent storm damaged a memorial tree at Far Sawrey and a fallen bough blocked the B5285 and broke fencing on an NT field. The trees do not belong to the Parish Council but historically the Council has taken responsibility for them. **Resolved;** The Council to take advice on necessary works using the contactors appointed to fulfil contract at Lakebank referred to under item 22 II /2025

20/2025 Report on recruitment of Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance officer

Interviews for post have been scheduled for w/c 3rd March 2025 by a panel of 3 (Cllrs Brodie, Hilton and Knight).

21/2025 Highways and gritting

- I. Hawkshead pilot gritting proposal – no further updates available
- II. Impact report on ungritted roads in parish – it was noted that two new grit bins had been placed on the road through Cunsey however there was concern that the position of the bins was not ideal as the requirement for grit was predominantly on the steep hills in and out of Cunsey. If the Hawkshead gritting scheme is reinstated there will be no need for grit boxes.
- III. Impact report on residents, visitors and businesses re road closures and traffic management in Parish and neighbouring Parishes – multiple simultaneous road closures (Clappersgate, Rothay Manor 1 way system, Newby Bridge to Graythwaite) alongside closure of ferry for 4 weeks, have impacted travel to and from the parish for residents and visitors. Businesses have seen a significant diminution of trade. Additionally, Closure of U5663 Harrowslack on 3rd March for 5 days made without resident notification or consultation. Ms. Porter of NT was also not aware.
Resolved; Clerk will send Ms Porter a copy of the notice.
Resolved; Clerk to write to WF Council expressing concern about the timing and impact of these closures and lack of consultation re. Harrowslack residents.
- IV. Windermere Ferry – impact of closure for maintenance discussed in item 18/2025 b)
- V. To consider sites for public access to EV charging points **Resolved;** No suitable locations.

22/2025 Management of Parish Council land

- I. Tree felling licence application has been granted for Lakebank and Waterside land. Ash landing, no felling licence required for the 2 trees to be felled.
- II. To consider quotes for felling of trees – two quotations were considered.
Resolved; to accept quote from Will Hicks Tree Specialist £4,250 +vat (£850) Total £5,100
- III. R. Tanner, National Trust, has kindly offered to fell Ash Landing trees as they are working on tree felling on neighbouring land and will have equipment on site.
Resolved; to donate wood to NT to sell to mitigate cost of felling.
- IV. Graythwaite fishing permits and lake management in relation to PC land – Councillors concerned about lack of patrols and management of Esthwaite Fishery in case this results in inappropriate use of PC public access land. Chair reported that Graythwaite Estate are currently advertising for new commercial managers for the café and fishing operation on Esthwaite Water. **Resolved;** Chair to invite Ed Sandys to attend a future PC meeting to explain the Estate's strategy regarding rewilding.

Signed by.....**date**.....

V. Footpath signage at Tarnhill – signage directing people onto Claife Community Bridleway from the B5285 obscured **Resolved**; Ms Porter agreed to help with the provision of a more visible directional sign next to ‘phone box. PC supported positioning of NT sign on this bit of PC land.

Vi. Notice of Continuing Trespass to Trespasser occupying land at Waterside registered to Claife Parish Council (Land Registry CU315570) with statement of outstanding rent; **Resolved**: Notice to be issued.

23/2025 Registration of Parish Council land.

Land at Lakebank and Waterside; Primary point of contact on Land Registry Documents updated to Claife Parish Council c/o Napthens solicitors, (7, Winckley Square, Preston, Lancashire PR1 3JD). Statement of Truth being drafted for registration of land adjacent to Chapel Cottage, Far Sawrey, Tarnhill Playground and carparking area, and Ash Landing.

24/2025 Defibrillator Update

Defibrillator 999 call button at Near Sawrey is not functioning, the land line is connected. Cllr Hilton has notified Community Heartbeat Trust.

Resolved; Cllr Hilton to provide indicative signage that call button not working.

Near Sawrey defibrillator invoice itemised as cellular connection.

Resolved; Clarification from CHB required before payment made.

25/2025 Attendance on CALC training courses

Tree management course advised on risk management. Village Green course was also useful. Common land course was missed due to unforeseen circumstances. The Chair reminded Councillors of CALC’s Cancellation Policy: Minimum of 7 days notice required to avoid penalty. Less than 7 days but more than 1, 50% of fee will be charged. Less than 24 hours or failure to attend, full amount will be charged.

Due to a clash with the Annual Meeting in May, David Knight will not be able to attend the first module of the Effective Councillor training. **Resolved**; Clerk to cancel May 13th course and rearrange.

New Clerk to attend Clerk training sessions. Next ones scheduled for March 2025.

Resolved; Clerk to make provisional booking.

26/2025 Planning Applications

a) To note planning applications with no provision for consultation: -

i) 7/2025/5028 Sawrey Knotts Apartments, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LG Replacement of timber double glazed windows to front elevation of apartment and one side window to front elevation all at first floor with A+ rated Spectus PVC vertical sliding sash with through horns and with white foil to replicate the appearance of timber windows.

b) To note planning decisions made since the last meeting: -

i) T/2024/0222 Courier Cottages, Near Sawrey, Ambleside LA22 0LF T1 Goat Willow, pollard to 2 metres and maintain as pollard. Granted.

ii) 7/2024/5726 1, Woodrose Mews, Peaks Barn, Near Sawrey, Ambleside Proposed single storey rear extension forming garden room and enclosing of existing porch structure. Granted.

Signed by.....date.....

iii) 7/2023/5470 High Cunsey Farm, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT Construction of new boathouse with first floor storeroom, w.c. and dayroom, extension to existing jetty, localised dredging and associated site works. Refused.

27/2025 Financial Matters

- a) to note the bank balance on January 31st, 2025, was £23,407.87
- b) to authorise the following payments: -
 - i) Community Heartbeat Trust emergency phone annual rental 27/02/2025-27/02/2026 node 3301 Near Sawrey tel. box, when bill amended, net amount £60.00 Vat £12.00 Total £72.00
 - ii) CALC Training course Common Land and Village Greens Invoice TR3181 £50.00
 - iii) CALC Training course reserved 2 x £30.00 Total £60.00
- c) Cumberland online bank account update given by Chair - some issues remain unresolved.

28/2025 Dates of future meetings

Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on 15th April 2025 at 7.00pm followed by PC Meeting at 7.30pm at The Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey.
AGM to be held on 13th May at 7.00pm followed by PC meeting at High Wray Village Hall.

Signed by.....date.....