

Minutes of a meeting of Barbon Parish Council held at Barbon Village Hall on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Charles Howarth (Chairman), Janatha Anstiiss, Chris Brown and Jacquie Huddleston, three members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Neil Udale.

24/47 Public participation:

- a. The Barbon Charities need two volunteers to take this work on – it is not particularly onerous. Councillor Brown will advertise it in the newsletter
- b. Barbon Low Fell Farmers need two volunteers to take this work on. John Pedley and Lindley Thornber are the Trustees, to whom expressions of interest should be sent. Councillor Brown will advertise this in the newsletter.
- c. An update was given on behalf of the Trustees of the Village Hall, who have recently had a buildings and energy survey carried out. They do not need a generator as they are looking into solar panels and a power storage battery that can be used in a power cut, in order to make the Hall a 'Warn Hub' and be more 'Eco-friendly'. It is anticipated that work on the playground will commence in early January
- d. Lee Dancy is now the Booking Secretary for the Village Hall and bookings can be made online.
- e. The Village Hall Trustees are willing for a further litter bin to be sited against the car park wall, to be emptied on a fortnightly basis. The Clerk will contact Andrew Vickers at Westmorland & Furness Council for an estimate of the cost, including the emptying.
- f. The seat at the Hodge Bridge crossroads is very dilapidated and it is the Council's responsibility. Councillor Huddleston agreed to remove the debris. Westmorland & Furness Council will be asked to trim the grass there.
- g. Councillor Howarth had hoped to meet Westmorland & Furness Councillor Ian Mitchell the following day in order to look at the lack of road markings at various locations, but the meeting did not take place.

24/48 Requests for Dispensations: None.

24/49 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters of the agenda.

24/50 Parish Plan/Resilience Plan:

Councillor Brown is working through the list of residents passed on to her and will report further at the next meeting.

24/51 Reports: None.

24/52 Finance:

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

William H Hartley	£42.90	Maintenance
William H Hartley	£21.45	Maintenance
CALC	£30.00	Councillor training.
K M Price	£141.46	Quarterly expenses to 30 th September, Including use of home office and travel.

- b. There had been a refund of £42.90 from William H Hartley, due to an overpayment.
- c. The cash and budget statements were noted.
- d. The Budget Report was considered and it was resolved to make a Precept upon Westmorland & Furness Council in the sum of £6,483 for the financial year 2025/26. There is therefore no increase in the parish element of the Council Tax.

The Budget is for £7,983, with £1,750 being taken from reserves.

- e. The nationally agreed Pay Award for 2025-26 was noted and adopted. This equates to around a 3.9% increase in Clerk's salaries. The Clerk at Barbon is currently employed for 15 hours per month on Salary Point 20.
- f. As Councillor Udale was not present, the item on village maintenance (minute 24/43c refers) was deferred until the next meeting.

24/53 Planning: None at present.

24/54 Correspondence:

Correspondence from Councillor Brown had been circulated to all Councillors, regarding a forthcoming planning application that arrived too late for inclusion on the agenda. This is for The Church Mouse at Barbon. Change of use of existing ground floor café to become part of the existing residential dwelling and change of use of two bays of the existing garage building into a hair dressing salon

It was resolved to call an additional Parish Council meeting, on Monday 6th January at 7pm 2025. Councillor Brown will book the Parish Hall and advertise the meeting, although the Clerk will 'call' the meeting in the usual way. The only agenda item will be to formulate the Council's comments on the application which are not due until mid-January.

24/55 Dates for meetings during 2025:

The following provisional dates were agreed, subject to the availability of the Village Hall and Councillor's availability:

Monday 10th March

Monday 7th April

Thursday 22nd May – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Monday 8th September

Monday 1st December – Precept Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed:

Dated: