

Minutes of a meeting of Barbon Parish Council held at Barbon Village Hall on Monday 8th September 2025 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Charles Howarth (Chairman), Jacquie Huddleston and Chris Lee, four members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Neil Udale and received from Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hazel Hodgson..

William Pedley:

The Council observed a period of silence in order to remember the Pedley family, following the loss of their son. Both Will's father and grandfather had been Parish Councillors in recent years.

25/39 Public participation:

- a. A question was asked regarding the procedure to be followed in the co-option of a new Councillor. The Chairman said that this would be clarified when the appropriate point on the agenda is reached
- b. The 'books' for the Barbon Charities were handed over to the Council for safe keeping, pending a decision on their future. There is around £400 in the fund, but an annual distribution of only £7. The next meeting will consider how to proceed.
- c. A comment had been made by a member of the public that this meeting had not been fully advertised. The Clerk explained that, although it is good practise for meetings to be advertised in all ways possible, the legal requirement is that the notice of the meeting must be displayed in one of the possible ways - notice board or website - which had been done. Members of the public may, at any time, ask for agendas and minutes to be sent to them by email. Please contact the Clerk if required.

25/40 Requests for Dispensations: None.

25/41 Declarations of Interest:

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

25/42 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2025, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

25/43 Co-option of a new Councillor:

Further to the agenda being published, a further application for co-option had been received. It was therefore agreed to defer this item until the next meeting, when a vote will be taken. Should any further applications be submitted, these must be with the Clerk no later than 17th November, in order to be included on the agenda.

25/44 Reports from Westmorland & Furness Councillor:

No formal report, but Councillor Hazel Hodgson is keeping the Council up to date by emails, which the Clerk forwards to all Councillors.

25/45 Finance:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

William H Hartley	£67.50	Maintenance
William H Hartley	£45.00	Maintenance
T Flitcroft	£100	Payroll administration – annual payment
K M Price	£32.58	Backpay
K M Price	£163.54	Quarterly expenses to 30 th June, Including use of home office and travel

- b. The cash and budget statements were noted.
- c. The report from the Internal Auditor was received with thanks. There were no matters arising to be brought to the Council's attention.
- d. The Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025-26 was noted and approved. (The Clerk at Barbon is currently employed for 15 hours monthly, at Point 20 on the Salary Scale).
- e. Councillor Huddleston updated the Council on the banking arrangements. She has a meeting at the bank tomorrow, when it is hoped the situation will be resolved. The signatories on the account will be Councillors Huddleston and Lee, plus the Clerk, any two to sign.

25/46 Planning:

The following application was considered:

S/04/50 Burnside, Barbon. Erection of a single dwelling with residential amenity space, access, landscaping and associated works, together with installation of inset PV solar panels and air source heat pump.

It was resolved to recommend approval, although the Council will suggest that the access is moved somewhat - nearby residents are very concerned that the positioning of the proposed entrance on the inside of a slight bend would be a serious danger to road users.

25/47 Parish Plan/Resilience Plan:

Details had been circulated to all Councillors and Councillor Huddleston gave a full report, which is also to be presented to the Village Hall committee. She particularly thanked Lorna of the Barbon Inn for offering much reduced accommodation, should there be a crisis/emergency in the village.

There will be a need for funds:

- a. A fund, to be held by the Village Hall, to cover emergency costs such as catering.
- b. Further funding for a 'box', in which would be contained emergency items such as torches etc.

An application for both the above funds will be made at the next Council Meeting.

It was proposed that a second defibrillator is obtained, to be housed at the Village Hall (either inside or outside) subject to the Village Hall committee agreeing.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Huddleston for all the work she has done in order to get this project up and running.

25/48 Benches/seats in the parish:

This was deferred until the next meeting, so Councillor Udale can bring a report.

25/49 Correspondence:

- a. CALC – Assertion 10; Digital & Data Compliance. This document had been received during the past week and will be an agenda item for the next meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk will send details to all Councillors.
- b. A member of the public had informed the Clerk that the agenda for this meeting was not on the website. Councillor Huddleston agreed to speak to Merlin Hibbs, who has maintained the site voluntarily for many years.

25/50 Date and place of the next meeting:

Monday 1st December 2025 at 7pm at Barbon Village Hall.
(This will also be the Precept Meeting).

Councillor Huddleston gave her apologies for absence at this meeting. As this would leave only a quorum in attendance, the Clerk will check that Councillor Udale is available then, or consideration may need to be given to a change of date.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed:

Dated: