

Minutes of The Annual Parish Council Meeting of Great Salkeld Parish Council held on 1/6/26 at 7 pm at Great Salkeld Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors; Rishi Rampersad (chair) Simon Purdy (vice chair) Jo Thompson, James Tweedie, Rachel Eather, Claire Lumley and Mike Carrick

WAF country councillor Hilary Carrick

Five members of the public were present

Minutes taken by Councillor Thompson in absence of a clerk

6/26/1 Election of Chair: Resolved that Councillor Rampersad was elected Chair of the Parish Council for 2026-2027. (Proposed by Councillor Eather, seconded by Councillor Carrick, Councillor Lumley abstained)

6/26/2 Election of Vice Chair: Resolved that Councillor Purdy was elected as Vice- Chair of the Parish Council for 2026-2027. (Proposed Councillor Rampersad, seconded Councillor Eather)

6/26/3 Apologies for absence: Resolved Apologies received from Councillor Holiday (away)

6/26/4 Standing Orders and Financial regulation: Resolved that before leaving as clerk, Lisa Beken had reviewed the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and no changes were needed at this time. The annual accounts, as audited by the internal auditor were signed off (proposed Councillor Rampersad, seconded Councillor Thompson)

6/26/5 Council Policies: Resolved Councillor Thompson has recently updated the emergency plan and circulated to WAF. Council Policies had been reviewed by Clerk Lisa Beken in May and no amendments were required at the time but Councillors agreed that when a new clerk was in place they will be asked to review the policies again.

6/26/6 Standing Committees: Resolved that the following was agreed;

- a. Membership of the staffing committee for 2026-2027 to consist of the chair, Vice -Chair and Councillor Thompson (proposed by Councillor Tweedie, seconded by Councillor Eather)
- b. Membership of the Finance Committee for 2026-2027 to consist of the Chair, Councillor Holliday and Councillor Thompson (proposed Councillor Eather, seconded Councillor Carrick)
- c. Membership of the Open Spaces Committee for 2026-2027 to consist of Councillor Lumley, Councillor Purdy and Councillor Eather (proposed Councillor Thompson, seconded Councillor Tweedie)
- d. Otteriggs Management Structure; it was agreed to defer this until the July meeting to allow for consultation with the friends of Otteriggs. Councillor Rampersad confirmed that the tree surgeon had been contacted to undertake the repeat tree survey of the Ash trees again in July

6/26/7 Public Open Meeting: Resolved that a member of Great Salkeld Nature group presented a summary of the activities planned by the group at an event "A Greener Great Salkeld "organised on 13th June at Great Salkeld Village Hall. This will include an afternoon of nature activities and information including the opportunity to learn more about recording wildlife, foraging, red squirrels, pollinator pathways, managing invasive species, textile repairs and more, supported by local volunteers and wildlife and environmental organisations. The Parish Council agreed they could borrow the Parish council projector and a member of the public volunteered to PAT test the equipment used. Councillor Purdy agreed to provide an A3 size map of the parish.

A question on the length of grass cut on the path through Otteriggs field was raised and also that with some parishioners choosing to cut areas outside of properties themselves, this meant some areas were being cut more frequently than the current tender requires.

The problem of the invasive nature and spread of Himalayan Balsam was also raised

6/26/8 Westmorland and Furness Council Report: Resolved that Councillor H Carrick provided updates on the following matters;

- Westmorland and Furness Council has held the Council's Annual General Meeting (AGM). At the AGM, Cllr. Doug Rathbone from Kendal was re-elected as Chair of the Council and Cllr. Mark Rudhall from Penrith was re-elected as Vice-Chair. The Council's committee places were repopulated, and the calendar of meetings for the next two years was agreed. Members approved the Westmorland and Furness Council's Annual Plan for 2026-27 which focusses on the actions and measures that will underpin the Council Plan's ten delivery priorities. In conjunction with this, the Council's new Transformation Plan introduces three guiding principles that provide a clear focus for the year ahead. These are being community focussed, digitally enabled and financially sustainable. Members noted the Annual Report 2025-26 which details the Council's achievements in the last financial year, the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2025-26 and the Annual Report of the Standards and Governance Committee.
- A reminder to residents that under the Council's new waste collection regime, anyone wishing to have their garden waste bin emptied by the Council from July onwards, needs to apply to the Council and pay the £60 fee before the end of June. Curiously, Churches are currently unable to apply to have their garden waste bin emptied as they are considered to be "commercial". I am pursuing this on behalf of a number of local churches.
- Locally we are experiencing a number of waste related issues. There is an issue with waste being left at the recycling centre by the bin wagons after they have emptied the recycling bins. Whilst it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to keep the recycling centre tidy, it is the responsibility of WAF council contractors to leave the site tidy when emptying it. There is also an issue with waste from the bins outside the recycling centre being strewn on the side of the road by birds/animals. Having approached the council regarding this, whilst the parish is not allowed to have bins with lids outside the recycling centre, WAF has agreed to empty the existing bins more regularly for us. They have also agreed to have a word with the contractor about being more careful when emptying the waste containers.
- The new signage at the recycling centre WAF council have provided does not include a contact number for residents to ring when the recycling containers are full and need to be emptied. This would have been really helpful in the last week when the bins have been overflowing. Councillor H Carrick requested the Parish Council's agreement for her to request replacement signage that would include this information. Councillors agreed to this proposal (proposed by Councillor Rampersad, seconded Councillor Purdy)

6/26/9 Financial Matters: Resolved that no payments were presented to be approved to date. Councillor Rampersad has signed and forwarded the new bank mandates to councillors Thompson and Holliday to sign and this will enable Councillor Thompson to authorise future payments.

£170 in cash for Parish fishing permits has been received. Councillor Thompson proposed she transfer the amount by BACS in to the Parish Council Unity account from her own account and kept the cash as it was difficult to deposit cash in to the online account and it would be easier to identify

the money on audit. (Proposed by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Eather). It was agreed to review the process of obtaining and paying for fishing permits at the next meeting.

The Finance committee plan to arrange a meeting to review the banking processes

6/26/10 Staffing committee: Resolved that the advert for a new clerk has been circulated to Calc for their web site and the recruitment pack is being finalised. The closing date for applications is 22/6/26, with aim to shortlist and interview suitable candidates the week after that. Councillor Rampersad has spoken to a clerk at another parish who has expressed an interest.

Councillor Rampersad has met with the previous clerk and received a handover of login details, accounts, the laptop and documents. Not everything has been received as yet due to a problem of dampness on previous storage. It was agreed that whilst some documents could be scanned and stored electronically, certain original documents needed to be kept in original paper form.

6/26/11 Eden River Trust: Resolved it was agreed that a working party organised and supervised by Eden Rivers trust could undertake Himalayan Balsam control at the Parish Fishing grounds. (Proposed Councillor Lumley, seconded councillor Thompson). Councillor Lumley reported that the date originally planned for the work had been postponed due to illness and she will liaise with Eden Rivers trust and circulate a new date once confirmed.

Councillors felt the area sprayed by Highways last year on Pillar Hill had seen a reduction in Himalayan Balsam this year and it was agreed that Councillor H Carrick would consult with highways regarding respraying this year (proposed Councillor M Carrick, seconded Councillor Rampersad)

6/26/12 Parish Council Training: Resolved Councillor Rampersad reported he had been in contact with CALC on councillor training. Options included face to face training at a cost of £650 (plus 45p per mile) and £500 for on line training, for 2 sessions for all councillors. Councillors agreed that updated training would be beneficial and has been budgeted for (proposed Councillor Rampersad, seconded Councillor Eather) and for Councillor Rampersad to take this forward with CALC and circulate more information

6/26/13 Great Salkeld Nature Group: Resolved that Councillor Lumley would be attending the event and represent Otteriggs field. Councillor Purdy would provide the Nature group with A3 map of the Parish and check his availability for attending the event.

6/26/14 Village Hall update: Resolved Councillor Thompson advised that a roof survey had recently been undertaken by a local roofer specialising in old stand stone roofs. Recommendations will be discussed at the next village hall committee meeting with initial plans to undertake repair work on the small roof area at the back entrance where there is a leak in this area, followed by a programme of work to be undertaken on the main roofs over coming years.

The Village Hall AGM is on Wednesday 3/6/26 at 7 pm with all welcome to attend

6/26/14 Parish Field update: Resolved no current updates

6/26/15 Planning Matters: Resolved no planning applications or decisions had been received and there were no other matters arising.

6/24/17 Correspondence: resolved to acknowledge the following correspondence received. Any councillors interested in the WAF "meet Miranda" (CE of WAF Council) event on 5th June via TEAMS to let Councillor Thompson know who will forward details. Councillors were also invited to undertake

the Project Keystone survey. Councillors were reminded that any councillor is welcome to sign up to receive communications directly from CALC and can contact them on their web site.

6/26/18. Council Matters: Resolved to consider the following items at the next ordinary meeting of the parish council as follows

- Green Nature Recovery Plan
- Management of Fishing permits
- Update from Annual Parish Meeting
- Otteriggs management structure

6/26/19 Date of the next Ordinary Meeting: Resolved that the next meeting will be held on Monday 6th July at 7.30pm at Great Salkeld Village Hall

Meeting closed at 20.26

Action Points

Councillor Rampersad – provide projector for Nature group event 13th June

Follow up training options with CALC

Re confirm date for follow up tree survey

Finance Committee – arrange meeting date

Councillor Purdy – provide map of parish for the Nature group event

Councillor Lumley – circulate new date for Himalayan Balsam Bash