



HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Hethersgill Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 16th September 2025

Present: Cllrs S Barratt, D Beer, F Heaton, M Irving, L McDonagh, A Sisson, L Summerfield, C Williams J.P.

In attendance: The Clerk A Dawes.

047/25 Apologies for Absence - Cllrs. J Bryant, and County Cllr. J Mallinson sent apologies for absence, and they were accepted.

048/25 Declarations of Interest and Request for Dispensations - No declarations of interest were made and no requests for dispensation has been received other than Cllr. Bryant for item 5.2 I.T. and E-Mail and The Clerk with reference to item 8 Clerk Report

049/25 Minutes of the meeting(s) of the Parish Council held on 15th July 2025 - RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting as a true record.

050/25 Public Participation – Three members of the public were in attendance and registered concerns regarding the proposed routing of the HGV traffic to Leaps Rigg Solar Farm development through Hethersgill village. The Chair and Clerk explained that an objection had been submitted to Cumberland Council's planning department regarding the proposed route when the plans were considered at the meeting of Hethersgill parish council in July 2023. A suggestion that the developer should be invited to address the council had not been followed up, possibly due to confusion during the changeover of clerks to the council. After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would invite the developer to attend a council meeting to address concerns that parishioners may have around safety and disruption. Clerk to also invite Kirklington (Middle) Parish Council to the meeting. **RESOLVED** An article regarding the development would also be placed in the next edition of the Gill.

No report from the Cumberland Councillor.

051/25 Administrative Matters

051/25.1 Open Meeting

Cllr. Beer gave feedback on the meeting held on the 4th of September 2025. It was noted that a good turnout was welcomed, and discussions took place regarding the recent Community Survey results for which Cllr Irving was thanked for all her work in this area. Community meals and various "classes" and groups were mentioned and some were

actioned upon. Cllr Beer also handed a list of parishioners to the Clerk of individuals who would prefer to receive the Gill via email rather than paper copy.

051/25.2 I.T. and email – Following an email from CALC regarding Assertion 10 it was agreed that the council needs to ensure that we are compliant with our digital and data protection responsibilities. It goes beyond good intentions and places specific obligations on councils in the following areas: Email management; website compliance; personal data and GDPR and IT policy.

RESOLVED to form a sub-committee of the Council with members Beer, Bryant, and Irving to make recommendations to the council re the above. The clerk to convene a meeting of the sub-committee and will be able to assist where needed. Cllr. Irving also requested that papers be printed on both sides to save money. Cllr. Williams would continue to ensure that Cllr. Heaton had his version.

051/25.3 Highways - no new issues to report. However Cllr Beer and the Clerk both reported the lack of response to M.P.'s intervention.

RESOLVED to encourage David Allen Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a Council Meeting to try to see if he is able to assist with this issue in terms of road safety.

051/25.4 Registration of Common Land – Clerk reported that the registration of Common Land or Village Green were 3 areas (details attached to the minutes) and that for the sake of expediency and understanding of the area in question Cllr. Irving would walk the Quarries and report back to Council on her findings.

051/25.5 Community Resilience – **RESOLVED** Cllr. Beer and Jennifer Crawley (Member of the Public) were registered to attend the event earmarked for the 8th October 2025. Cllr. Beer to report back.

051/25.6 Facebook Page – Parishioners had indicated to the Chair that they would like to be involved in a "Facebook " page for the "Hethersgill Residents Group". Cllr Irving to investigate how this would be possible to achieved.

052/25 Planning Matters – none received

053/25 Finance Matters

053/25.1 RESOLVED to authorise the payments below

Date	Payee	Amount
01/07/2025	A Dawes Pay & Exps	£423.87
01/07/2025	CALC Subscriptions	£187.30
01/07/2025	HMRC - Tax	£ 85.00
21/07/2025	A Dawes Pay & Exps	£409.31
21/07/2025	HMRC - Tax	£ 85.00
21/07/2025	DM Payroll - Services	£ 72.00
31/07/2025	Unity Bank Charges	£ 6.00
04/08/2025	Special Gill	£274.10

22/08/2025	A Dawes Pay & Exps	£421.61
22/08/2025	HMRC	£ 96.20
22/08/2025	Unity Bank Charges	£ 6.00

053/25.2 **RESOLVED** To receive Bank reconciliation and Finance papers relating to July and August 2025

053/25 Clerk Report – Clerk reported on the NALC agreed hourly rate increase and the annual effect of this would be £108 per year.

The reduction of the Clerk’s contracted hours to 21 was now in place and this would have the effect of reducing the annual cost to the council by £821.

Cllr. Sisson asked if the Clerk would keep a record of time spent for the council to determine if we now had the correct number of hours contracted for the work involved.

The Clerk also reported that, in line with the clause in the contract he was informing members of a change in his role, he is now a co-opted member of Wigton Town Council.

054/25 Donation Requests – Requests for donations towards the “Christmas in the Village” and towards the purchase of badminton equipment for the Village Hall were approved at the maximum allowable as per the Grants and Donations policy of £250.00. The Clerk to indicate that the costs should be backed-up by invoices.

055/25 Councillor Matters – Cllr Irving brought up the issue of dates for the production of the next Gill. It was **RESOLVED** that this would be a Christmas Edition and that the following deadline dates be agreed:-

Latest receipt of articles to be with the Clerk by 17th October 2025. Compilation and production to be undertaken by the Clerk and proofed by Cllrs. Irving and Sisson prior to printing. Councillors agreed that they would meet on either 3rd or 4th November to collate The Gill and “stuff” envelopes. Councillors also agreed to hand deliver as many envelopes as possible in order to save on postage costs.

Councillor Heaton raised the issue of surface flooding near Hallfoot Mill. Councillor Sisson undertook to report this on the Highways website.

056/25 Date of Next Meeting - RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at on Tuesday 18th November 2025 still at 7.30pm in Hethersgill Parish Hall.