

MILLOM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE HILL VILLAGE HALL ON 2 FEBRUARY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllr C Carrington (Chair), Cllr B Wright, Cllr Bates, Cllr V Pogrel, Cllr M

Kitchingman, Cllr S Atkinson

Cllr A Pratt, Cumberland Council

Lesley Cooper Clerk

122/25 Apologies for absence

Cllr I Lockwood (Personal), Cllr D Savage (Holiday). Cllr A Calsy (Family)

123/25 Exclusion of Press and Public

Press and Public are excluded from Agenda item 16 – Closed Session Human Resources Issues

124/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

125/25 MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 January 2026

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

126/25 Police Liaison Report

Circulated. No comments

127/25 Progress Report

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the overhanging trees on Buckman Brow had been reported to Highways on the HiMs system. The GDF meeting dates had been circulated amongst councillors.

128/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

129/25 Unitary Councillor Report

Cllr Pratt made the following report:

Cumberland's budget consultation is still open

2 sets of road works where roads will be closed, 1 at Hallthwaites and the other commencing 16 February on the Whicham Valley which will take approx. 5 days.

GDF meeting is on Wednesday in Millom, meetings will be now bi-monthly. Application for permission to drill boreholes to be submitted to Secretary of State by .March. The next meeting is looking at the pros/cons of a GDF, the contract has been awarded for the Impact Study.

Cllr Wright asked why there was a 40mph speed limit on Buckman Brow, Cllr Pratt stated that the road surface had failed the skid test and needs to be replaced.

The Chair thanked Cllr Pratt for his report.

130/25 APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

130/25.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

None

130/25.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers since last meeting.

None

130/25.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications

None

131/25 FINANCIAL RECORDS

131/25.1 The following payment was approved

L Cooper	Clerks salary & expenses	£231.96
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HMRC	PAYE	£ 49.00
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131/25.2 To note the receipt of payments.

None

131/25.3 To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 31 December 2025

Checked and verified by Cllr Kitchingman

131/25.4 To consider the Budget Comparison Report as at 31 January 2026 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

None required. Current Acct £11619.56, Deposit Acct £12108.93 Committed reserves £10277.40. The Clerk reported that there would be a small underspend at the end of the financial year.

132/25 PARISH MATTERS0

132/25.1 Community Plan

a) Audit of Assets

Cllr Pogrel report that she had asked the Head teacher at Thwaites School for a potential location and was awaiting a response. Cllr Bates stated that two possible locations in School Ellis had been identified. The Hill Village Hall had intimated that they may purchase the seats.

b) Pinnel Hole car parking

Cllrs Pogrel and Bates presented a paper showing two options for the refurbishment of the Pinnel Hole. Cllrs Carrington, Pogrel and Bates to meet to formalise a discussion document to be presented to the March meeting and which will then be presented to the community for consultation. Concerns were expressed regarding the state of 2 of the garages

c) To determine new entrance to play area.

Clerk reported that 1 updated estimate had been returned and was still waiting for the 2nd. To submit an application to Cumberland funding by end of February.

d) Website Development

No suggestions received from councillors

132/25.2 Parish Projects

i) Active Transport – Barrow to Esk Active Travel

Cllr Calsy reported that an application for funding had been submitted to the GDF.

ii) Lights

Cllr Pogrel reported that there were no local suppliers of solar streetlights. Cllr Pratt to consult with Highways re suppliers. Clerk to contact Prolectric for a report on what repairs were carried out on all 3 lights.

iii) Duddon Iron Furnace

Cllr Carrington reported that LDNP own the Furnace. To contact them to explore how PC can help to maintain and provide signage to the site. Clerk had investigated the option of a Brown Sign.

132/25.3 Policies, Procedures and Consultations

a) Play Inspection Report

Clerk had received a confirmation that the broken piece of equipment had been replaced. To seek more detailed information as to what actions were carried out on the swings.

b) IT Policy

Clerk presented a draft IT policy for approval.

Proposed by Cllr Pogrel Seconded Cllr Kitchingman and resolved to approve.

132/25.4 Subgroup Reports

a) Environment Group

No report

132/25.5 Councillor vacancies

Two vacancies remaining.

**133/25 To reports from representatives on outside bodies
Copeland Community Partnership (GDF)**

Cllr Pogrell to attend next meeting

134/25 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received that has not been previously circulated:

Received from a resident re management of bamboo on Hill Brow. Clerk to request contractor to retreat.

135/25 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

- Cllr Pogrell reported that she had submitted an application to become a governor of Thwaites School
- Cllr Pogrell reported that there had been much activity in The Green replacing bins, mending streetlights
- Cllr Bates reported that he had attended a meeting with Ghyll Scaur Quarry to the ponds in Millom Park. Quarry to undertake an ecological survey on both ponds and then present a plan of action to undertake the works next winter. Lowther did not attend the meeting and there are still issues of fallen trees across footpaths.

135/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 2 March 2026 Thwaites Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 20380hrs

Clerk and Cumberland Councillor then left the meeting

136/25 Closed Session

Human resources issues not resolved.

Signed

Date.....