



LAZONBY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

June 2025



Lazonby Parish Council's Report for the Period May 2024 to May 2025

Welcome to Lazonby Parish Council's Annual Open Meeting. Thank you for your attendance and we look forward to any of your questions or comments in the open session following this report.

It's been yet another year of challenges and successes for the Parish Council, especially with up and down Council membership which to a degree impacts the work of the Parish Council. However, thankfully even with Council member losses we were lucky to have new Councillors join the Parish Council, and are forever hopeful in bringing our numbers up again.

We sadly said goodbye to Councillor Ruth Hookway, and our most recent Chair Councillor Craig Wilkinson during the last year who we would like to thank for their time working on behalf of the local community with the Parish Council. We were also very fortunate to welcome Councillor Ryan Wilson-Lane and returning Councillor Andrew Sharples, who have both already got stuck into their roles helping the local community, so we look forward to continuing to work with them over the coming years. We currently have four vacant seats in the Parish Council which is hoped will be filled in the near future, as it is so important that the Parish has a grass roots organisation like the Parish Council to ensure the Parish is well maintained and represented.

As always the Parish Council would like to thank those Parishioners who have contributed towards the running of the Parish Council and kept an eye on the way we conduct parish business to ensure we maintain a high standard of governance and accountability. We hope you will continue to support the Parish Council over the coming year. As volunteers, Council Member give their time for free and are committed to ensuring that the parish has the best representation and carries out much needed maintenance projects in the parish, but more can always be done and support from the local community is always welcome.

The Parish Council we would like to thank both Parish Council Officers - Beccy Wyatt in her role as Clerk, and Chris Hoy in his role as Treasurer, for their professional and tireless efforts in the smooth running, financial security and effectiveness of the Parish Council. They have worked another year with continued dedication making the Parish Councillors jobs easier.

The Parish Council would like to thank Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick for her continued dedication and time that she spends on parish matters, especially regarding Highways issues. Other people that have worked exceedingly hard for us and deserve a thank you are: the Parish Council webmaster Shaun Bunting for his work maintaining the Parish Council website; Geoff and Jennifer Wilson for another year of kindly volunteering to keep the recycling centre tidy and free of fly-tipping, and for the work they do keeping the Village Green maintained; the grass-cutting volunteers who keep the village looking tidy; and the school staff and pupils who deliver the Parish Council newsletter through Lazonby Lines.

There are always reoccurring issues that the Parish Council deal with such as Highways issues like potholes, resurfacing and footways; dog fouling and dog control; flooding in the parish; traffic and speeding issues: footway lighting; litter; general maintenance issues; and flytipping at the recycling centre and other parts of the parish. The Parish Council would like to thank the parishioners, who report problems in the parish so that the Parish Council can look to resolve them.

Unfortunately, after several years of working on the Egg Packing Station Housing Project, the Parish Council after consultation with the other parties involved, came to the sad decision to close down the project due to escalating costs that made the project no longer viable. It was upsetting and not an easy decision to have to make.

The Parish Council continues to receive revenue from the recycling site and fishing licences. The Parish Council also continues to look at ways that visitors using the parking/picnic area by the recycling centre can voluntarily contribute to parking there. So the Parish Council have decided to build a stone cairn that will hold a donation box. This will be carried out this year. However, the Eden Bridge car park is also going to have a makeover with a new stone surface being put down in the coming months, and the damaged fence repaired. The Parish Council were kindly awarded £3000 from Lazonby & Hesket Place Action Group

(PAG) towards the cost of the car parks resurfacing project.

Will Pool is also going to undergo a makeover this year, with a parishioner kindly volunteering to rebuild the dipping platform with the Parish Council paying for materials. The Will Pool information board is also having a makeover too. The project was kindly awarded £500 from Locality through Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick.

The Parish Council are still very much involved with helping to solve the flooding issues in the parish, continuing to work alongside external agencies, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick and parishioners to resolve these issues. Officers from the Local Lead Flood Authority and Highways worked together to produce a comprehensive report on potential solutions, with the Culvert being one of the issues that needed addressing. This is still ongoing.

The Parish Council were in discussions with an Angling Club to see if they would be happy to take over the management and balliffing of the fishing in the parish. However, this did not go ahead as the terms and conditions could not be agreed on. This still may happen in the future but the Council want to make it clear that it will only happen if parishioners have the rights to fish for free in the parish.

Westmorland & Furness have taken the decision to ask Parish Councils if they wished to hand back the responsibility of the footway lighting costs to them. Lazonby Parish Council have taken the decision to hand all financial and maintenance responsibility back to Westmorland & Furness. The Footway Lighting hand over is currently being finalised.

As a Council, we have continued to support organisations in the Parish or organisations that benefit the parish, through the grants we award. There were three requests for financial support from a local service in the parish for 2025/2026. The FellRunner have been awarded £702 to provide a scheduled local bus service for Parishioners. Lazonby & District Swimming Pool have been awarded £2500 to replace the interior surface of the pool which is 60 years old and badly worn and damaged. The third grant application from the Lazonby Village Hall is still being finalised.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to welcome everyone who has moved into the Parish over the last year. They would also welcome any parishioner input in helping the Parish Council to run a successful and happy parish, and encourage people to join the Parish Council especially as there are currently four vacancies.

Please continue to read the notices that are put up on the parish notice boards and Parish Council website and also keep up to date with the planning applications and other parish matters through our website (www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org), as we can only represent the people of the parish if we know your views. The Parish Council now has a social media presence with its own facebook page displaying local Council news and other issues relevant to the parish.

Meanwhile, everyone is very welcome to attend our meetings, which are held on the first Wednesday each month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, with no scheduled meetings for January or August. We look forward to seeing you then.

Lazonby Parish Council - May 2025.

Contact your Councillors....

Chair: Councillor Philip Whitehead

Tel: 07989077857

Vice-Chair: Councillor Maralyn Wade

Tel: 01768 201114

Councillor Tim Wright

Tel: 01768 897104

Councillor Andrew Miller

Tel: 01768 897140

Councillor Ryan Wilson-Lane

Tel: 07595390353

Councillor Andrew Sharples

Tel: 01768 897139

Date of the Next Meeting...

The next Parish Council Meeting will be Wednesday 4th June 2025, in the Village hall at 7.30 pm. The following Meeting will be on 2nd July 2025. *Please also see the Parish Council notice boards for meeting information & the Agenda which is usually posted up no later than the Friday before the Meeting date, or visit www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org for more information.* Copies of the Agenda or the Minutes of the Council are available by Email on request. Please contact the Clerk on 0843 2894416 (Calls at local rate); or Email: Lazonby PC@googlemail.com

Please visit the Parish Council Website for Agendas, Minutes and other information: www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org