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LAZONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

**For the Meeting of Lazonby Parish Council on
Wednesday 2nd July 2025, in Lazonby Village Hall, at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Chair Councillor Phillip Whitehead.

Councillors Andrew Miller, Maralyn Wade and Andrew Sharples.

Also in attendance: the Clerk to the Council Rebecca Wyatt and a representative from B4RN.

ITEM / MINUTE No.	ITEM	BUSINESS
25/147	Apologies for absence.	RESOLVED that the apologies received from Parish Councillors Ryan Wilson-Lane and Tim Wright, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick and Treasurer Chris Hoy, be accepted and noted.
25/148	The Filling of Council Member Vacancies.	The Council considered any nominations to co-opt new Council Members onto the Parish. There were no nominations at present. RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no new nominations at present but the Parish Council would continue to seek new Parish Councillors to fill the remaining four seats.
25/149	Requests for Dispensations.	RESOLVED that it be noted that no requests were received by the Clerk since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
25/150	Declaration of Interest.	RESOLVED that there were no declarations of interest given.
25/151	Matters of Urgency.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no matters of urgency to consider.
25/152	Public Participation.	The Chair asked those present if they wished to make any contributions relating to any items on the agenda, or any other parish-related matter which they may wish to raise. 1. A parishioner who lives on Scarrows Lane has complained about the amount of stones/gravel washed down the main road and deposited at the junction with Scarrows Lane. They have said that cars are skidding in it and kids are falling off bikes so they wonder if Westmorland & Furness Council could clear it up. They have cleared the road once but think that Westmorland & Furness Council should do it now. The Council discussed that other areas of the village were also experiencing build up in gravel again outside the co-op and the Church. 1. RESOLVED that Highways have been notified and they will clear that stretch of road as soon as possible. ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk notify Westmorland & Councillor Hilary Carrick about the other areas and ask if they can use the sweeper to do it again.

25/153	Broadband in the Parish.	A member of B4RN attended the meeting to give an update and discuss the issues regarding the request for wayleaves on Parish Council land. The current Voucher cap from Building Digital UK (BDUK) is £497,000 and this is the most the government will give us. Lazonby to date has £544,000 issued vouchers, where the resident has clicked to confirm, but the "Requested" vouchers is £25,000 where residents have not yet clicked to confirm. There are also 41 vouchers cancelled £167,500 which were never clicked to confirm the vouchers so they were cancelled, and may have applied numerous times. The B4RN Volunteer group is aiming to follow up on these cancelled vouchers. They are able to apply for 20% more in vouchers than the government cap as they understand many may drop out when it comes to actually signing. They are now at the point of looking for pledges from the community. Pledges can be as little as £100 with no maximum, but all pledges accrue 5% per year and have to be pledged for a minimum of three years. Anything over £1,500 and the benefits are free installation, and 3-months free rental, anything more then extra benefits are possible. The Council also discussed the revised B4RN wayleave requests to cross Parish Council Land at the Old Chapel and Rectory Barn.
		RESOLVED that the B4RN update report was noted. ALSO RESOLVED that the Council agreed to the revised B4RN wayleave requests to cross Parish Council Land at the Old Chapel and Rectory Barn.
25/154	Report from the local Police.	RESOLVED that the Eden Focus Police Newsletter for Eden Rural and the Penrith & Alston Police Newsletter for May & June 2025, and the Wildlife and Rural Affairs for May 2025 be noted.
25/155	Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 4 th June 2025.	It was recommended that the Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 4 th June 2025 be approved and signed as a true record of those proceedings.
		RESOLVED that Council's Meeting Minutes of the 4 th June 2025 be approved and signed as a true record of those proceedings.
25/156	Progress Reports on Recent Actions.	The Council received progress reports regarding matters from the Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 4 th June 2025.
	a. Bike Track Project (Last minute 25/129).	RESOLVED that it be noted there has been no update received as yet regarding the Bike Track project so the Parish Council will take this off the agenda until they hear anything further.
	b. Light on Village Hall (Last minute 25/129).	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no further update on the light on the village hall at present.
	c. Boat Users on the River Eden (Last minute 25/141).	The Council received an update on the issues around boat users on the River Eden from Councillor Andy Sharples. He has spoken to local fishermen who have said that they have not seen an otter for about five years since the rafting expeditions have been running. However, Otters have been spotted further up the river. Therefore, it seems the rafting is having a significant impact on wildlife. Although, the Parish Council do not appear to have a copy of the original agreement that was made a couple of decades ago regarding the use of the canoe steps, the Parish Council have now been given a copy.
		RESOLVED that the Council agreed to give Councillor Andy Sharples delegated authority to carry on working on the issues around the users of the canoe steps on the River Eden.

		ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Andy Sharples inform the rafting companies that concerns have been raised about their use of the canoe steps on the River Eden and that the Parish Council are reviewing the issue. ALSO RESOLVED that the Environment Agency and the Rivers Trust will be asked their opinion on the use of the river. ALSO RESOLVED that the report regarding the boat users on the River Eden be noted with thanks to Councillor Andrew Sharples.
	d. Fundraising help for Friends of Lazonby School (Last minute 25/125).	RESOLVED that there was no update about the Parish Councils involvement in the fundraising for the School playground as yet. ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk ask CALC if the Parish Council can give funding to a charity that is involved with the School.
25/157	Report from the Westmorland & Furness Councillor.	The Council received a report from Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick about Westmorland & Furness matters affecting the Parish. 1. Devolution In response to the public consultation run in those areas chosen to be part of the Devolution Priority Programme, Westmorland and Furness Council submitted a balanced response on 13 April. The consultation sought views on a proposal to form a Mayoral Combined Authority for the local government areas of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness. The Westmorland and Furness response highlighted the council's concerns alongside the potential opportunities for the county. The council has heard nothing since regarding the outcome of the public consultation and a final decision as to whether or not to progress with devolution will need to be taken by both councils this autumn. 2. Free holiday activities and meals for young people this summer - Westmorland and Furness Council has announced details of its programme of full funded activities and nourishing meals for eligible young people during the summer. The Summer Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme, which is funded by the Department for Education primarily to provide places for children and young people in receipt of means tested Free School Meals, offers a wide range of activities during the school holidays and young people attending receive a meal each day they attend. There are lots of different activities available including sports, music, arts, and learning. There are also activities to develop understanding about food and nutrition. Clubs and activities are run by established community groups, creative arts, sports, leisure, youth organisations and schools. There are also a range of providers who can offer activities for young people with additional needs. The programme runs for 16 days in the summer. If, however, you are not in receipt of Free School Meals, you may still be eligible if you are: • A young carer • A cared for or care experienced child or young adult • A child or young adult on a Resettlement Scheme • A child or young adults seeking asylum • A young person who is not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) • A child or young person at risk of being involved in crime • A child living in an area of deprivation • A family in crisis

		Any child or young person who is SEND or on a EHCP but not on free school meals up to the age of 18 To discuss your eligibility please email your HAF Team on HAF@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk To search for activities and book online please use the Council's website Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme Westmorland and Furness Council.
		RESOLVED that Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick be thanked for her report, the contents of which were noted.
25/158	Parish Projects:	
	a. Will Pool Revamp.	The Council received an update on the Will Pool renovations. Councillor Phillip Whitehead has looked into when it is best to pull the reeds out in Will Pool and it is best to do it in the Autumn. The Council also discussed the cantilever bridge and the new information board. RESOLVED that Councillor Phillip Whitehead would talk to the volunteer to see when they are able to do the repairs at Will Pool ALSO RESOLVED that the Council agreed to the information board having all the old funders logos removed as they were either out of date or not really relevant anymore. ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk would inform the printers of the Parish Council's decision about the removal of all the old funders logos from the information board, and ask for them to proceed.
	b. Donation Box at Eden Bridge Car Park.	RESOLVED that the donation box at Eden Bridge car park is still ongoing and will be made once the car park has been resurfaced.
	c. Resurfacing of Eden Bridge Car Park.	The Council received an update on the resurfacing of Eden Bridge Car Park. Councillor Phillip Whitehead reported that the project is still progressing but he will need to rewrite the plan for the work and this will mean revising the invoices too. He is also waiting for the Environment Agency to reply to his questions and queries regarding the SSI near the Eden Bridge car park RESOLVED that the report regarding the Eden Bridge resurfacing project be noted with thanks to Councillor Phillip Whitehead.
25/159	Parish Maintenance:	
	a. Flooding Issues in the Parish.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there have been further discussions with Story Homes on the options that may be available and discussions with Environment Agency will take place in the next few weeks to finalise the proposals; and there is still no firm date for any works but subject to successful discussions with the Environment Agency and other approvals being granted, the aim is to carry out the works in this summer's working window i.e. prior to 30th September 2025.
	b. Roads in the Parish.	The Council received an update on the following road/Highways issues in the Parish from Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick: The resurfacing on Station Road - The final section of Station Road leading to Bells Bakery has been added to the resurfacing programme for completion as soon as funding becomes available. Parking Issues on Rectory Hill outside the Bowling Club --

		Parking issues on Rectory Hill outside the Bowling Club - Any changes to the current parking regime require changes to the Traffic Regulation Order, which is a lengthy process involving consultation and advertisement. Unfortunately the focus of the traffic management team at the moment is on the Penrith TRO, introducing the parking protocol and the improvements to address those concerns raised through the Parking and Movement Study. However, they have included this issue in their review of the Eden Order, which will take place in the autumn. In the meantime, Highways do have powers, where if the obstructions are seen to be dangerous and prohibiting access for emergency services etc, restrictions can be introduced under an emergency Order. If the Parish Council and residents are in support of this type of restriction being introduced in the area it is possible for them to use these powers. The restrictions can remain in place for a maximum of 18 month or until the permanent Order has been made. If this is the chosen way forward, if the Parish Council could highlight on a map the specific areas of concern, highways can then investigate this matter further. 3. Blocked drain on Rectory Hill - The work to repair this is imminent. RESOLVED that for now the Parish Council would monitor the parking issues on Rectory Hill and take photographic evidence if needed. ALSO RESOLVED that Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick be thanked for her report regarding the updates on Highways issues, the contents of which were noted.
	c. Footpaths in the Village.	The Council received an update about the state of the footpaths in the village. 1. Current issues that were reported to Highways and reported at the May 2025 Meeting of the Parish Council. These issues remain ongoing. Following inspection Highways have deemed that some of the issues that were raised do not require any further action. However, Councillor Hilary Carrick has requested that the footways be swept so any defects will be more visible. 2. Deteriorating surface at the corner of Fern Lea - An instruction has been issued for this footway to be resurfaced as soon as possible. RESOLVED that Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick be thanked for her report regarding the updates on footpath issues, the contents of which were noted.
	d. Parish Tree Survey.	RESOLVED that it be noted that the parish tree survey is still ongoing but should be completed by September.
	e. Damaged Fence at Eden Bridge Car Park.	RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Phillip Whitehead has been seeking quotes for the cost of replacing the entire fence at Eden Bridge car park, not just the damaged part, and is currently waiting for replies.
	f. Damaged Fence at Bateman Lane.	RESOLVED that it be noted, as reported at the last meeting, the damaged fence at Bateman Lane is still to be repaired when Councillor Phillip Whitehead has the time to repair it.
	g. Recycling Centre.	RESOLVED that it be noted that the Clerk will put an article about crushing down cardboard boxes before putting them in the skips at the recycling centre, to make more room for more cardboard, in a future Parish Council newsletter.

	h. Other Maintenance Issues in the Parish.	RESOLVED that it be noted there were no other maintenance issues to report in the parish.
25/160	Financial Report by the Treasurer.	The Council received a report from the Treasurer for June 2025 (please see attached Treasurer's Report).
		RESOLVED that the Treasurer be thanked for his monthly report for June 2025 (see attached report), the contents of which were approved, accepted and noted.
25/161	Staff Pay Scales Update.	The Council received an update about the Staff pay scales. With an agreement made by the Council at the Meeting in May the following figures are now available from the Staff Pay Review. Both the Clerk and The Treasurer have been granted an increase in Scale Points from 7 to 15 with effect from 1st February 2025. Clerk's Pay - This will increase from £13.26 an hour to £15.08, an uplift of £1.82 per hour. The Clerk works 644 hours per annum and on the new pay scale will receive £9711.52 per annum an increase of £1172.08 per annum. From July 1st the new monthly pay will be £809.29. However this is a backdated deal from 1st February, 4 months' pay is therefore owed at an increase of £97.67 per month. Totalling £390.68 this will be paid in two instalments, firstly £195.34 on 19th May and a further £195.34 on 2nd June now that the Clerk is in receipt of her new Employment Contract. Treasurer's Pay - This will increase from £13.26 an hour to £15.08, an uplift of £1.82 per hour. The Treasurer works 134 hours per annum and on the new pay scale will receive £2020.72 per annum an increase of £243.88 per annum. From July 1st the new monthly pay will be £168.39. However this is a backdated deal from 1st February, 4 months' pay is therefore owed at an increase of £20.32 per month. Totalling £81.28 this back valued payment will be deferred until the new Employment Contract has been finalised by the Council. The Treasurer has agreed this will be paid by cheque as per internal financial regulations and signed off at the Meeting in September.
		RESOLVED that the report on the new staff pay review and the revised pay scales be noted.
25/162	Authority for Payments.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no authority for payments to consider.
25/163	Planning Applications – New (or Appeal).	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no new planning applications to consider.
25/164	Planning Applications – Decisions.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no new planning applications decisions to consider.
25/165	Reports on any Highways Issues.	The Council received and discussed the following Highways issues brought up by parishioners in the public participation agenda item. As reported earlier in the public participation part of the agenda, a parishioner has requested that Westmorland & Furness Council clear stones/gravel washed down the main road and deposited at the junction with Scarrows Lane. The Council had also pointed out other areas where stones/gravel are starting to build up.

		The Council also received notification of a temporary road closure has been put in place to allow United Utilities Water to carry out utility works which are expected to commence 1st July 2025 and anticipated to take 3 days to complete. Please see below details of the extents of the restriction(s) and any alternative route(s) which may be in place, the relevant legal notice can be viewed at https://api-gb.one.network/downloads/tm/4587/site-notice_8ca0e64610.pdf and a location plan clearly showing these extents can be found on one.network via link https://one.network/?tm=142940716 Location: C3015 Armathwaite from its junction with the C3027 extending in a south westerly direction for a distance of approx. 90m. Alternative Route: A suitable alternative route will be signed and made available via the unrestricted sections of the C3015, C3017, B6413, A6 and C3027. A way for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists will be maintained at all times. N.B Passage for Emergency Vehicles will be maintained where required for the duration of this restriction.
		1. RESOLVED that it be noted that as discussed earlier in the meeting at the public participation part of the agenda, Highways have been notified and they will clear that stretch of road as soon as possible. ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk notify Westmorland & Furness Councillor Hilary Carrick about the other areas near the co-op and the Church where stones/gravel is building up again and ask if they can use the road sweeper for that too. ALSO RESOLVED that the temporary road closure to allow United Utilities Water to carry out utility works which are expected to commence on 1st July 2025 and anticipated to take 3 days to complete, on the C3015 Armathwaite from its junction with the C3027 extending in a south westerly direction for a distance of approx. 90m, be noted.
25/167	Risk Assessment.	RESOLVED that it be noted that the Clerk has asked past Councillors who carried out the last Risk Assessment if they have an electronic copy of it so that it could be easily amended but only managed to get hold of one part so the Clerk will type out the paper version so that there is an electronic version ready to amend. ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Phillip Whitehead and Clerk Rebecca Wyatt be given delegated authority to start the process of going through the paper copy of the risk assessment in order to update it.
25/168	Clerks Annual Leave.	The Council received a request from the Clerk to the Parish Council regarding taking Annual Leave from Monday 4th August until Tuesday 26th August 2025 (15 days of annual leave in a row). However, the Clerk has said that she is happy to look at the Parish Council email once a week and pass anything urgent onto the Chair and Vice Chari to deal with if needed, as only the Clerk has access to the email account. RESOLVED that the Council agreed to the Clerk having Annual Leave from Monday 4th August until Tuesday 26th August 2025 (15 days of annual leave in a row), and for the Clerk to look at the Parish Council email once a week and pass anything urgent onto the Chair and Vice Chari to deal with if needed.

25/169	Invitations to Participate.	The Council considered if Council Members would like to comment, take part in, attend, or send a representative to any invitations to participate. 1. Please find links to Westmorland & Furness' Community Conversation Survey on Parking, which is live until the 18th July 2025. We would appreciate you taking five minutes to have your say and sharing this with your parish councils. Link to the survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8Q8NZCD For more information, please see the flyer and digital copy of the survey attached. You can also find further information on the Westmorland & Furness website. https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/your-council/have-your-say/consultations/parking-services-review Paper copies of the survey are also available at 40 public buildings across the Westmorland and Furness area, including council buildings, community hubs, and museums. 2. Planning Outreach Programme Information - In preparation for new Local Plans across Cumbria, Friends of the Lake District are offering Town Councils, Parish Councils and other interested groups professional and bespoke Planning Workshops (in person or online if preferred) through our Planning Outreach Programme. As well as helping you to be in the best position to respond to Local Plan consultations, we will also provide guidance as to how to best engage in the Development Control process, enabling you to make robust responses to planning applications in your area. Further information regarding our Outreach Programme can be found here: https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Pages/Category/our-work-planning 3. Eden Town & Parish Councils Event: Citizens Advice: Money Advice Session - Citizens Advice - Life is complicated. Sometimes we can encounter challenges and difficulties that we struggle to handle and can find ourselves in need of help to overcome them. With the cost of living squeeze and numerous bills still on the increase, many people currently find themselves struggling to deal with money issues. Worrying about money can be extremely stressful – it can also affect your health. Citizens Advice can give people the knowledge and confidence they need to find their way forward, whatever their circumstances and whatever their problem. The Citizens Advice team is available to help everyone who needs support. They can provide guidance and education, as well as influencing future political policies. Everything they do and the way they work benefits individuals and our wider society. CALC's Westmorland and Furness branch is offering an opportunity for clerks and councillors to engage with Andy Auld, CEO of Citizens Advice Carlisle and Eden, to find out more about the money advice and other work undertaken locally by the charity, funded in part by Westmorland and Furness Council. Date: Thursday 10 July 2025 Time: 6.45pm for 7.00pm start 4. Westmorland & Furness Parish Council Branch Event: Affordable Housing - With the national government's ambitious housing targets for Cumbria and the recent 'call for sites' from Westmorland and Furness Council, it is even more important that town and parish councils have a keen understanding of the housing
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		needs in their respective communities. Affordable housing can come in a variety of forms, including to buy, rent or self-build and are all about meeting the needs of your area. Community-led homes can be built that are owned by the community for the long term benefit of local people, whether that is income from rents straight into the community purse or homes for sale kept at affordable prices in the long term. There is also the option to refurbish existing properties that have stood empty for a period of time. Whatever the mix, the aim is to provide high quality affordable homes that sustain communities, support economic growth and further the achievement of environmental goals because a diverse, permanent community is a thriving community. CALC's Westmorland and Furness Branch is offering an opportunity for clerks and councillors to engage with colleagues from Westmorland and Furness Council's Housing Department and the Rural Housing Enabler Service to learn more about how to tackle the provision of affordable homes for the benefit of your community. Date: Tuesday 15 July 2025 Time: 6.45pm for 7.00pm start
		RESOLVED that invitations to participate be noted and for the Councillors to either take part themselves or let the Clerk know if they would like to attend any of the workshops sessions so they can be booked on to them.
25/170	INFORMATION given for reference only.	RESOLVED that it be noted that the following information was given to the Council for reference only: 1. Westmorland and Furness Council News releases – on various topics including £37.7 million highways and transport plan to drive smoother journeys across the area; Help shape Westmorland and Furness Council parking services; Nutrient neutrality partnership appoints contractor; and Council's pothole prevention programme is underway on 66 miles of road. 2. CALC Training Information. 3. CVS Information – Health & Wellbeing Bulletin, Events, Newsflash Info, Focus on Funding and Cumbria CVS Newsletter. 4. Common Land & Village Greens Information - about deadline to correct non-registration or mistaken registration of common land and village greens by 15th March 2025. 5. Information on helping shape practical tools to support older people in your community – Focus Group Invitation which was for 19th June 2025. 6. Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line - Annual General Meeting in June 2025 information. 7. Planning policy consultation notification - Reference 2459937 - After a consultation period, Sockbridge and Tirril Parish Council now have the right to produce their own Neighbourhood Plan or Neighbourhood Development Orders. 8. Events and Activities in the Eden Libraries information. 9. Westmorland & Furness Council's Climate and Nature Newsletter – June 2025. 10. Information on Arts Fund launched by Westmorland & Furness Council - the fund is aimed at existing not-for-profit arts, cultural and heritage organisations or charities, in the Eden & Barrow area of Westmorland and Furness. Applications are invited for grants between £2,000 and £10,000. The fund launched yesterday and closes on Monday 7th July 2025, at 10am.

		11. Standards of Conduct for Elected Members in Town and Parish Councils Virtual session information reminder. 12. Cumbria Local Nature Partnership News – June 2025. 13. Westmorland and Furness Parking session information slides. 14. Lazonby Village Photo Information. 15. Information on Surface dressing briefing for town and parishes - Westmorland and Furness Highways are held a virtual briefing ahead of the ‘main train’ starting, on 26th June 2025. 16. Information on NALC is disappointed at the government's decision to axe funding for neighbourhood planning. 17. Information from the ‘Local Council as Trustee’ in partnership with the Charity Commission event.
25/171	Agenda Items for Next Month's Agenda.	RESOLVED that the following agenda items be included on the September 2025 agenda: 1. Treasurer signing his new employment contract; 2. Staff appraisals; 3. Egg Packing Housing Project Funding;
25/172	Date of the Next Meeting.	RESOLVED that the next scheduled meeting will be Lazonby Parish Council Meeting on 3rd September 2025, at 7.30 pm, in the Jubilee Room, in the Village Hall. There is no scheduled meeting for August 2025.

The meeting finished at 8.45 pm.