

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2024 ORDINARY MEETING OF THE  
DRIGG & CARLETON PARISH COUNCIL  
Held in Drigg Village Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 6.30 pm**

**Attended:**

Chris Gigg	CG	(Chair)
John Jennings	JJ	(Vice-Chair)
Andy Pratt	AP	(Ward Councillor)
Jimmy Naylor	JN	
Keith Murray	KM	
Martin Clayton	MC	
Sadie Clarke	SC	
Karen Warmoth		(Clerk / RFO)

**Apologies:** Andy McMillan AMcM

**1) Minutes of the previous Ordinary Meeting**

- a) Resolution to approve the minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Approval as a true and accurate record proposed by KM and seconded by SC with all in favour; minutes signed by the Chair

**2) Apologies for absence:** Andy McMillan

**3) Declarations of interest relating to this agenda**

- a) CG declared he had been approached for advice by the Planning applicant's wife  
b) Otherwise none

**4) Financial matters**

**a) Finance report**

- i) **Balance:** the balance of the Parish Council account is £1,724.10  
ii) **First Responders:** acknowledged receipt of the payment for their CPR training

**b) Consideration of payments**

- i) **NetWise invoice #3736:** payment of £330 + £66 VAT for a total of £396 for website hosting and maintenance from 3 November 2024 to 2 November 2025; approved by AP, seconded by JN with all in favour  
ii) **Clerk/RFO invoice:** invoice for the services of the Clerk/RFO from July to September 2024, gross salary £293.04 (plus a payment of £415.14 for services to the Drigg Charity for which DCPC will be reimbursed by the Drigg Charity). Payment approval proposed by SC, seconded by KM with all in favour

**c) Payments outstanding**

- i) **DCPC Invoice sent:** Drigg Charity billed £415.14 for the services of the Clerk July - September 2024

**5) Actions and matters arising**

- a) **Action 9/1:** Clerk to draft a letter from DCPC to the Village Hall Management Cttee giving permission to make improvements to the Village Hall – action completed  
b) **Action 9/2:** SC to obtain a quote from a builder / Haverigg Enterprises regarding a storage shed – action ongoing

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- c) **Action 9/3:** Clerk to order new planters from Earth Anchors (delivery to 1 Boadle Ground, Carleton) – action completed
- d) **Action 9/4:** AP to approach Drigg YFC and a parishioner regarding VE80 beacon and celebrations – action completed
- e) **Action 9/5:** Clerk to contact the nominated parishioner regarding the Lord Lieutenant’s celebration – action completed
- f) **Action 9/6:** Clerk to register MC and SC for CALC training – action completed
- g) **Action 9/7:** AP to arrange a LLWR site visit for MC – Clerk currently arranging a site visit for all DCPC – action completed

**Action 10/1:** Clerk to co-ordinate a site visit to LLWR for all Councillors

## 6) Cumberland Council

### a) Report

- i) **Cumberland Council:** nothing to report
- ii) **South Cumberland Community Panel**
  - (1) List of projects which have been funded announced
  - (2) **Your Countryside:** event on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 was well attended

### b) Highways

- i) **Road closures:** currently a major issue
  - (1) **Holmrook Hill:** closed from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 from 9 am – 3 pm for three days. AP seeking ways to mitigate the traffic disruption
  - (2) **LLWR:** delivery of large crane postponed due to adverse weather conditions
  - (3) **Street lighting:** lights replaced in Stubble Green
- ii) **Wasdale:** traffic being monitored in Wasdale by the Lake District National Park Authority to assess whether the shuttle bus scheme has been successful in reducing traffic; no data available to share as yet

**7) Public Participation:** no members of the public came forward

## 8) Main Business

- a) **Clerk’s pay:** currently paid at Level LC1 – 5 (£12.21 per hour) on the NALC Pay Scales
  - i) Resolved that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 that the Clerk’s pay shall be moved up to Level LC1 – 7 (£12.63 per hour), proposed by JN and seconded by SC with all in favour
  - ii) Net increase to the DCPC, based on 2023-2024 hours worked, would be £93; increase to be factored into the budget proposals in the November 2024 meeting
  - iii) Clerk’s pay Level to be reviewed annually according to the NALC Pay Scales at the Parish Council AGM from 2026
- b) **Community Led Plan:** a live document under regular review as the situation changes and actions are completed
  - i) **Actions:** Cllrs to review the CLP actions and comment by email, reporting briefly to the Parish Council only when changes take place
  - ii) **Community support:** the actions shall be raised at the Annual Parish meeting for review
  - iii) CG to collate amendments by 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Action 10/2:** Clerk to circulate the CLP Actions again

- c) **Overgrown hedge:** partially blocking the footpath and the line of sight for cars on the road
  - i) AP established that the house is owned by Home Group
  - ii) Hedge has not been cut for some years and will soon block the footpath

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- iii) Home Group will approach the tenant to ask for the hedge to be cut
- d) **Cumberland Council “Licence to Grow” contract**
  - i) **Site visit on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024:** the site visit went very well
  - ii) Cumberland Council officials impressed with the site and DCPC plans
  - iii) Five year licence agreed for the concreted area; the rest of the site will take longer
  - iv) Pre-existing planning condition was for County to remediate the site to grass
  - v) DCPC must take care that no residual liabilities fall on the licensee
  - vi) Ecology considerations may forbid the site being dug over, so it could remain as a conservation site – to be considered by Cumberland Planning Dept
  - vii) Possibility of liaising with NWS to use the site for their ecology credits
- e) **Solar panels and battery storage**
  - i) Application to Haverigg 2 was unsuccessful; the energy audit preparatory work will be used to apply for funds from other sources
  - ii) Action with Communities application is on a shortlist of three
    - (1) Must be delivered by December to qualify
    - (2) Must be over £25k of energy efficient improvements
    - (3) Consists of: solar panels on the roof, battery back up, thermal black out blinds, automatic doors, push button taps, zoning of heated areas, new thermostats on radiators, insulated doors, etc
    - (4) AP to get two quotes for all goods and installation work, including 10% contingency
  - iii) If this applications fails, South Copeland Community Fund will be considered for funding
- f) **Hall Loft project:** good idea overall but not currently moving forward
  - i) Proposal to form a Working Group to review the many ideas, their costs, pros/cons, etc
  - ii) Important to exploit the space but also to get long term value for money
  - iii) New suggestion of a spiral staircase from the Gents toilets (showers are rarely used)
    - (1) Suitable for light items and people but not for heavy items
    - (2) Would it be worth buying new, lighter equipment to make storage easier (cheaper than building stairs)?
  - iv) Can the space provide a return on investment, eg hiring space to external bodies?
  - v) Working Group shall explore every idea and compare the pros / cons / costs
  - vi) Anyone who wishes to be part of the Working Group should contact CG
  - vii) The Working Group will report back to the DCPC

**Action 10/3:** CG to set up a Working Group to progress the Hall Loft project

- g) **Newsletter:** the 2023-24 agreed funding for three issues has now been exhausted
  - i) Discussed whether to produce additional issues this financial year
  - ii) Cost for one page of A4 is £165 for 300 copies; for two pages of A4 £330
  - iii) Feedback on the Newsletter has been very good; it is reaching all parish households
  - iv) Resolved to seek additional funding to continue producing Newsletters this year
- h) **Tubs round the village**
  - i) Planters on order from Earth Anchors with DCPC name embossed on them
  - ii) To be delivered to Boadle Ground for storage till March 2025 when ready
- i) **Beach benches**
  - i) Debbie Pearce of NDA Properties met SC to discuss this issue
  - ii) Benches may be replaced, possibly with a fence to keep the cattle out
    - (1) NDA Properties to liaise with the tenant
  - iii) Turret boarding has gone; turrets in poor condition (the roof is cracked, subsidence)
  - iv) Turrets to be re-assessed for safety

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- j) **VE80 Day:** 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025
  - i) AP has arranged with a parishioner to provide a beacon for VE80 Day (DYF to assist)
  - ii) Resolved not to buy a VE80 flag; use the generic Remembrance flag instead
- k) **Any other Parish matters:** none raised

## 9) Received communications

- a) Polling Review sent by Cumberland Council – no change for this parish
- b) Statement of Community Involvement Consultation - 13<sup>th</sup> September– 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024
  - i) <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/your-council/have-your-say/statement-community-involvement-sci-consultation>
  - ii) Councillors are invited to make individual responses
- c) In response to letter from NWS to CALC (see September 2024 minutes)
  - i) Copy of letter from Millom Without Parish to CALC
  - ii) Copy of letter from Millom Without to NWS
    - (1) Any parishes in the National Park are not in the search area and therefore not eligible to sit on the Community Partnership (though may be affected)
    - (2) AP is the CALC Representative for parishes in the National Park
- d) **South Copeland CP:** Letter from the Chair regarding payment of Honorarium
  - i) The South Copeland Community Partnership Agreement forbids the Chair from receiving payment; a vote on this clause is due at the non-public meeting in Millom
    - (1) CG is unable to attend and delegated his place temporarily to the Clerk
  - ii) Proposed Honorarium is in lieu of expenses; agreed that the Honorarium should be available to the Chair, even if unclaimed
  - iii) Mid Copeland Community Partnership proposes to put the Chair on the NWS payroll but this would compromise the independence of the role
- e) Response from Cumberland Planning Dept re Ref. 4/24/2281/O01, New House Farm, Drigg
  - i) No further comment from DCPC
- f) Response from Planning Agent re Ref. 4/24/2293/ON1, Land at Shore Road, Drigg
  - i) DCPC happy with clarification provided and support the application; no further comment
- g) **NALC:** new website from 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – new login procedure required
  - i) Details of login procedure sent to all Councillors

## 10) Planning Applications

- a) **Cumberland Council:**
  - i) **Ref. 4/24/2330/OF1 – Creation of a handling system, Land at Shore Road, Drigg**  
Application by Mr Ireland
    - (1) Clarification provided to DCPC after the prior notification application
    - (2) No further comment; DCPC supports this application

## 11) Cumbria Association of Local Councils

- a) **CALC AGM:** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 10.30 am at Newbiggin Village Hall, Penrith
  - i) All Cllrs welcome to attend. Booking required

## 12) Reports from Representatives

- a) **GDF Mid Copeland Community Partnership**
  - i) Refreshed logo and branding, with a demo of the new website to be launched shortly
  - ii) NWS Property Valuation Protection Scheme (PVP) details presented
    - (1) Those eligible will be recompensed for the actual loss in value on sale
    - (2) The PVP panel will assess applications: 2 NWS members, 3 non-NWS
    - (3) The CEO of NWS will review the Panel's recommendations and decide on approval

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- (4) PVP scheme remains in place till the Site is chosen or the Partnership is dissolved
- iii) Single UK-wide policy framework recently published
  - (1) GDF siting process remains unchanged and is an appendix to the policy
  - (2) NWS asked by NDA to consider Near Surface Disposal opportunities
- iv) **Business:** the Community Partnership aims to engage with local businesses
- v) **Community Visioning:** forums held in the search area, plus a drop-in at the Beacon
- vi) **Community Investment Fund:** total awarded to date is £545,177 (£179,496 pending)
- vii) NWS asked to confirm NDA position on land holdings around Sellafeld regarding GDF
- viii) **Next meeting:** to take place on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024, 3 pm, St Mary's Room, Gosforth
- b) **GDF South Copeland Community Partnership**
  - i) CG submitted a report from the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 meeting
  - ii) Discussion of PVP deferred
  - iii) Flip chart list of points: considered that this system did not reflect what was discussed
    - (1) Suggested that a round up of bullet points be approved at the end of the meeting
  - iv) **CALC:** NWS letter to CALC resented by some parishes (see correspondence minute 9.c)
  - v) **CALC Rep:** AP nominated as CALC Rep to SCCP (he is already Ward Cllr)
  - vi) **Visioning:** to be given a higher priority with a sub-group to be formed
  - vii) **Honorarium:** amending the Agreement to permit it to be discussed at the next meeting
  - viii) **Next meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 5.30 pm at the Guide Hall, Millom
- c) **NWS / DCPC Liaison meeting**
  - i) LLWR propose to do more community engagement in January 2025
  - ii) Environmental survey to be repeated every 4 months and the report copied to DCPC
  - iii) Site visit agreed for all DCPC Cllrs
  - iv) Still no clarification on the armed training at Drigg station (CNC / police not involved)

### 13) Matters to be considered at the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

- a) **Community Led Plan:** actions to be reviewed. Brief updates to DCPC
- b) **Hall loft project:** update from the Working Group
- c) **Budget proposals:** to be approved for submission to Cumberland Council in January

### 14) Date of next meeting

- a) **Close:** meeting closed 8.43 pm
- b) **Next meeting:** to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Drigg Village Hall at 6.30 pm

Karen Warmoth

Parish Clerk

Drigg & Carleton Parish Council

12<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Summary of Actions

**Action 9/2:** SC to obtain a quote from a builder / Haverigg Enterprises regarding a storage shed

**Action 10/1:** Clerk to co-ordinate a site visit to LLWR for all Councillors

**Action 10/2:** Clerk to circulate the CLP Actions again

**Action 10/3:** CG to set up a Working Group to progress the Hall Loft project

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