Broughton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council held in Christchurch, Great Broughton, on Tuesday 14th October 2025 at 18:00

**Present:** Mary Bradley (in the Chair), Steve Hannah, Paul Chatten, Bill Smith, Russ Cockburn, Nicky Cockburn, Sue Hannah, 1 Member of the public (Lois Sparling- Community Chaplain for Grasmoor Mission Community)

**Apologies:** Nigel Clubley (Illness), Annette Chatten (Illness), Cumberland Cllr M Harris.

With 7 Councillors present the meeting was quorate.

# 145/25 Apologies and reasons for absence

# *Apologies:*

**Resolved** by all present that the apologies listed above be noted as received.

**146/25 Requests for dispensations and declarations of interest**

None

# 147/25 Exclusion of Press & Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

None

**148/25 Minutes of the meetings held on the 16th Sept 2025**

All members of the council had received a copy of the minutes in advance of the meeting.

**Resolved** by all present that the minutes of the 16th Sept 2025 meeting be signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair.

**Action: Clerk to upload the completed minutes to the website.**

**149/25 Chairman’s Announcements**

The Chair provided a written update to be read out on his behalf (absent due to illness).

* Picnic Bench. Cllr N Clubley noted that this looks really good. A big thanks was noted Cllr Steve Hannah for his work on this.
* A66 Cllr N Clubley emailed Marcus after the last meeting as promised. A member of his team advised that he's doing some work on planning for a public event and would be in touch. Nothing further after that. Cllr N Clubley agreed to chase up in another month if still no word.
* EV Charging – Cllr N Clubley will attend the teams meeting next Monday (20th, 7pm) on this
* Bins -It was noted that there was a 3 week gap for some of us in domestic refuse collection and that caused some consternation on Facebook etc. Cllr N Clubley wrote to Cumberland and was advised that this was due to a realignment of collection timetables with Copeland/Carlisle and that it was definitely a one off. Still disappointing that an extra collection couldn't be planned in, but lets hope this was just a one off as advised
* CALC AGM has been rescheduled for 15th November 2025 online.
* Emergency Plan – Cllr N Clubley has not had any opportunity to progress.

**150/25 Public Participation**

Lois introduced herself as the Community Chaplain (Community worker) to support the Grasmoor Mission Community in better supporting their local communities. (Community.chaplain.gmc@gmail.com)

**151//25 Reports from visiting councillors & Police**

# *Cumberland Council*

Cumberland Councillor Martin Harris had provided a written report via email this was noted as received.

# 152/25 Clerks report

# The Clerks report had been circulated to all in advance of the meeting, and this was noted as received.

# *Dog Fouling*

# Cllr Sue Hannah has spoken to the Cumberland Council Street Works Team (regarding the stencils that were supposed to be applied locally- the map for the proposed locations for the stencils was submitted to Cumberland Council on July 17th). Apparently, Cumberland Council are waiting for the ‘good weather’.

# 152/25 Community Resilience/Emergency Plan

# The informal working group has not had an opportunity to progress this.

# Action: Clerk to agenda this for the November 2025 meeting.

# Cllr N Cockburn has produced a draft of the risk assessment session, and will pass this on to Cllr N Clubley for him to include in a draft version of the plan.

# 153/25 Play-area

# *General Play area Matters*

# Cllr Steve Hannah noted that regular litter picking is now taking place regularly.

# The grass seeds haven’t taken well and these may need to be replenished in Spring

# The missing seat of the carousel is still not in place, and this has been chased by Cllr Steve Hannah with Kompan.

# The last twice the grass has been cut on the football field but not in the playground area because the padlock on the play area gate has seized up. It was noted that this inability to access the site hasn’t been reported to the Parish Council. Cllr Steve Hannah has raised this with the manufacturer of the padlock but is still awaiting a response.

# The three monthly bolt/nut checks have now been done and there was nothing loose.

# Stop the Ball Net- It is has been observed that some of the damage maybe vandalism, and some of it may be due to footballs being hit hard against it and that maybe stronger fencing might be required.

# Action: Steve Hannah to look at options for alternative fencing to protect the playarea ready for any possible future grant funds.

# 154/25 Allotments

# *To consider and discuss any actions required relating to Broughton Allotments*

# The Clerk confirmed that all bar 3 allotment invoices have been paid as at the 14th October 2025.

# Currently there is 1 vacant on Coldgill and 5 vacant on Nook.

# It was noted that there are two that are going to need attention on Nook.

# Action: Cllr M Bradley to redo notices around the village to encourage people to join the waiting list.

# Cllr M Bradley is working to organise a delivery of a skip for the agreed plot clearances (if a small skip lorry can be found).

# *Concerns relating to the track on Nook Allotments*

# The Clerk confirmed that a request has been received for repairs to be made to the track on Nook Allotments as a number of deep potholes are causing issues.

# Resolved by all present that a request be made for a pile of chippings to be placed at the bottom of the Nook Allotments to allow plot holders to fill the potholes.

# It was noted that these are not vehicular access routes (as it is not legal to have roads/parking areas on allotments).

# Action: Clerk to try and organise this.

# 155/25 Parish Maintenance and Highways

# *Broughton/Brigham Roundabout*

It is hoped that MP Campbell Savours is hoping to organise a public meeting relating to this. If this doesn’t happy then Cllr M Bradley proposed the convening of another meeting of the Broughton and neighbouring Parish Councils to keep everyone up to date.

It was noted that the ‘illegal’ land occupation at Broughton A66 junction appears to have been resolved and the site has mainly been cleared.

1. *Cumberland Council Highways Matters*

All on HIMS awaiting action.

* There is an ongoing concern relating to the narrowing of the carriageway at Little Broughton due to inappropriate parking (The Entrance/Meeting House Lane).

**Action: Clerk to report this issue to Cumberland Council as a potential planning breach due to no change of use being in place for this which is now being used as holiday let.**

* It was noted that the lengthsman agreement issues are ongoing and that the CALC meeting about this was recently cancelled. CALC have rescheduled this meeting for late October 2025.
* Concerns were noted that the grass verge hasn’t been cut from The Hollies to Soddy Gap recently.

**Action: Clerk to raise this with the grass cutting contractor.**

1. *Village Hall Noticeboard*

Cllr M Bradley updated that a decision is awaited from the Village Hall Committee.

1. *Additional grass cutting*

**Resolved** by all present that a budget of £560 be approved for two cuts of the area from Bulling Meadow round to the Sewage Works in 2026.

**Action: Clerk to include this in the 26/27 budget.**

# 156/25 Correspondence

1. Cumberland Council- Call for Sites (Local Plan)

The Call for Sites is open until **Sunday 4th January 2026**, and further information, including guidance and submission forms, is available on the Cumberland Council website at:

<https://consult.cumberland.gov.uk/cumberland-local-plan-call-for-sites>

**Action: Clerk to work with Cllr N Cockburn about the re-registration of Soddy Gap as a community asset.**

It was noted that Cllr’s Cockburn attended the consultation event regarding the Local Plan where some concerning issues were raised by the presenter including the fact that it is proposed in the new local plan to remove village boundaries, and is further suggested that clusters of parishes could be formed where infrastructure could be relied upon from one village for developments in other settlements in the cluster.

All were encouraged to submit responses to the consultation on the Cumberland Council Local Plan.

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/cumberland-local-plan-issues-and-options-consultation>

**158/25 Planning Applications**

**Ref:** HOU/2025/0149

**Location**: 67 Main Street, Great Broughton, Cockermouth

**Proposal**: Attached carport and first floor flat extension to rear with internal alterations to dwelling

# Resolved by all present that Broughton Parish Council have no comments or objections to this proposal

# Action: Clerk to submit these comments.

# 159/25 Planning Decisions

None

**160/25 Finance & Accounts**

### Payment of Accounts

**Resolved** by all present that the below accounts be paid via BACS authorised by 2 authorised signatories:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **Reason** | **Amount** | **Approve/Ratify** |
| Becx Carter | Salary (Oct) | £385.69 | Approve |
| HMRC | PAYE (Oct) | £275.20 | Approve |
| Jackson Hetherington | Grass Cutting (Sept)  | £305 | Ratify |
| Jackson Hetherington | Grass Cutting (Oct) | £305 | Approve |
| Cumbria Pest Services | Nook | £216 | Approve |
| Cumbria Pest Services | Coldgill | £216 | Approve |
| Moore | Audit | £535.50 | Approve |
| Marmax | Bench for Play area | £835.20 | Approve |

**Action: Clerk to pay these accounts.**

#### To consider and approve the Bank Reconciliation and Spend Against budget report

**Resolved** by all present that these reports be approved as a true and accurate record.

1. *To receive the external audit*

**Resolved** by all present that the external audit be noted as received. It was noted that one matter was noted on the audit regarding the rounding of numbers. (The audit form only allows for whole pounds to be entered). This point was noted.

The Clerk confirmed the notice of the conclusion of the audit was been posted on the Parish Council website etc.

**162/25 Date & Time of Next meeting.**

**Resolved** by all that the meeting dates for Broughton Parish Council going forward be set as (all at 18:00 all in Christchurch):

18th November 2025

13th January 2026

Meeting closed 19:16

Signed……………………………………………. (Chair) Dated………………………………………………..

It was noted that Derwent Forest/Broughton Arms Dump has now formally reverted back to Cumberland Council with the private developer/consortium having surrendered their shares.

**Action: Clerk to agenda this for the November 2025 meeting.**

Cllrs Steve & Sue Hannah were asked to organise the Christmas Tree once more.

**Action: Cllrs Hannah to organise the Christmas Tree**