

# PONSONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Scott Robertson - Chairman

## Councillors

Vice Chairman Robert Jones, Cllr Tyson Norman, Cllr Alan Rigg (AR), and Cllr Jane Wheatley

11/26	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Received from Pip Roberts</p>	
12/26	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> None</p>	
13/26	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING : HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> The previous minutes were approved</p>	
14/26	<p><b>PROGRESS REPORTS</b></p> <p><b>GDF</b> There has been no meeting this month however the GDF team are to imminently move to make a recommendation to Government. This will recommend which area to move into the next phase. The stakeholder group have requested for a decision to be made on this as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>HIGHWAYS</b> There has been no update from National Highways regarding the works at Leys Croft or by High Croft Cottages. Chairman Robertson to chase for a response.</p> <p>There is to be a road closure in place by Jacksons Timber – this is for works being completed by United Utilities.</p> <p>Road closure signs have appeared on Cold Fell Road – the notice does not state a permit number. Vice Chairman Jones to look into this.</p> <p>There is to be a highways meeting with Cumberland Council on 20<sup>th</sup> May – either the Chairman or Vice-chair will attend this on behalf of the PC</p> <p><b>PARISH COUNCIL FORUM</b> There has been no Parish Council forum. Cllr Wheatley is to attend future meetings on behalf of the PC.</p> <p><b>Industrial Action at Sellafield</b> Contractors have voted in principle to take further industrial action. There are no further updates on this as of yet.</p> <p><b>St. BRIDGETS CHURCH CLOSURE</b> There are no further updates at this time. Clerk to make contact with Rev. Dorling to obtain an update.</p> <p><b>NDA - ongoing</b> The electronic maps are to be uploaded on to the website</p> <p><b>Heart of the Community fund and outdoor spaces</b> Works to finish the bar are due to commence 18/05/26. The handrail has now been fitted. Works4You have confirmed that they cannot complete the cog as this is beyond their scope. Reports are to be sent to Cumberland Council regarding expenditure.</p> <p><b>Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust (Sustrans) – ongoing</b> Chairman to approach WWCT to verify whether relevant landowners have been engaged concerning the publication document</p>	<p>SR</p> <p>SR</p> <p>HW</p> <p>HW</p> <p>SR</p>

	<p><b>Assertion 10</b> The policies are now available on the website. Each Councillor is to be provided with a OneDrive account. The Chairman will arrange email redirection from the previous email address. Based on information provided by CALC, compliance with Assertion 10 is now considered to have been achieved.</p>	
15/26	<p><b>APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT</b> None received</p>	
16/26	<p><b>FINANCIAL RECORDS</b> The balances as held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026: <b>£19132.57</b> with a further £2500 in the amenities account. The VAT reclaim has now been received along with the Precept for 2026-2027 The accounts have been prepared and will now be forwarded to the external auditor in preparation for the AGAR submission.</p> <p>The following invoices have been/are to be paid:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Clerk Services – April 2026 - £174.77</li> <li>2) Village Hall Committee – April 2026 - £24.00</li> <li>3) Zurich Insurance – paid 04/05/2026 - £304.00</li> <li>4) Robinson + Co Accounting - £84.00</li> <li>5) Hugo Fox website build - £238.80</li> <li>6) Hugo fox website hosting and emails – recurring monthly - £23.98</li> <li>7) Stuart Kenyon – Grass cutting - £387.60</li> </ol>	
17/26	<p><b>SCHEDULE OF CORRESPONDENCE, NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS</b></p> <p><b>Stanley Farms Car Rally.</b> There is a possibility that Church House Farm may host a one off overnight car rally. There are no objections to this on the understanding that rubbish is disposed of by the event organiser.</p> <p><b>Enablers Group</b> Vice Chairman Jones attended two stakeholder group meetings, with the aim of encouraging the NDA to deliver projects and tasks in a pragmatic manner. Significant focus was noted on regulatory matters. It was reported that constructive dialogue has been established, with a clear expectation set to avoid delays in reducing intolerable risk and to improve engagement with local communities.</p>	
18/26	<p><b>PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION and PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> None</p>	
19/26	<p><b>COUNCILLOR MATTERS</b></p> <p><b>SID</b> There have been reports of further speeding in the village by the traffic lights. Clerk confirmed that the Speed Indication Device has been requested again for traffic flowing north – south.</p> <p><b>Bins</b> Despite making several reports, there are still limited bins for Ponsonby residents. Clerk to contact Cumberland Council to raise this as a concern.</p> <p><b>Community Plan</b> The Community Plan requires review following the completion of several previously identified action items.</p>	
20/26	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The proposed and agreed date of the next meeting is <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm</b></p>	