

PONSONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 14th October 2025

Presenter

Scott Robertson (Chairman)

Councillors

Cllr Robert Jones (RJ), Cllr Alan Rigg (AR) and Cllr Liz Dias (LD)

47/25	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Received from Cllr Tyson Norman</p>	
48/25	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None</p>	
49/25	<p>MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL: HELD ON 9th September 2025 The previous minutes were approved</p>	
50/25	<p>PROGRESS REPORTS</p> <p>GDF – ongoing It is anticipated that over the next 6 months there will be further explanations released regarding the <i>six-siting factors</i>. Bird surveys are currently underway. The South Copeland Partnership has restarted.</p> <p>HIGHWAYS – ongoing National Highways are to be contacted again regarding ongoing issues at Leys Croft. The road works on the road adjacent to the Village Hall are due to shortly be completed. Concern has been raised regarding speeding through the village. Clerk to contact Drigg PC to understand further how they went about their speed reduction campaign. Consideration to be given to grant funding for private speed control measures – this is to be included on the community plan.</p> <p>CRIME STATISTICS – ongoing Cllr Jones attended a meeting with David McDonald from Cumbria Police Neighbourhood Team. Concerns regarding the Crime Statistics were again reported however it has been confirmed that there were 0 crimes reported in the local area. There appears to be a skew in “national” reporting data and neighbouring postcodes. This does not necessarily reflect data held by Cumbria Police</p> <p>PARISH COUNCIL FORUM – ongoing There has been no meeting in the recent months</p> <p>St. BRIDGETS CHURCH CLOSURE – ongoing There are no further updates</p> <p>NDA - ongoing Representatives from the 5 local parishes attended a meeting with NDA to understand the current position regarding properties and “options” held over land. This was a productive meeting with a further agreement for the dialogue to remain open and meetings to occur 6-monthly.</p> <p>Heart of the Community fund and outdoor spaces The first portion of the grant funds have now been received. Works to the play area are due to start w/c 03/11/2025. The Village Hall Committee have kindly agreed for the toilets/kitchen to be used by Playdale whilst the works are underway. An additional fence is to be installed around the wildflower area. A further payment is to be made to Graham Hogg for materials.</p>	<p>HW</p> <p>HW</p>

	<p>Clerk to request an extension to the completion of the painting of the village hall. Due to other work commitments these may not be completed by the current agreed deadline date of 31/01/2026.</p> <p>We are awaiting updated quotes for phase 2 of the works. A3 scanner and laptop to be added to phase 2 application.</p> <p>Sustrans – ongoing A further meeting is to take place at the end of October. Updates to be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p>Code of Conduct An updated policy has been adopted and put into place Proposed by Councillor Jones and Seconded by Chair person Robertson. This updated policy is to be displayed on the website.</p>	SR
51/25	<p>APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT Notification from Lake District National Park has been received in relation to <i>Article 38</i> – works can now be completed under permitted development rules</p>	
52/25	<p>FINANCIAL RECORDS The balances as held on 6th October 2025 were £28065.25 with a further £2500 in the amenities account</p> <p>The following invoices have been/are to be paid:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clerk Services – September 2025 and backpay to April 2025 - £226.91 2) Village Hall hire – June 2025 – paid 28/09/2025 - £42.00 3) Mr & Mrs G Hogg – phase 2 payment – paid 30/09/2025 - £1000.00 4) Playdale Deposit invoice 62152 – paid 19/09/2025 - £10465.68 5) Village Hall Hire – August 2025 - £24.00 6) Village Hall Hire – September 2025 - £24.00 7) Robinson + Co - £84.00 8) Mr & Mrs G Hogg – material payment - £500 (once invoice received) 	
53/25	<p>SCHEDULE OF CORRESPONDENCE, NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS</p> <p>LDNPA meeting PC representatives have been invited to attend a meeting. This has been sent on to Councillors to arrange attendance.</p> <p>Cumberland Council Links for faster reporting for dog fouling and w These are to be distributed on the village WhatsApp Group</p> <p>Grit Bin Clerk to obtain costs for the filling of the grit bin</p> <p>Collection cycle for refuse Collection frequencies have changed – this means that some waste in Ponsonby is now being collected monthly. Cllr Dias to contact Cumberland Council to understand the reasoning as to why this has occurred. Calderbridge remains on bi-weekly collections</p>	HW HW LD
54/25	<p>PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION and PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>Community meeting The meeting with Josh MacAlistair MP was well attended. This was to promote Pioneer Park. Early information surrounding this project was not conveyed to Parish Councils. There is concern surrounding lack of communication. A595 South infrastructure concerns were raised.</p> <p>Bus Services Funding for a service has been made available however a provider is still to be established</p>	

	<p>Stakeholder Group Cllr Jones attended a meeting to discuss NDA <i>Strategy 5</i> . There is concern surrounding the current timescales on this project. The PC need to ensure that we keep up to date with proposals and communication to understand the implications on the Parish this may pose.</p> <p>Industrial Action at Sellafield. There is ongoing worry around the strikes currently taking place at Sellafield. A formal letter is to be sent to Unite, Sellafield and Cumbria Police to explain how these are affecting the Parish and the residents/commuters.</p> <p>Councillor Vacancy Councillor Jones proposed Jane Wheatley as Parish Councillor via co-option. This was seconded by Chair Person Robertson. Relevant documents are to be sent by Clerk.</p>	
55/25	<p>COUNCILLOR MATTERS</p> <p>Community WhatsApp Group A test group is to be created following requests for change to the current group.</p> <p>Village Hall Insurance The element for the play area is to be paid by the Parish Council to the Village Hall Committee.</p> <p>Car Park There are concerns regarding vehicles speeding in the village hall car park. This is to be monitored.</p> <p>Christmas lights Replacement Christmas lights are to be purchased.</p>	<p>SR</p> <p>HW</p> <p>HW</p> <p>SR</p>
56/25	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The proposed and agreed date of the next meeting is Tuesday 11th November at 7pm</p>	