

PONSONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 9th June 2026

Scott Robertson - Chairman

Councillors

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

21/26	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Received from Pip Roberts	
22/26	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None	
23/26	MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING: HELD ON 12th May 2026 The previous minutes were approved	
24/26	PROGRESS REPORTS GDF A stakeholder meeting was held on 08/06/26 during which it was explained that the environmental baseline survey is now underway. This is to identify wildlife and habitats in the proposed search areas. NWS have now submitted their recommendation to the Government as to whether an area is to proceed to the next phase – it is hoped that a decision will be reached before Parliament recess. HIGHWAYS The Chairman reported on a recent highways meeting, noting that despite high tourist usage, funding is based on local population, resulting in limited repair budgets. Speed limits are reviewed every four years and defects should continue to be reported. An update from National Highways is still awaited. It was noted that additional damaged drains at Leys Croft have been replaced by a resident. Road closure notices for snagging works between Calderbridge and Millom have been issued, though no further details have been provided. The road closure signage on Abbey Road towards Cold Fell remains in place despite works not being completed; the Clerk will contact Cumberland Highways to query this. Concerns regarding excessive speeding through New Mill will be raised with Cumbria Police, with support from Gosforth Parish Council. Further defects to be reported include degraded barriers at the traffic lights and stones falling onto the road along the narrow footpath leading out of the village PARISH COUNCIL FORUM There has been no Parish Council forum. Vice-Chairman Jones is to make contact with the new Sellafield liaison officer surrounding these meetings. St. BRIDGETS CHURCH CLOSURE There are no further updates at this time. NDA - ongoing There are no further updates at this time. Heart of the Community fund and outdoor spaces A site visit is to be requested with Works4You to bring the project to a close and for the final invoice to be received. It is recognised that the Parish Council have currently exhausted all current options to enhance items in the village within the given timescales. Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust (Sustrans) – ongoing Information received is to be published on the website along with an accompanying explanation from the Parish Council	HW RJ HW SR

25/26	APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT 4/26/2165/0F1 – Sellafield – Prior notification of demolition to a prefabricated office building – there are no objections or comments on this application.																										
26/26	FINANCIAL RECORDS The balances as held on 2 nd June 2026: £17966.73 with a further £2500 in the amenities account. The Council considered the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 31 March 2026. The Internal Audit report was received and noted as complete with no outstanding actions. The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) and Accounting Statements (Section 2) have been approved, and the Chair and Clerk are authorised to sign accordingly. The Council confirmed that all AGAR requirements have been complied with. <table><tr><th>Ref</th><th>Payee</th><th>Description</th><th>Amount (£)</th></tr><tr><td>001</td><td>Clerk</td><td>Services for May 2026</td><td>£212.75</td></tr><tr><td>002</td><td>HugoFox Limited</td><td>website hosting and Councillor email addresses – recurring cost</td><td>£25.00</td></tr><tr><td>003</td><td>Village Hall Committee</td><td>Hall Hire – May 2026</td><td>£24.00</td></tr><tr><td>004</td><td>Local Contractor - Agricultural Services</td><td>Works completed in May 2026</td><td>£457.60</td></tr><tr><td>005</td><td>Refund to local resident</td><td>Heating elements (paid 19/05/26)</td><td>£471.49</td></tr></table>			Ref	Payee	Description	Amount (£)	001	Clerk	Services for May 2026	£212.75	002	HugoFox Limited	website hosting and Councillor email addresses – recurring cost	£25.00	003	Village Hall Committee	Hall Hire – May 2026	£24.00	004	Local Contractor - Agricultural Services	Works completed in May 2026	£457.60	005	Refund to local resident	Heating elements (paid 19/05/26)	£471.49
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27/26	SCHEDULE OF CORRESPONDENCE, NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS Industrial Action at Sellafield The Parish Council have received notification that Sellafield Ltd have now received notice of industrial action by Unite members within the supply chain. This is scheduled from 15–21 June. It was noted that any impacts on site operations and the local area will be managed through already established arrangements, with Sellafield Ltd who are working with Cumbria Police to minimise disruption. Further updates are expected once arrangements are finalised.																										
28/26	PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION and PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None																										
29/26	COUNCILLOR MATTERS Bins Cllr Wheatley confirmed that there continues to be limited refuse space for residents at Ponsonby. This is to be reported to Cumberland Council.																										
30/26	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The proposed and agreed date of the next meeting is Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7pm. Meeting to include Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting of Ponsonby Parish																										