

Hesket Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Hesket Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7.30pm at Armthwaite Old School Hall.

Present: Parish Councillors: Elaine Martin (Chair), John Dowes, Gillian Gibson, Maxine Graham, Kelley Peacock, Vivien Waugh, John Everingham, Shaun Long (Vice-Chair), Gillian Campbell, Andrew Williamson, Ruth Murray, John Harris

Westmorland and Furness

Councillor:

Hilary Carrick

Officers:

Lisa Beken (Clerk)

No members of the public were present.

- 03/26/1** **Apologies for absence: RESOLVED that the following apologies were received;**
 a) Councillor Pollock, due to personal commitment;
 b) Councillor Ryland, due to personal commitment.
- 03/26/2** **Declaration of interests: RESOLVED** that there were no interest declared.
- 03/26/3** **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chair.
- 03/26/4** **Matters arising from the minutes: RESOLVED** that the following matters were raised;
 • Bench at Plumpton on A6 – Councillor Graham to enquire with contractor as to whether current metal ends can be reused in manufacture of new bench.
- 03/26/5** **Public Participation: RESOLVED** that no issues were raised.
- 03/26/6** **Westmorland and Furness Report: RESOLVED** that Councillor Carrick updated the Council with regard to the following matters;
 • Devolution – the new Combined Mayoral Authority is now a legal entity, with extra funding from central government. During its first year, until the Mayoral elections scheduled for May 2027, the authority will be jointly led by the leaders of Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Councils. The first meeting is scheduled for March 18th, where priorities will be set out, and officers appointed.
 • Westmorland and Furness have agreed the budget to include a 4.99% increase in Council Tax, charges of £60 per year for each garden waste bin and varied increase in charges across board.
 • Consultations – there are currently two consultations, one on home to school transport, with any changes to apply to academic year Sept 2027, and one on blue badge entitlement to parking.
- 03/26/7** **Place Action Group: RESOLVED** that the Clerk and the Chair had attended the meeting, where it was agreed to award a £1,500 grant for signage at the Hesket Daffodil Walk, subject to risk assessment. Councillors also agreed to transfer £500 of the monies previously awarded for green waste solutions to Skelton Parish Council, as one third was allocated to locations in their Parish.
- 03/26/8** **Green Waste Collections: RESOLVED** to go ahead with additional collections, to be funded with grant from Place Action Group.
- 03/26/9** **Barrock Park Court: RESOLVED** that the Councillors had attended the informal consultation. During the session, developers were informed about previous concerns regarding sewage overflow. Councillors were supportive of the outline plans, although had raised issues with potential parking issues. Developers will need to submit a formal planning application.
- 03/26/10** **Grass cutting: RESOLVED** to continue with Neil Ruddick for a further year, at inflationary increase.

- 03/26/11** **Speed Indicator Device: RESOLVED** that the last two solar panels and battery packs have not been provided, meaning the device will need to rotate back to Plumpton. Highways have suggested to Councillor Carrick that they could buy different devices and swap them out, due to compatibility issues. Councillors suggested it may be more beneficial to buy two more panels instead alongside a second another device. Councillor Carrick to discuss with Highways.
- 03/26/12** **Community Governance Review of Parishes: RESOLVED** that the Clerk had responded to the consultation, expressing a strong preference for retention of the current fifteen Councillors, over the recommendation of a reduction to ten. Clerk to write further letter, raising issues of the large geographic area the Parish covers and the apparent discrepancy between the terms of reference and the recommendations.
- 03/26/13** **Policies: RESOLVED** that the following matters were agreed.
- Standing Orders – to amend items 3.2 and 14.2 to increase notice for agendas from 3 days to 7 days.
 - Policies – Clerk to send policy to each Councillor, for visual check.
 - Financial Regulations – Clerk to amend ahead of May meeting.
 - Risk Assessment – to be reviewed by Councillor Murray and the Clerk.
- 03/26/14** **Grant request: RESOLVED** that the following request were consider and actions agreed;
- a) Armathwaite Old School Hall – to award £250 towards cost, to be paid in the next financial year.
 - b) Action for Climate and Communities, grant for school climate lessons – that this did not meet the threshold for activity the Council would award grants to.
 - c) Wild flowers at Armathwaite – not to award any grant at this time.
- 03/26/15** **Planning applications: RESOLVED** that;
- a) The following comments submitted on planning applications since the last meeting of the Parish Council were acknowledged;
 - **2025/2473/LBC** at Mellguards Farm, Mellguards, Southwaite, Carlisle, CA4 0LE, for Listed Building Consent for repairs and alterations to restore and refurbish the farmhouse.
NO OBJECTIONS
 - **2026/0157/FPA** at Station Bridge Building, Plumpton, Penrith, CA11 9PA for the erection of office building.
NO OBJECTIONS
 - b) **Planning applications: RESOLVED** that the following comments were agreed on application currently open for comment;
 - **2026/0282/HOU** at Blacksykes Farmhouse, Calthwaite, Penrith, CA11 9PP for replacement of an existing two storey rear extension with a two-storey rear extension together with the replacement of existing side elements with a two-storey side extension, associated internal reconfiguration and external alterations.
No objections
 - c) **Planning decision notices: RESOLVED** that the following planning decisions, made since the last meeting of the Parish Council were noted;
 - **2025/2400/HOU** at Laikin View, Calthwaite, Penrith, CA11 9QW for Proposed first floor side extension to provide bedroom.
GRANTED
 - **2025/1753/FPA** at Stonegarth, Plumpton, Penrith, CA11 9PA
 - d) **Other planning matters: RESOLVED** that the following planning mattes were noted;
 - Nutrient Neutrality requirements in the Parish have now been lifted.
- 03/26/16** **Financial matters: RESOLVED** that the following matters were agreed;
- a) To approve payments as listed in the payment schedule.
 - b) It was noted that a minor error was listed in the payment reports, of a 1p discrepancy. Clerk to review accounts, and ensure corrected ahead of annual accounts submission, with adjustment to be noted at the May meeting.

- 03/26/17** **Correspondence: RESOLVED** that correspondence as listed in the correspondence register was noted.
- 03/26/18** **Parish Maintenance; RESOLVED** that the following matters were raised;
- Councillor Gibson noted that there was a scheduled closure at the Golden Fleece Roundabout. Clerk to add to newsletter report.
 - Issues had been raised with the emptying of the bin at High Hesket.
 - The road to Old Town Farm has a large number of potholes.
 - A request was made for a further bin at Low Hesket Village Hall, near to the noticeboard. Clerk to request.
 - Concerns were raised that rubbish had been left when the bin at Plumpton was emptied.
 - The concern from Low Hesket Village Hall regarding the large tree on the verge were raised.
- 03/26/19** **Council matters: RESOLVED** that the following matters were raised;
- A query was raised regarding planning permission at property on A6 to Armathwaite/ Clerk to investigate
- 03/26/20** **Annual Parish Meeting: RESOLVED 7pm 12th May at Low Hesket Village Hall.**
- 03/26/21** **Date of the next meeting– Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.30pm at Low Hesket Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 21:01pm

Action Points

Minute number	Action	Actioner
03/26/04	<i>Enquire as to whether metal bench ends can be reused</i>	<i>Councillor Graham</i>
03/26/07	<i>Transfer money to Skelton Parish Council</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/08	<i>Arrange for additional skip collections</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/12	<i>Write regarding Community Governance Review</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/13	<i>Distribute policies</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/13	<i>Proof read policies</i>	<i>Councillors</i>
03/26/13	<i>Amend Financial Regulations</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/13	<i>Amend Risk Assessment</i>	<i>Clerk</i> <i>Councillor Murray</i>
03/26/16	<i>Adjust financial reports</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/18	<i>Add Golden Fleece closure to newsletter</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/18	<i>Request new bin for Low Hesket</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/18	<i>Raise bin issues with Westmorland and Furness</i>	<i>Clerk</i>
03/26/19	<i>Follow up planning matter</i>	<i>Clerk</i>

Hesket Parish Council

Correspondence register – March 2026

Date	Content	Format	Action
Westmorland and Furness Council			
15/01	Community Governance Review to go to cabinet	Email	
30/01	Community Governance Review second consultation	Email	Forwarded to Councillors, response submitted
06/02	Changes to Nutrient Neutrality	Email	Forwarded to Councillors
18/02	Notification of planning committee for application 22/0570	Email	Forwarded to Councillors
23/02	Exercise 'Cold Feet' at Skelton Toppin Memorial Hall	Email	Forwarded to Councillors
02/03	Publication of Infrastructure Statement for Local Plan	Email	
03/03	Consultation on changes to blue badge parking arrangements	Email	
03/03	Consultation on School Transport	Email	Forwarded to Councillors
04/03	Village Hall Support sessions – energy efficiency and accessibility (24 th March)	Email	Gillian Gibson sned on AOSH
CALC			
12/01	Procurement thresholds changes	Email	Clerk to check Financial Regulations
26/01	NALC Legal bulletin update	Email	Clerk noted
27/01	Assertion 10 update – online session	Email	Clerk to attend
03/02	Nature Recovery for Town and Parish Councils – the CALC / Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy Workbook – launch event 24 th March	Email	
02/03	Making AGAR Digital – 13 th July	Email	Clerk to attend
10/03	Police and Crime Commissioner, grant funding for crime prevention	Email	Gillain Gibson
Other			
21/01	Query from resident regarding light at Low Hesket	Email	Clerk to follow up – ppass on to lighting
05/02	Copied into ongoing resident correspondence with Highways over condition of C1038 at Armathwaite	Email	
06/02	Update on residents concerns with planning application 2024/1884/RMA	Email	Information only
10/02	Resident concerns at Mill Brow, Armathwaite	Email	Clerk to follow up
10/02	Consultation event at Barrock Court Park	Email	Forwarded to Councillors
03/03	Grant request from AOSH	Email	Added to agenda
05/03	Query regarding funding for climate training at Armathwaite School	Email	
08/03	Resident regarding verge at AOSH	Email	

Hesket Parish Council

Financial Officer's Report March 2026

Cash Book Balance carried over from 13th January 2026	£31,090.46
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Receipts

Monies received at 3rd March 2026:

Interest	£16.71
Total	£16.71

Payment Schedule

VN	Chq No.	Payee	Budget Heading	Amount
Pre approved payments made since 13th January RFO report				
25-26/56	DPC	N Ruddick	Open Spaces	£2,620.00
25-26/57	DD	HMRC	Staffing	£2.22
25-26/58	SO	L Beken	Staffing	£421.94
25-26/59	DD	Cumbria Payroll Services	Staffing	£18.90
25-26/60	DPC	Came and Company	Insurance	£1,690.98
25-26/61	SO	L Beken	Staffing	£421.94
25-26/62	DPC	L Beken	Asset Purchase	£500.40
			Total	£5,676.38

Payments to be approved at 10th March meeting

25-26/63	DPC	Rocket Sites	Website	£168.00
25-26/64	DPC	L Beken	Administration	£13.35
			Total	£181.35

Projected Cashbook Balance

Estimated Cashbook Balance at 10th March 2026	£25,249.44
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Allocated Reserves

Armathwaite Play Area	£6,617.37
Footway Lighting	£2,923.60
Speed Indicator Device	£1,500.00
Place Action Group	£1,500.00
Total	£12,540.97

Projected Cashbook Balance minus allocated reserves

Estimated Cashbook Balance minus reserves at 10th March 2026	£12,708.47
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Approved as DPC payments - Minute Number	
Date	