

GREYSOUTHEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY
20TH MAY 2024 AT 7 PM

Action

Present: Jennifer West, Angie Sims, Helen Davies,
Joan Postlethwaite, Lisa Clark, Andy Proctor, John Howcroft
2 member of the public also present

18/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Dawn Watson and
Ewan Roberts

19/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd May 2023
were approved as a true record – proposed by Joan
Postlethwaite, seconded by Alan Proctor and unanimously
agreed.

20/24 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Jennifer West gave the following report:

I am not sure we have had the most productive year but in
the words of one of one of our Councillors "everything takes
such a long time to happen" and to be fair most of our
Councillors work full time.

We have had members involved in discussions about the
roundabout at Brigham with no luck yet but let's hope we
have more success with the X4/'X5 bus project

The drainage problem in the playing field has been fixed
and hopefully the wild flowers will continue to flourish with
help from Ben our great grasscutter.

The Parish Council continues to be in a sound financial
position and will continue to allocate funds for day to day
running of the Parish Council and maintenance during this
coming year.

A big thank you to all Parish Council members for their
support over the year and to our Clerk Barbara. We have
lost two Councillors this year, Gwenda Ward and Lee
Jackson but have gained two John Howcroft and Lisa Clark.

**21/24 ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW
SEMPLER (CUMBERLAND COUNCIL)**

Councillor Sempler gave the following report:

Lakes to Sea Community Panel

Our Community Panel – Lakes to Sea (council wards of Bothel
and Wharrels, Broughton and Dearham, Cockermouth North,
Cockermouth South, Keswick, Maryport North, Maryport South)
is chaired by Councillor Andrew Sempler. Community Panels
are a way of listening to our communities and directing
investment where it is needed most. This new process puts
local people at the hearts of decision making and supports
Cumberland Council's focus on health and wellbeing. Our
panel meets four times a year, to decide what our communities

need and to direct investment towards projects that tackle those priorities. In our first year we have agreed our priorities which are:

- Transport for the Community
- Community Health and Wellbeing
- Community Involvement
- Community Resilience

The Cumberland Council Executive, in May 2023, recommended and agreed that all Community Panels have the delegated authority to approve grant applications funded from a new Neighbourhood Investment Fund. The intention also is to set up and nurture a Community Network of residents, businesses, third sector partners. We are currently recruiting independent members for co-option to the Lakes to Sea Community Panel.

In summary:

In the last 12 months the following grants have been allocated

Cockermouth Town Council £670.00

All Saints Cockermouth £10,000.0

Friends of Fairfield Primary £3029.00

Kirkgate Arts £1000.00

Cockermouth and District Civic Trust £313.00

Cockermouth Festival Group £1000.00

Healthy Hopes £4323.50

- Part of Cumberland Council's aim to establish 8 Community Panels (sub committees of the Executive) to create local decision making and local focus
- Currently recruiting up to 3 co-opted members. (5 out of the 8 panels are co-opting this year)
- Community engagement throughout the panel area to assist with the setting of priorities and key themes
- Distributed £60,183 across 20 organisations. Applications ranged from £300 to £10,000
- Set up community networks (engagement arm of the panels)
- Formed neighbourhood investment plan (new and will be developed in coming year)

Moving forward

- Approx £60k Neighbourhood investment funding for 2024/25 (amount tbc) Fund available for communities to bid into. The agreed priorities help panels to decide where funding goes.
- Further development of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan - based around the identified priorities and key themes

Action

- Further network events based on priorities and key themes.
- Building a new council

I have played an active role in developing our new council through membership of the following council committees: Audit Committee, Planning Committee, Senior Appointments Committee, Staffing Committee, LEP Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

It was also an honour to have been elected as Chair of Cumberland Council at the Annual Meeting of Cumberland Council last week.

22/24 PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The accounts were circulated. The accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024 were approved – proposed by John Howcroft, seconded by Angie Sims and unanimously agreed.

The AGAR 2023/24 Form 2 Certificate of Exemption was unanimously agreed.

23/24 OPEN FORUM

A resident of the village representing the Village Show said the previous show had been a success but the Committee were going to make adjustments ie. Vehicles on the playing field. The Village Show this year is to be held on 31st August. The organisers of the show would like, if possible, more involvement by member of the Parish Council and are seeking £600.00 towards the bouncy castle as a contribution from the Parish Council.

Joan Postlethwaite asked for sight of the accounts from the previous year before a decision was made. There was also discussion regarding the activities in the Village Hall against the possibility of a marquee in the playing field but obviously there would be a massive financial implication.

It was agreed to advertise the event in The Gossip.

Meeting ended

Signed as a true and correct record

Date.....