

**GREYSOUTHEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL IN
THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 21st OCTOBER 2024
AT 7.15 PM**

Action

Present: Jennifer West, Helen Davies, Dawn Watson,
Joan Postlethwaite, Vanessa Roberts, Ewan Roberts,
Andy Proctor

Also present Councillor Andy Semple (Cumberland Council)

105/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Lisa Clark

106/24 PART 2

Jennifer West read out the following

Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act 1960 member of the press and public are required to leave the meeting due to the sensitive nature of the items to be considered in Part 2 (tendering/contracts – safety inspections for new play park equipment). Officer recommendation - that the Councillors agree to exclude the press and public – this was unanimously agreed.

107/24 – RESIGNATION OF CLERK

Jennifer West read out letter of resignation of Clerk, giving personal reasons for resignation which is to take effect from 30th January 2025 – this to be added to Part 2 of the agenda – this was unanimously agreed.

108/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2024 were agreed as a true record – proposed by Dawn Watson, seconded by Helen Davies and unanimously agreed.

109/24 MATTERS ARISING – all covered on agenda

110/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – none

111/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

112/24 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The vacancy had arisen following the resignation of John Howcroft. It was agreed the Clerk write to John thanking him for his service to the Parish Council and for his knowledge and expertise.

The Clerk reported one resident had expressed an interest. The closing date for interest in the position of Councillor is 14th November.

Clerk

**113/24 REPORT FROM CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR
ANDREW SEMPLE**

Councillor Semple reported on the following:

Cumberland Council has received £2.1 million to extend the Household Support Fund until March 2025. As part of this, Citizens Advice services in Cumberland have received funding to give advice and support for food, essentials linked to energy and water and wider essentials. This is part of wider support also given to Food Groups across Cumberland (£100,000), Cumbria Action for Sustainability (£100,000 towards the Cold to Cosy programme to support residents with energy and water essentials), Cumbria Community Foundation (£60,000 towards the Winter Warmth and Warm Spots programmes for food, energy and water). There is also support for School Holiday food vouchers, support for Care leavers and the Holiday Activity Food Programme in schools.

Anyone – and you don't need to be on benefits – can apply for support through the Household Support Fund on the Cumberland website. However, the easiest and most effective way to get personal advice is to contact Citizens Advice as follows:

If people are worried about their energy bills this winter then they can contact CA Allerdale by phone 01900 604735, email advice@ca-allerdale.org.uk or webform www.citizensadviceallerdale.org.uk/self-referral-form

We can check for any benefit entitlement such as Pension Credit, Council Tax Reduction or other means tested benefits and also non-means tested disability related benefits. We will help maximise income and look at reducing costs where possible. We can help check energy bills are correct, look at ways to reduce bills through energy efficiency measures and speak to the fuel companies if negotiation is needed. If people are still struggling we may be able to access fuel vouchers or payments towards bills as well as grants for white goods or other household essentials.

Councillor Semple said the issues with the X4/X5 were ongoing.

He also reported Cockermouth Library was not administered by Cumberland Council as a Community Hub.

114/24 NO THROUGH ROAD SIGNAGE, CHAPEL TERRACE

The following response had been received from Cumberland Council Highways:

"Unfortunately at this time we will not be implementing a no through road sign in this location. However, if there is any supporting evidence such as permission to install the post in the boundaries of someone's property, then we will reconsider this request."

It was agreed the Clerk write to the residents of Chapel Street and also 3 and 5 Main Street to ask their views.

115/24 GARDEN PLOT NO. 20 AND GARAGE PLOT 3A

The Clerk reported the agreement for plot 20 had been signed and that a refund for the remainder of the year had been paid to the previous occupier of No.44 and that the new occupier had paid until 1st April 2025.

The Clerk had been unable to contact the person first on the waiting list for the garage. Helen Davies agreed to see them.

If they are not willing to pay £300 (which is the amount requested by the previous occupier of N0.44) then it was proposed by Ewan Roberts, seconded by Helen Davies and unanimously agreed the Parish Council would purchase the garage and then let to tenants.

116/24 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Andy Procter agreed to get quotes for new website and to report to the Councillors prior to the next meeting.

117/24 GREYSOUTHEN GOSSIP

Since the resignation of John Howcroft the Parish Council was looking for someone to take this on. Vanessa Roberts said she would be willing to take on the online version.

118/24 PLAYING FIELD – SEE PART 2 OF THE AGENDA

119/24 CLIMATE CHANGE