

GREYSOUTHEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL IN
THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER
2024 AT
7.15 PM

Action

Present: Jennifer West, Helen Davies, Dawn Watson,
Lisa Clark, Andy Proctor, John Howcroft,
Also present - eleven members of the public

83/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Joan
Postlethwaite, Ewan Roberts, Councillor Andy Semple
(Cumberland Council)

84/24 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Following the resignation of Angie Sims a new Vice-
Chairperson needs to be elected for the remainder of the
ensuing year
Lisa Clark was proposed by Jennifer West, seconded by John
Howcroft and unanimously agreed.

85/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2024 were
agreed as a true record – proposed by Dawn Watson,
seconded by John Howcroft and unanimously agreed.

86/24 MATTERS ARISING

X4/X5 – John Howcroft said he was still in conversation with
Councillor Semple regarding the X4/X5 service

87/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Lisa Clark declared an interest on item 12 - allotments

88/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jennifer West welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked
if everyone was present regarding the playing field
equipment. Two people were present regarding the
planning appeals.

Jennifer West said following the public meeting on
6th September 2024 the Parish Council had agreed to drop
the proposed zip wire and had chosen, with the help of the
children from Paddle School, other equipment to the value
of the zip wire has been added. John Howcroft gave details
of the equipment added – high pedestal slide, solar spinner
roundabout, crusader swing, longboard springy, glow worm
sea-saw and mini swing with basket. John Howcroft
handed round a plan of where the new equipment was to be
sited along with the position of the other equipment. One
member of the public commented on the 50 metre rule for
the siting of equipment. John Howcroft said Wicksteed
were a professional

were a professional company who had walked around the proposed site and had sited the equipment according to their criteria regarding safety.

A question was asked relating to the percentage of children in the village and their ages. There were objections to the older children having access to the equipment and whether or not it was suitable for them.

There were several concerns regarding parking and the possible increase in vehicles when the new facility was opened. John Howcroft said this was to be raised with Cumberland Councillor Andy Semple and Cumberland Highways.

A member of the public raised the question of dog fouling and when this failed to be discussed at that moment the member of the public left the meeting.

Another member of the public said children had been climbing to the top of the swing and as a result had been able to look into her bedroom window. Helen Davies said there was to be new equipment for older children and hopefully such situations would be avoided.

Concern was expressed regarding the distance between the equipment, both new and old. John Howcroft assured those present the positioning of the new equipment had been confirmed with Wicksteed. A Greysouthen resident said in other play areas the equipment was segregated according to the age of the children and she was concerned about safety issues. Lisa Clark said it was assumed the younger children would be accompanied but that the older children would not be supervised.

Two residents thanked the Parish Council for withdrawing their intention to install a zip wire.

A question was raised regarding parking whilst the proposed work is going on. John Howcroft said the equipment used for the installation would use the playing field and that the area would be out of bounds for the children until the new equipment was installed and safe.

Jennifer West confirmed the zip wire had been removed from the order and other equipment ordered in its place.

89/24 REPORT FROM CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR ANDREW SEMPLE

Councillor Semple had forwarded the following report as he was unable to attend:

My roles

- Chair of the Council

- Chair Lakes to Sea Community Panel
 - Planning Committee
 - Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Staffing Committee
- Staffing Committee 4
 - Cumbria LGPS Pension Board
 - Allerdale Disability Association Charity (nominated Council representative)
 - Local Listing Heritage Panel
 - Rosehill Arts Trust Ltd (nominated Council representative)
 - Solway Coast AONB Partnership
 - Council appointed Parish Councillor for Broughton Moor
- Parish Council

Summary of activity in those roles (attendance record 100%)

The Staffing Committee met twice in August and we agreed a pay increase and interim formulae for Assistant Directors – very important to retain senior leaders.

Alongside Cllrs McCarron-Holmes, Grisdale and Pegram I have been appointed as a Parish Councillor for Broughton Moor following the resignation of all of their Parish Councillors. I will remain until the Parish Council can become quorate and stable again. We met three times in August.

I attended my first meeting of the Solway Coast National Landscape (new name for Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) alongside Cllr Lynch. It was a fascinating meeting, Chaired by Cllr Markley, and Cllr Lynch and I will be doing a full day's induction visit from Maryport to Rockcliffe at the end of this month.

I met with the Executive Director of Rosehill Theatre, Jen Garrick, following my appointment as nominated by the Executive, to their Board. I stepped down from my personal role as a Director at the Kirkgate to enable me to fulfil all the Council roles I now have. The Kirkgate goes from strength to strength with a new energetic board and I will always be their firm friend and supporter.

I attended an excellent Community Engagement Event at Cumbria Constabulary HQ in Penrith on 7 September. Amongst many other things I discovered that a Chief Superintendent lives in the Ward – across the river from me in Cockermouth and we intend to get together to talk about how we can get a shared understanding of the role of the Neighbourhood Police Teams.

I was in Carlisle Cathedral on Saturday 14th, as part of the former Border Regiment's commemoration of the Arnhem campaign. 80 years ago my Uncle Alex Semple was killed in action near Nijmegen – the bridge before Arnhem – so I found the event very poignant.

Forthcoming events

Our Community Panel meets on Monday 16 September in Flimby at 6pm. And on Thursday 19 September, at The

Centre, Ewanrigg Maryport, between 3pm and 6pm we are having a special network event around the Food Cumberland Partnership – everything about how we get farm to fork and all the processes and improvements we need to feed our communities.

Action

Taste Cockermouth is on the weekend of 28th and 29th September. This year there will be a street party on Market Place and a drinks tent and outdoor picnic area across the river with live music everywhere. Google Taste Cockermouth for full programme.

John Howcroft said he would be taking up issues with Councillor Semple including the X4/X5 bus service, Chapel Street signage and the Marron lane road sign.

90/24 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The Clerk reported no one had come forward during the specified time frame but Vanessa Roberts had since expressed an interest. It was therefore unanimously agreed to co-opt Vanessa Roberts to the Parish Council. The Clerk to send Vanessa the necessary paperwork and to inform Cumberland Council of the decision.

Clerk

91/24 GREYSOUTHEN GOSSIP

It was agreed space could be allocated on the online version of The Gossip for local adverts but that it was not possible on the paper version due to lack of space. John Howcroft to liaise with the person wishing to advertise.

John Howcroft

92/24 VILLAGE HALL

There had not been a meeting since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

93/24 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

It was agreed the present wordpress website was not fit for purpose and it was agreed to obtain three quotations for a new website. In the intervening period the minutes would be posted on the noticeboards.

94/24 ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk had received a request from the holder of plot 6 to erect a greenhouse. This was agreed in principle but agreed the Clerk to enquire about the size.

Clerk

The Clerk said she had had an enquiry from the prospective purchaser of No.44 Main Street regarding the garden plot and garage current used by the owner of No.44.. She had explained the process for allocation of allotments and garage plots – no one at present on the waiting list for an allotment but two already on the list for a garage plot. The Clerk explained the garage plot payments is ground rent only and that negotiations would have to take place regarding the cost of the garage on the plot.

95/24 PLAYING FIELD – SEE 88/24 above**96/24 ROAD WARNING SIGNAGE, CHAPEL STREET –
SEE 89/24 above****97/24 CLIMATE CHANGE**

Andy Procter said the group has had a summer break but are now back up and running. We'll be continuing to collaborate with Cockermouth CAN (Climate Action Now) and will share information on the various Greysouthen sites.

In addition, I've registered to attend the CALC climate webinars starting next week and will report back in upcoming meetings.

98/24 FINANCIAL ISSUES

Income – Cumberland Council for playing field £28436.25

Community Account (excluding income above) £19591.02

The following payments were agreed:

Clerks salary - September	£231.20
Tax on salary - September	£ 57.80
Clerks expenses (includes inks for fliers for meeting re playing field)	£ 98.93
TN Maintenance	£ 35.00
Clerks payment additional meeting	£100.00
Football nets	£ 79.95
TN Maintenance	£ 35.00
CALC	£ 125.00
Roger James – paint	£ 43.97

Jennifer West thanked Roger James for painting the play equipment.

99/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

HOU/2024/0048 – Replacement of existing rotten windows with UPVC alternative with traditional features, Hunters House, Main Street, Greysouthen – no objection

Clerk**100/24 PLANNING DECISIONS – NONE****101/24 PLANNING APPEALS**

HOU/2023/0207 – erection of biomass building, Tarn Bank, Greysouthen

HOU/2023/0208 – bale storage shed, Tarn Bank, Greysouthen

HOU/2023/0209 – machinery store, Tarn Bank, Greysouthen

HOU/2023/0210 – sheep penning building, Tarn Bank. Greysouthen

The Clerk informed the applicants who were present that the Parish Council comments of No Objection are automatically transferred to the appeal documents.

Action

102/24 REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED – NONE

103/24 CORRESPONDENCE

Cumberland Council Planning Policy Update –
previously circulated

104/24 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

21st October 2024 at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm

The meeting was due to have a part 2 of the agenda but a member of the public said this could not go ahead as it had not been correctly worded.

This was accepted.

Signed as a true and correct record

Date.....