

GREYSOUTHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council in the Village Hall On Monday 20th January 2025 at 7.16pm

Present: Cllr J West (Chair), Cllr H Davies, Cllr A Procter, Cllr L Clark, Cllr J Forster,
Cllr A Semple (Cumberland Council)
Clerk: Susan Stuart (Incoming), Barbara Lamb (Outgoing)
Members of the Public: 1
Meeting starts 19.15

148/24 **Welcome to new Clerk**

Cllr West started the meeting by expressing Greysouthen Parish Council's gratitude to outgoing Clerk Barbara Lamb for her years of service. Cllr West introduced the new Clerk Susan Stuart (also known as Susan McLachlan), who said a few words about herself.

149/24 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received Cllrs V Roberts, E Roberts, J Postlethwaite and D Watson.

150/24 **Minutes of meeting dates 18th November 2024**

- The Parish Council vacancy has now been filled by Job Forster
- The Parish Council clerk vacancy has now been filled by Susan Stuart (McLachlan)
- Outgoing Clerk, Barbara Lamb, has written to Cumberland Council regarding the Chapel Terrace sign.
- The gates are here, however, the wrong parts have been supplied to fit them so we are awaiting replacement parts.
- The posts on the road sign on Overend Road have collapsed, clerk to report this to Cumberland Council.
- The minutes of the 18th November 2024 were agreed and signed, proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Davies.

151/24 **Matters arising from the November Minutes - None.**

152/24 **Declaration of interests**

Cllr Davies declared an interest in the planning applications received.

153/24 **Public Participation**

- Ben from Cumbria Creative showed the Parish Council the work done so far on the new parish council website. Cllr Davies enquired about the email addresses on the website, these will automatically forward to the appropriate person. Once the website is live, it can be put on the Facebook page to raise awareness that it is now available.
- A member of the public asked Cllr Forster about the footpath that is closed between Brigham and Greysouthen. The Parish Council will need to enquire about this.

Action: Cllr West to ask Cllr E Roberts about this

- A child has banged their head when the playpark was wet on the wooden surround on the new playpark, although there was no damage to their head thankfully. Cllr Clark has contacted Wicksteed about this and they will be coming to inspect the area, potentially making sure the matting covers the entire area.

154/24 Report from Cumberland Councillor, Andrew Semple:

- Cllr Semple will send a link with a presentation to the Clerk to be disseminated to all councillors about the Boundary Commission Review.
- There is a lot of work going on with bus service improvements, bus shelters will be looked at in the second phase of the bus service improvements, which are starting now. This will also involve looking at legacy bus shelters for repair.
- There was a community event which is the presentation that will be disseminated to councillors; there is also a bus survey which Cllr Semple would advise people fill out. The government and Cumberland Council are looking at franchising models for bus services, which would give a level of flexibility that is not currently available. This will be in consultation until summer.
- Cumberland Council have decided to keep one councillor per ward, however, there will be nine new councillors added overall. This is currently under consultation, but will not affect Parish Council boundaries.

155/24 Dog Fouling in village

- The clerk has reported dog fouling, however, no response was received.
- It is best to provide photographic evidence of the dog and person, which can then be sent to Enforcement, who will pursue it.
- It would be possible to invite the Enforcement Officer to a meeting to discuss this issue.
- A link to enforcement reporting will be put on the Facebook page.

Action: Cllr Procter to put link on Facebook page

156/24 No through road sign, Chapel Terrace update – already dealt with earlier in the meeting.

157/24 Greysouthen Gossip update.

- Cllr V Roberts was unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Roberts thinks the Gossip should remain purely on the website instead of putting it on Facebook. Cllr Roberts will be attending a social media course through CALC; this may be revisited in the future.

158/24 Parish Council website update – already dealt with in public participation.

159/24 Playing Field update

Cllr Clark gave an update:

- The equipment is now installed
- The finish isn't entirely satisfactory, Wicksteed will be coming out to look at this and will rectify the situation.
- We don't have a date for the playpark inspection yet, but they might have recommendations.
- Going forward there will be a new sign put in the playpark; there is some discussion as to the age range, however, CALC have advised there is no legal requirement to put a specific age range. Wording for the sign still needs to be finalised.

Action: Cllr Clark to send wording possibilities to councillors

- The new gates have arrived, but have not yet been fitted. The sign will be put up after that.
- Cllr Clark has sent a report back to the funders, when the bank statement is received it will be forwarded.

160/24 Climate Change

- Cllr Procter hasn't attended any meetings, there have been none since the Christmas break.
- There is a tree planting event on Lorton Road in Cockermouth on the 2nd of February at 10.00am.

Action: Cllr Procter to put details of tree planting event on Facebook

161/24 Financial Issues

- The clerk will put together information to move to Unity Bank for the next meeting.
- The following payments were approved:

Clerk's Expenses (B Lamb)	£67.36
Clerk's Salary (B Lamb) – January	£256.32
HMRC (Tax on January Salary)	£64.08
E Malloy	£200.00
A & M Roberts	£120.00
Wicksteed	£41,058.29
K Laydon	£350.00

162/24 Planning Applications

- Cllr Davies declared an interest, as the planning applications were for her property.
- Ref CAT/2025/0002 – Birch Tree to be reduced by a third, Orchard Cottage, Greysouthen – no objections were noted
- Ref CAT/2025/0003 – Ash tree to be pollarded; Overgrown boundary hedgerow reduced, Orchard Cottage, Greysouthen – no objections were noted

163/24 Planning Decisions – none.

164/24 Correspondence

- An email was received from Leconfield Estate regarding a woodland management plan, this will be distributed to councillors.
- Information from the Village Hall Committee was not received prior to the meeting (this had actually gone into Clerk's email spam folder, so was missed). This can be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

165/24 Reports on meetings attended – none.

166/24 Confirmation of date and time of next meeting - Monday 17th February at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended 20.27

Signed as a true and correct record

Date