

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT FLOOKBURGH VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2025**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors M Brown, D Butler, B Dawson, J Ryland & A Thompson, Parish Clerk L Prescott & Unitary Councillor J Boak.

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Councillor J Ryland acted as Chairman for the meeting.

24/276 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors R Airey and T Wilson.

24/277 Requests for Dispensations

None.

24/278 Declarations of Interest

None.

24/279 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved Acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting on 7th January 2025 were proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Dawson, approved unanimously and signed by the meeting Chairman Councillor Ryland.

24/280 Public Participation

None.

24/281 Police

The Clerk reported that the following were reported to the Police in November 2024: Flookburgh (3 violent, 1 theft, 1 ASB), Cark (1 violent, 1 theft), Ravenstown (1 violent), Moor Lane (3 violent).

24/282 Unitary Councillors

Unitary Councillor J Boak reported:

Reported blocked drains at Fairfield, Rosthwaite, Main Street & Winder Lane have been unblocked. The drain on Cark Bridge is being investigated, the drain by the Station entrance has been assessed and made safe and will be completed by the end of March. She had been in contact with the officer and the litter bin has now been replaced on Flookburgh Square. Councillors queried the bin emptying scheduled for the bin on Green Lane, Councillor Boak advised it should be daily. Highways plan to repair the riverside wall by Cark House this summer, they are currently undertaking weekly monitoring.

During the recent electricity outages she arranged with Councillor Dawson for residents to charge phones and provide a warm space in the Village Hall.

She is now on the Planning Committee and has undertaken training on the National Planning Policy Framework and will receive further training from the Planning officers.

24/283 Planning Applications

None.

24/284 Planning Decisions

The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- a) 2024/1677/FPA. Lakeland Leisure Park Moor Lane Flookburgh LA11 7LT. Change of use of and alterations to single storey reception building to a hot food takeaway (Burger King) with alterations to signage (Use class Sui Generis). Granted with conditions relating to plans, noise, kitchen ventilation & extraction.
- b) 2024/1672/FPA. 84 Main Street Flookburgh LA11 7LB. Proposed conversion of attached outbuilding to dwelling. Refused (access/overdevelopment).

24/285 Financial Report

The Clerk outlined the financial report.

Resolved To approve the Financial Report as at 24th January 2025 including the Budget Monitoring and Bank Reconciliation.

24/286 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved To approve the following payments:

Clerk's Salary (January 2025)	£493.00
Net Nerd (website hosting) 2025	£35.99
Clerk's Telephone & Internet (1/2/2024-31/1/2025)	£260.00
Amazon - A4 binders & Report Covers	£44.24
Marktek (Car Park Sign)	£48.48
Flookburgh Village Hall – Room Hire 2024	£50.00
Eon – Electricity (Toilets) (1/12/2024-31/12/2024) DD	£47.75
Waterplus (Water & Wastewater – Toilets) (10/12/24 – 9/01/25) DD	£42.03
Orian (Toilet Cleaning January 2025)	£359.88

24/287 **Grant**

A grant application from Cumbria Community Foundation was considered.

Resolved To defer to the next Parish Council meeting.

24/288 **Community Emergency Plan**

The Clerk handed out printed copies of the Plan. Notices will be placed in the Noticeboards advising the locations once they have all be distributed.

24/289 **Cartmel-in-Cark Pumping Station**

a) The Clerk reported that she had contacted United Utilities in relation to the complaints from residents suffering disturbance from bright lights on overnight at the pumping station. United Utilities advised that they have been used when maintenance has been required and have agreed to redirect the positioning of the lights to stop them causing a disturbance. A resident has advised that the issue has now been resolved.

b) The Clerk reported that a (19 page) report has been received from United Utilities, following a request for information in relation to the results of the water sampling taking place both above and below the outfall pipe into the River Eea at Cark. The information provided is from December 2023 to November 2024. The results are as follows:

Dissolved Oxygen – lower readings below outfall than above, all at or above 8 mg/l (minimum to protect aquatic life).

Percentage Saturation of Dissolved Oxygen – mainly above 70% (good), but below 70% on 5 occasions in June 2024 (lowest at 10%).

PH – very similar above and below outfall, with exception of May 2024. Level for protection of aquatic life is 6.5 to 9.0. PH level was above 9.0 during half of May 2024.

Temperature – variable throughout year, no obvious pattern.

Conductivity – extremely variable levels from 0 to 15 mS/cm below outfall but 0 to 0.3 mS/cm above outfall. Safe human drinking water is below 3.0. Levels were above 3.0 in July 2024 (15 days) and September 2024 (12 days).

Ammonia – levels below 0.3 mg/l are very good, In all months except January and March 2024 there was at least 1 spike above 0.3, highest being 1.0 mg/l in August 2024.

United Utilities advised they will review the monitoring at the end of January 2025.

Resolved To request an update of the results following the review at the end of January 2025.

Also request information on when there will be a permanent solution to the issue and what that permanent solution will be.

24/290 **Digital Switchover**

The Clerk reported that she attended a BT Digital Switchover Webinar. BT plan to complete the changeover to digital phones, where the phone will be plugged into a router, by January 2027.

Households will receive a minimum of 4 weeks' notice of the changeover by post. Vulnerable customers should contact BT (telephone 0800 800 150 or online at <https://bt.com/help/here-for-you>) to ensure that they receive the appropriate service, which may include a hybrid phone or a battery to use in case of a power cut. Vulnerable customers include those with no mobile signal, disabled people, users of healthcare pendants/alarms, the Elderly (75+) and those with only a landline. Landline only customers will be moved to a 'dedicated landline service' available until 2030.

Resolved To publicise need for vulnerable customers (or their representatives) to contact BT to ensure they receive the correct service.

- 24/291 **Cumbria Constabulary Neighbourhood Policing Pledge**
The Clerk reported that Cumbria Constabulary are planning to hold two virtual meetings a year with representatives from Parish Councils and locality-based officers and the names of 2 designated persons to attend from each Parish Council has been requested.
Resolved To provide the Clerk as contact person and when details of when the meetings are to be held to select 2 representatives that are available at that time.
- 24/292 **Dog Fouling**
The Clerk reported that she had received a request from a resident for action to be taken on dog fouling. Westmorland & Furness Council has responsibility for tackling dog fouling and employs dog wardens. Councillor Boak has provided a poster about dog fouling for the Parish Council noticeboard. Councillor Boak will contact the dog wardens and investigate the option of dog poo bag dispensers.
- 24/293 **Highways**
a) Councillor Boak continues to report and monitor highways matters. Councillor Ryland will report a blocked drain.
b) Councillor Boak reported that a footpath signpost has been installed on bluebell lane.
c) Councillor Boak reported that Highways are assessing options to improve safety on the railway bridge on Allithwaite Road. Traffic monitoring will take place at the narrows at Cark during the summer. The outstanding pavement improvements on Moor Lane are due to be completed by the end of March 2025. No action is to be taken on car parking at the bend near Holker entrance.
- 24/294 **Flookburgh Community Playground/Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**
No report.
- 24/295 **Cark Toilets & Cark Park/Playground**
The Clerk reported that the Christmas Tree has been removed from the Car Park. She has also been advised that a toilet roll holder has been damaged, though has not yet investigated. Councillor Brown said that he has recently reinstalled a toilet roll holder in the Gents toilet.
Resolved To investigate the report regarding a damaged toilet roll holder.
- 24/296 **Flookburgh Square**
The Clerk has been advised that the ordered parking sign is due to be received shortly.
- 24/297 **Correspondence**
The following correspondence was noted:
a) Westmorland & Furness Council
Highways Reports. Planning & Licence Applications. News releases.
b) Cumbria Association of Local Councils
Training. Newsletter.
- 24/298 **Date of Next meeting**
Noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7 pm on Tuesday 4th March 2025 in Lower Holker Village Hall.

Clerk to the Council: - Lyn Prescott, 13 Church Walk, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7JX