

Parton Parish Council

Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting

Held on 14th November 2025 at 7.00pm in The Village Hall, Main Street, Parton

Present: Cllr M Knight, Cllr W Morton, Cllr A Armstrong, Cllr H Elliott, Cllr L McKee

Clerk: Ms S Stuart

2 members of the public were present

The meeting started at 7.00pm.

- 813/25/26 Apologies.** Resolved to note apologies received from Cllrs Robb and Shearsby.
- 814/25/26 Exclusion of Press and Public.** No items required exclusion of press and public.
- 815/25/26 Declarations of Interest.** None.
- 816/25/26 To Approve the minutes of the meeting of 17th October 2025.** Resolved to approve, all in favour.
- 817/25/26 Councillor Updates.** None.
- 818/25/26 Reports from Cumberland Councillor, Police or Guest Speakers.** None present.
- 819/25/26 Clerk's Updates**
- There was previous discussion about the edge of the football field not being cut. Open Spaces have come back to say that unless there are teams actually using the football field, the grass around the pitch will not be cut.
 - The details have been sent through to Sellafield for the feasibility study, so we are waiting to hear back from them to move it forward.
 - Cumbria CVS followed up after the funding fair with a couple of links, the Clerk sent this on to councillors.
 - A member of the public emailed asking about book clubs in the village, however, there isn't a book club at the moment and this would need to be arranged with the village hall.
 - The domain renewal for the website has been paid by the clerk.
- 820/25/26 Public Participation**
- A member of the public spoke about children using the playpark even though the gate is locked. This is already a known issue and the gate has been locked tighter, along with councillors keeping an eye out to people entering the playpark.
- 821/25/26 Playpark**
- Cllr Shearsby was unable to attend, so we had no updates on that side.
 - The Clerk to contact Cumberland Council about the ownership of the playpark and/or permission to put the new playpark on the land. The previous playpark was funded by the youth club, not the parish council.
 - The Clerk distributed copies of the survey responses, there were 16 responses in total.
- 822/25/26 Budget**
- There had been discussion earlier in the year about increasing the precept this year, as this does not increase the cost of council tax to residents and our precept is currently very low.
 - General costs, such as wages and waste management, as well as landscaping work and grass cutting, would expect to go up in line with inflation, however, there will be increased costs for the playpark and beach garden, etc. Additional expenses will be incurred with the regular printing of the newsletter; money also needs to be put aside for election costs in 2027.
 - It was agreed that the precept amount would be decided at the December meeting.

- 823/25/26 Donation**
- There has been a request for £87.50 for selection boxes for the Village Hall. All councillors were in agreement.
- 824/25/26 Christmas**
- The Clerk was trying to get a free Christmas tree, but this has fallen through. It was agreed to purchase a tree from Whitehaven Garden Centre.
 - There was discussion as to how to secure the tree as last year the trees were blown around quite badly. Last year it was strapped to the war memorial fence. In years previously it was dug into the ground and had barriers around it (not the parish council).
 - It was discussed that biodegradable decorations would be best as last year the decorations blew around the village, with a lot ending up in the beach garden.
 - Cllr Elliott discussed asking residents for help with putting the tree up.
 - There had been previous discussion about having a living tree, but this could be revisited next year.
- 825/25/26 Litter**
- Litter and dog fouling continues to be an issue in the village. This is not just people visiting the village to walk their dog on the beach, but also people who live in the village.
 - Cllr Elliott spoke about restarting monthly litter picks. There will be information about this in the next newsletter.
- 826/25/26 Parton Newsletter**
- The next newsletter will go out in December, to cover December to February, with the following newsletter going out in March.
 - It was discussed to keep the survey active for the playpark until November.
 - Updates will be sought from the village hall, church and school for December to February.
 - There will also be an update made regarding the playpark.
 - The Clerk queried how many leaflets we would print for the next run, it was agreed that 1,000 was too many.
- 827/25/26 Village Action Sheet**
- Cllr Elliott spoke to Network Rail about the collapsed culvert. They again denied responsibility for the blocked drain. They eventually agreed to send out a local team to assess it. After this, we might have to move on to United Utilities for help.
 - There is still no progress on the repairs of the bus shelters. Clerk to report this again.
 - Cllr Knight to report a street light that is out.
- 828/25/26 Planning**
- There were no planning applications this month.
 - The site on Brewery Brow is now causing a lot of water and mud running down the road, this will become a problem with colder weather. Clerk to contact planning about this.
- 829/25/26 Finance.** The following payments were approved:

Transaction	Payee	Details	Amount (£)
PPC00060	Susan Stuart	Salary	372.70
PPC00061	Susan Stuart	Home Working Allowance	25.00
PPC00062	HMRC	PAYE	0.40
PPC00063	Susan Stuart	Expenses: Website domain Hippoprint underpayment	22.79 80.00
PPC00064	Village Hall Committee	Donation	87.50
		TOTAL	585.09

830/25/26 Parish Councillor Matters. None.

831/25/26 To Confirm the Date of the Next Meeting. The next meeting will be on 12th December at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record.

Chair Presiding.....

Date.....