WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ian Blythe. 4 The Dell, Talkin. Brampton CA8 1AQ
Tel: 07545086857 Email: clerk@waltonparish.co.uk

Minutes of the Walton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 7.00pm in Walton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. T.A. Armstrong (Chair) T. R. Hodgson, B. Hogg, R. Reynolds, W. Weaver

Also present: I. Blythe, Clerk/RFO, Unitary Auth. Cllr. J. Mallinson, 1 Member of the Public (MOP).

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. W. Wilkinson.

51. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS held on 2 September 2025 – the chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the meetings as an accurate record of the meeting held on 2 September 2025.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

1. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests
2. To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
3. To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

(Councillors with prejudicial interests must leave the meeting for the relevant items)

4. To make any requests for dispensation

- Cllr. Hogg declared an interest in item 58 which included reimbursement of expenditure he had incurred.

53. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) To decide whether there are any items of business which require exclusion of the press and public – None made

54. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (20 MINUTES ALLOWED) – the chair agreed to the MOP deferring comment in relation Agenda item 61 to the appropriate time.

55. CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR REPORTS– to receive items for information (items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting subject to agreement by the council.) – None received

56. POLICE MATTERS

a. received an update from the Clerk following a meeting with the Neighbourhood Policing team.

b. to resolve whether to submit any matters to the Local Focus Hub – None submitted

57. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - You may view the details on the Planning Authority website (Cumberland.gov.uk) where parishioners can submit their own observations directly

a. Council noted the following applications that were delegated to the Clerk following consultation with councillors and the comments below made online.

CA13/44: Application to deregister land wrongly registered as common land. CL 482 Knorran Fell, Walton Mill.
Comment: No observations
CA13/42: Application to deregister land wrongly registered as common land. CL 27 Walton Moss and Little Moss.
Comment: Walton Parish Council wish to make the following observations in objection. Application form CA13/42 refers: Box 5 (Rider 1 attachment) states ' all the tests are satisfied' for de-registration. This is disputed for the following reasons, Box 5 - para 3.4.1 states there were no rights of common held prior to 10 November 1967. Registration of Common Land was driven by the Commons Registration Act 1965. This process began in earnest in January 1967 and was governed by the 1965 Act which set deadlines for applications, and establishing how applications for registration should be made and processed. To be registered land must have been subject to **existing rights of common**, such as the right for individuals to graze animals. Individuals claiming such rights were required to produce documentation which had to include a plan of the common land and other documents to verify their claim and prove compliance with any prescribed conditions. This was validated and confirmed to be accurate and correct by the Local Authority at that time. Therefore, in verifying the Rights of Common listed in the Register of Common Land (Provisional Edition published 1956) the Local Authority provided confirmation of rights of common prior to November 1967. Furthermore it is believed that there are residents in the Parish of Walton who still hold rights of common, or have succeeded to them. Box 5 – para 3.4.1 a, and b, make assumptions regarding enclosure of the land in question. In reality, it is the enclosure of adjacent parcels of land that lead to the assumption that the parcel in question was enclosed – it became enclosed as a consequence. De-registering common land should not be on the basis of assumptions. Also, and as a consequence of a successful application to build a large solar farm nearby, should this application be successful it is requested that restrictions are placed on the use of the land in question to avoid any negative impact on the environment, nature and/or landscape and for the protection of wildlife habitats in the area generally.

58. FINANCE

a) **Payments – Council authorised** schedule of payments totalling £2178.99

VN	Inv. Date	Payee	Ref/Inv no.	Purpose	Amount £	VAT inc.£	Net Amt. £
Already Paid £776.24							
48	7/9/25	One.Com	42035894	Website Hosting & Domain	116.24	19.37	96.87

49	20/9/25	Green Team	000011	Grass cutting	660.00	110.00	550.00
authorised £1402.75							
52	28/9/25	Walton Village Hall	101023	Room hire	25.00	-	-
58	8/7/25	Brian Hogg	Screwfix	Replacement locks N/board	11.69	1.95	9.74
53	8/10/25	Green Team	0000102	Grass cutting	330.00	55.00	275.00
54	30/9/25	Ian Blythe	-	Salary/WFH Sept.	230.13	-	-
55	31/10/25	Ian Blythe	-	Salary/WFH Oct.	230.33	-	-
56	30/9/25	HMRC	-	PAYE/NI Sept	51.20	-	-
57	31/10/15	HMRC	-	PAYE/NI Oct	51.00	-	-
59	11/11/25	Ian Blythe	Travel claim	Clerk's duties	23.40		
62	31/10/25	James England-GIS Solutions	000316	Tree Survey	450.00		

b) noted direct payments for Unity Trust Bank Charges and Scribe accounts for months Sept. and Oct. 2025

c) Monthly reconciliation for Sept. and Oct. 2025 – noted reconciled bank balances with signed copies held on file.

d) Website renewal subscription – noted payment of annual website domain subscription.

e) Defibrillator **–** resolved to defer replacement cost

f) Standing Orders – approved and authorised setting up the following standing orders

Purpose	Payee	Regularity	Amount
Salary	Ian Blythe	Monthly	£230.00
PAYE	HMRC	Monthly	£51.00

59. Budget 2026 -27.

a. agreed the budget headings and figures for 2026-27.

b. noted the revised forecast of outturn and updated budget for 2025-26

c. resolved to levy a precept on Cumberland Council for 2026-27 of £12600.

60. Tree survey – Council noted the findings of the tree survey and,

- agreed to undertake a further survey as recommended
- instructed the Clerk to obtain estimates for the 3 trees in need of felling for safety reasons
- deferred resolution re- Japanese Knotweed until next meeting

61 Water run-off/drainage on Village Green – the Clerk explained how, with the involvement of Cumberland Cllr. Mallinson the responsibility for drainage on the village green had been confirmed as that of Cumberland Council. Action was on-going but would be pursued again by Cllr. Mallinson, the Clerk and the MOP.

62. Update from representatives on Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC)– Committee Hall representatives gave updates on the groups/activities taking place in the Hall and advised that the Tea Room was now operational. As the VHMC now held separate building insurance the Clerk would look to re-negotiate and update the Parish Council insurance arrangements over the Hall and Reading Room.

63. Flagpole – ownership and responsibility of the flagpole was confirmed by VHMC as being that of the VHMC and Council declined the offer to transfer it to them.

64. Encouraging new councillors – resolved to use the Parish Meeting in May 2026, which is a public meeting for all electors in the parish and not a Parish Council meeting, as an opportunity to encourage new councillors. The meeting generally reports on the past year's activities of the council but the agenda will be extended to explain the role/activities of council/councillors more generally with specific invitations extended to other local groups with the aim of encouraging electors in the parish to attend.

65. **Membership of Open Spaces Society** – deferred to next meeting.

66. Clerk and Councillors' reports and items for future agenda
Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.

None.

67. Date of next meeting:
The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on:

Tuesday 13 January 2026 in Walton Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk by 12 noon on 5 January 2026.