WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ian Blythe, 4 The Dell, Talkin, Brampton. CA8 1AQ
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Minutes of the Walton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13 January 2026 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, 2 Members of the Public (MOP).

68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Received and accepted apologies for absence from Cllr. W. Wilkinson.
69. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS held on 11 November 2025 – authorised the chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meetings held on **11 November 2025** .

70. 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

None received

71. 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

72. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (20 MINUTES ALLOWED) - this agenda item enables Parish Councillors to hear the views, comments and/or complaints from the public. The Parish Councillors can respond. However (unless the items are already on the agenda) no council decisions can be taken at this meeting but, if appropriate, the matters can be put onto a future agenda for decision. Comments limited to 5 minutes per person.
1 MOP drew attention to the poor condition of the post and chain boundary between Council owned land and the Church. It was agreed this would be included as an agenda item at the next meeting.
73. 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

74. POLICE MATTERS - to resolve whether to submit any matters to the Local Focus Hub - None submitted

75. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - to consider applications received and published by Cumberland Council and any other applications submitted and published between circulation of this Agenda & the meeting. You may view the details on the Planning Authority website (Cumberland.gov.uk) where parishioners can submit their own observations directly - None

76. FINANCE

a) **Payments – authorised** schedule of payments totalling £721.10

VN	Date	Payee	Ref	Purpose	Net £	VAT inc	Total £
		Already paid					
63	17/11	Scribe	13339	Accounts	24.00	4.80	28.80
64	28/11	HMRC		PAYE			51.00
65	28/11	I. Blythe		Salary			230.00
66	30/11	Unity Bank		Charges			6.00
67	15/12	Scribe	13917	Accounts	24.00	4.80	28.80
68	29/12	I. Blythe		Salary			230.00
69	29/12	HMRC		PAYE			51.00
70	31/12	Unity Bank		Charges			6.00
		To authorise					
71	18/11	DM Payroll	4866	Payroll	60.00	12.00	72.00
72	7/12	Walton V/Hall	1040	Hall hire			17.50

b) Receipts - noted receipt of a rebate of £128.42 from Zurich Insurance following exclusion of Village Hall and Reading Room.
c) Payroll charges – approved invoice for payroll administration of £72.00
d) Monthly reconciliation for Nov. and Dec. 2025 – noted reconciled bank balances and that signed copies held on file.
e) DM Payroll Services – authorised the Clerk to sign the revised Payroll Services contract at an annual cost of £135.00 +VAT.

77. Internal Audit – approved appointment of Gordon Consultancy Ltd. Chartered Accountants, Brampton Rd. Carlisle as internal auditor at a cost of £100.00 +VAT.
78. Tree survey – the Clerk provided an update on quotations received. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Cllr. Reynolds to seek further quotations for the work required.
79. Update from representatives on Village Hall Mgt. Cttee – Cllr. Weaver provided an update on the developments and plans for the Tea Room and activities in the Hall. The committee has a vacancy for a Secretary. Cllr. Weaver explained that the Village Hall is a registered charity and requires greater support to be able to continue to function effectively. Opportunities to encourage greater community involvement are being considered but if unsuccessful the Hall may ultimately not be financially viable and need to be sold.
80. **Membership of Open Spaces Society** – resolved to apply for membership of the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45.00 p.a.

81. 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.

- AGAR Assertion 10
- Parish Meeting in 2026

82. Date of next meeting:
The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on:
Tuesday 10 March 2026 in Walton Village Hall at 7.00pm.
Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk by 12 noon on 1 March 2026.