

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026 IN THE CHURCH ROOM
UNDERSKIDDAW AT 2.00 PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor D Burn (Chairman)

Councillors: Jan Boniface, Peter Cooke, Allan Daniels, Diane Griffiths, David Horsburgh and Lynda Walker (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

79. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Fernandez – reason for absence approved – and Cumberland Councillor Jill Perry.

80. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2026 were approved and signed as a correct record.

81. Declarations of Interests/Requests for Dispensations

- a. Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.
- b. Councillor Cooke declared a personal interest in item 8 application 7/2026/2008 (lives in a nearby property). Councillor Daniels declared a personal interest in application 7/2026/2002 (friend of the applicant).
- c. No prejudicial interests in items on the agenda were declared.
- d. There were no requests for dispensations.

82. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

There were no items of business which required exclusion of the public.

83. Public Participation

Members of the public present spoke in relation to planning application 7/2026/2008 making a number of points:

- Plan is incorrect and includes a private road which is not part of the property
- Would like a local occupancy clause on the new property
- This should be a new application as the Outline Permission (given in 1971) should have lapsed by now
- Insufficient parking provision included
- Surface water and proposed soakaway (more detail required) –some water will go into the flood zone
- Scale of house not in proportion to plot or neighbourhood
- Risk of road subsidence as it is a steep slope with much of the vegetation gone
- Contravenes Cumbria Council Design Guide which specifies a 5 bed house should have 3 parking spaces

The Chair reassured the public present that these points would be taken into account in formulating the Parish Council's response.

84. Cumberland Councillor Report

The Clerk read an email received from Councillor Perry containing the following items for information:

- The Cumbria Combined Authority came into being on 24th February 2026 with a temporary Chief Executive Officer and the leaders of both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness Councils and committees preparing for the mayoral authority after the May 2027 election.
- No progress to report re. provision of new bus stop outside The View but will chase this up.

85. Police Matters

There were no matters identified for submission to the local Focus Hub.

86. Planning Applications

- i) **Resolved** – to submit the following responses in respect of applications received since the last meeting for consideration:

7/2026/2008	Land adjacent Kame Crofters (Field No. 320) Applethwaite CA12 4PL	Reserved matters application with approval sought for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of one detached dwelling following the outline approval CA/NC 1526	Response: Strongly Object The Parish Council cannot understand why this outline planning permission which was granted more than 50 years ago should still be valid. Rather, the Council believes that a new planning application should be required and that any development on this site should be subject to a local occupancy condition. The Council also believes in relation to the reserved matters application that the proposed dwelling is overbearing, out of keeping with nearby properties, and that parking arrangements would be inadequate. Furthermore, the proposed tarmac entrance apron risks obstructing the drainage ditch down the west side of the road, and the Council believes detailed plans for
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			the soakaway should be submitted to demonstrate there will be no off-site impacts.
7/2026/2002	4 Little Crosthwaite Cottages Underskiddaw CA12 4QD	Installation of steel supports to provide stability to damaged structural timbers	Response: Support – seems a sensible thing to do
7/2026/2007	Skald How Applethwaite CA12 4PP	Proposed alterations to existing first floor including addition of dormer windows and enlargements, external landscaping to accommodate off-street parking	Response: No objection - however it is recognised that this is a difficult plot and off-street parking could create difficulties reversing up to or down onto the 'terrace' road. Concerns were also expressed about the removal of trees.

ii) Received - an update on planning decisions:

7/2025/2133	Ormathwaite Hall Ormathwaite CA12 4PQ	Conversion and refurbishment of a small curtilage outbuilding to create a one bedroom self-contained holiday let	Granted
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87. Finance

a. **Payments** – the following schedule of payments totalling £1,245.64 was authorised:

VN	Invoice Date	PAYEE	Cheque No/Ref No	Purpose of expenditure	AMOUNT £	VAT INC £	TOTAL £
61	14.1.26	L Walker		Clerk Salary and WFH	231.88	0.00	231.88
62	14.1.26	HMRC		PAYE	51.40	0.00	51.40
66	31.1.26	Unity Trust Bank		Bank Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
65	2.2.26	Starboard Systems		Scribe subscription	15.00	3.00	18.00
63	16.2.26	Lynda Walker		Clerk Salary and WFH	231.88	0.00	231.88
64	16.2.26	HMRC		PAYE	51.40	0.00	51.40

69	28.2.26	Unity Trust Bank		Bank Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
70	2.3.26	Starboard Systems		Scribe Subscription	15.00	3.00	18.00
67	6.11.25	WJP Software Ltd	Invoice IN25-1231	Annual domain name renewal and 0365 email	82.00	16.40	98.40
68	10.2.26	WJP Software Ltd	Invoice IN25-1315	Office 365 Kiosk email	182.00	36.40	218.40
72	14.3.26	L Walker		Clerk salary and WFH	231.88	0.00	231.88
71	16.3.26	HMRC		PAYE	51.40	0.00	51.40
73	31.3.26	Unity Trust Bank		Bank Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
	05.03.26	Crosthwaite PCC	Ref. PRH	Room hire 06.01.26	25.00	0.00	25.00

b. The Clerk was authorised to transfer £1,000 from the Instant Access account to the Current account to avoid going overdrawn before the precept was received

c. **Monthly reconciliation** – the reconciliation of balances checked by Councillor Horsburgh was received and noted.

d. **Monthly budget update** – received and noted.

88. Survey Action Plan

Progress on the Action Plan resulting from the 2025 survey was reviewed and the following actions were agreed:

- Provision of litter bin – to be considered at the next meeting in the light of the response from Cumberland Council re arrangements for emptying
- Visibility mirror at the Applethwaite Lane/A591 junction- agreed to provide subject to confirmation from the Council's insurers that this will be covered by the current policy – cost approved if not funded by Cumberland Council up to £500 net of VAT
- Clerk to confirm current specification for grounds maintenance and Councillors to submit any additional areas requiring attention
- List of areas where footpaths are an issue to be compiled for next meeting by Councillor Cooke and the Clerk

89. Speed Limits

Following notification that Cumberland Council is compiling a list of speed limit requests, it was agreed to ask for a 40mph speed limit from the Crosthwaite Road

roundabout to Mirehouse in view of the current traffic speeds and the number of cyclists using the road.

90. Clerk and Councillors' Reports/Items for Future Agenda

The Clerk reported on information received since the last meeting.

91. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 4.45 p.m. in the Underskiddaw Church Room to be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.00 p.m. Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk by 12 noon on 24th April 2026.

The meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.

Signed:(Chair)

Date: