

# MELMERBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Melmerby Parish Council held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 at Melmerby Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr David Bardsley, Cllr Dougie Bell, Cllr Bill Burford and Claire Rankin, Parish Clerk.

Cllr Michael Hanley and Cllr Mary Robinson, Westmorland and Furness Council were also present.

Three members of the public were present.

2024/100 **Apologies for absence – RESOLVED** that apologies were received from Cllr Chris Jones and Cllr Gary Flether.

2024/101 **Declarations of Interest – RESOLVED** that there were no declarations of interest.

2024/102 **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – RESOLVED** that Cllr David Bardsley was authorised to sign the minutes as a correct record.

2024/103 **Exclusion of Press and Public (Public bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) - RESOLVED** that there were no items on the agenda that required this exclusion.

2024/104 **Public Participation - RESOLVED** that the Chairman of the Parish Council opened the meeting for members of the public to speak and also asked members of the public to speak at the start of the relevant agenda item.

2024/105 **Westmorland and Furness Council – RESOLVED** that the matters raised were noted. Cllr Hanley reported that the Alston Community Transport Group is looking to include fellside villages who are interested in hosting an electric vehicle for community use. Cllr Robinson reported that Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Councils were in discussions regarding the possible formation of a Strategic Authority to cover the whole of Cumbria.

2024/106 **20 mph Speed Limit – RESOLVED** that Steph Davies-Johnson would be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

It was reported that Westmorland and Furness Council had responded to the questions raised at the last Parish Council meeting and had confirmed that there was no evidence that there was more than one response per person. It was reiterated that Westmorland and Furness Council will not pursue the 20 mph speed limit project for Melmerby. Speeding through the village was still raised as a concern by members of the community. Cllr Michael Hanley reported that there would be a further round for submission of interests for 20 mph schemes. It was resolved to invite Steph Davies-Johnson, Westmorland and Furness Council to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

2024/107 **Street Lighting – RESOLVED** that Westmorland and Furness Council's position be noted and that Melmerby Parish Council will compile a list of remaining lights in Melmerby.

It was reported that Westmorland and Furness Council is adopting a new policy for street lighting to unify the approach across the former district council areas. The new policy will be for Westmorland and Furness Council to take back responsibility for all street and footway lighting (formerly street lighting was the responsibility of Cumbria County Council and footway lighting was the responsibility

of Eden District Council). It was suggested that Melmerby Parish Council compile a list of lighting in the parish including those lights which have failed and not been replaced.

2024/108 **Appleby Horse Fair** – **RESOLVED** that Emma Bras, Environmental Health Officer, Westmorland and Furness Council, Mo Bibby, Cumbria Police and the land agent for the Melmerby village green landowner be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting in March. All those present were in favour.

2024/109 **Clerks Forum Update** – **RESOLVED** that a working party (consisting of all Parish Councillors) be established to consider issues raised at the recent clerk's forum. All those present were in favour.

2024/110 **Finance** – **RESOLVED** that the finance report to approved. The motion was proposed by Cllr Bardsley and seconded by Cllr Burford. All those present were in favour.

2024/111 **Highways** – **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bardsley will look at the running water and drainage issue on the Alston Road near the Gamblesby junction and it will be reported to Highways.

2024/112 **Progress List** – **RESOLVED** that the updates be noted.

2024/113 **Correspondence Register** – **RESOLVED** that the register be noted.

2024/114 **Date and time of next meeting** – The next meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 7.30 p.m. at Melmerby Village Hall. This meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and will be followed by an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting. It was also **RESOLVED** that an additional meeting would be held every year in April to comply with audit timescales.

The meeting closed at 8.44 p.m.