

# MELMERBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Melmerby Parish Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at Melmerby Village Hall.

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

Three members of the public were present.

2025/025 **Apologies for absence – RESOLVED** that apologies were received from Cllr Chris Jones.

2025/026 **Declarations of Interest – RESOLVED** that there were no declarations of interest.

2025/027 **Minutes – RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Ordinary Parish Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 were signed as a correct record.

2025/028 **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.

2025/029 **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. No public participation items were raised.

2025/030 **Westmorland and Furness Council report – RESOLVED** that there was no update as members of Westmorland and Furness Council were not present.

2025/031 **Horse Fair – RESOLVED** that comments and observations regarding the Horse Fair to forwarded to Westmorland and Furness Council and to Cumbria Police.

It was noted that there was better engagement from the authorities with the public this year and the operation of the Fair was smoother. The toilet and chemical disposal equipment was better placed. However, there were still issues of vehicles encroaching on the A686, overcrowding at the Townfoot (Western) end of the village and incidents of horse flashing (fast trotting) along the A686. It was queried whether the horse trotting was permissible on a public highway.

2025/032 **Playground Project – RESOLVED** that the update be noted and the preferred supplier, Playdale, be approved. It was also agreed that the planning application be submitted to Westmorland and Furness Council. This submission was proposed by Cllr Gary Fletcher and seconded by Cllr Dougie Bell. All those present were in favour.

It was reported that £4,500 has been raised so far through fundraising for the playground project. The next events are the raffle and Melmerby Parkrun on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

2025/033 **Police Report – RESOLVED** that the report be noted. This month Cumbria Police asked the Parish Council to note that there have been incidents of sheep on the Hartside Road which has made driving conditions hazardous.

2025/034 **Highways – RESOLVED** that there were no highways incidents to report.

2025/035 **Finance – RESOLVED** that the finance report be accepted. The payments were proposed by Cllr Dougie Bell and seconded by Cllr Bill Burford.

2025/036 **Correspondence – RESOLVED** that the correspondence register be noted. There had been two items of correspondence regarding the horse fair. In addition, a letter regarding grass cutting near one of the benches on the village greenhead been received (unfortunately there were no contact details included to enable a reply).

2025/037 – **Date and time of the next meeting** - The next meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 7.30 p.m. at Melmerby Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.03 p.m.

DRAFT