

# BROMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Committee Room, Blencogo Village Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. J. Clark, A. Cozens, R. Davison (Vice Chair), S. Lunken, W. Miller and M. Underwood.

Also Present: J. Rae (Clerk)

Cllr R. Davison in the Chair

## **805/24 Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. J. Lee. The reason for absence was noted and accepted.

## **806/24 Chairman's announcements**

Cllr. G. Fellows had tendered her resignation.

## **807/24 Declarations of interest**

Cllr. A. Cozens declared an interest in matters relating to Blencogo Village Hall.

## **808/24 Requests for dispensations**

None.

## **809/24 Minutes - Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2025**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 be signed by the Chair as a correct record subject to an amendment that a member of the public had raised at the beginning of the meeting that there was an issue with the website.

## **810/24 Public Participation**

No members of the public were in attendance.

## **811/24 Reports from Outside Bodies**

Cumberland Council - Cllr K. Thurlow was not in attendance

Village Hall Committee – A written update had been provided by the Village Hall Committee: “General Update: The Hall continues to be busy with some successful events having been hosted. Most recently was the Harry Douglas Memorial Quiz which was well attended and raised over £520. Our Pub night is being held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. April sees us hosting a murder mystery night and May will see us celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day with a BBQ and traditional games. Fundraising update: As of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 we have secured over £33,000 towards the purchase of the Village Hall (a combination of grant funding, local fundraising and community pledges). This is approximately one third of the £106k needed. Work continues to secure other grant funding now that the Community Ownership Fund has closed. We are working with ACT (Cumbria's Rural & Community Development Charity) as well as Cumbria CVS. We also had a meeting with the local MP Marcus Campbell-Savours which was very positive. Village Hall lease: The original 25 year lease expired on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025. We are in the process of signing a new 125-year lease with similar conditions to the old one (i.e. full repairing) but the annual cost is increasing from approx. £1500 pa to £5,500. The reason for the rise is that the original lease was granted at approximately 30% of the market value at the time as a gesture of goodwill from the Diocese. The Diocese is not prepared to continue on this basis. The lease has the normal break clauses but also one to allow an immediate break when the funding is in place to purchase the Hall. Village Hall. Usage: Use of the hall remains strong with a variety of groups using the hall on a regular basis. We hope to secure another couple of regular users including Baby sensory classes in the coming weeks which will help towards these additional costs (but will not cover them)”.

### **812/24 Financial Statement**

The financial statement as at 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 had been circulated with the agenda and was noted by members. Balance 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Cumberland Building Society £6,615.42

### **813/24 Payments and Receipts**

(a) Income Received: None

(b) The following accounts were authorised for payment:

Clerk's account Quarter 4	£440.87
HMRC PAYE Quarter 4	£110.20
Clerk's expenses Quarters 3 and 4	£ 37.00

Donation granted to:

Blencogo Village Hall Committee Produce Show	£192.50
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(c) Appointment of Internal Auditor – RESOLVED to appoint Mr. T. Gear to carry out the internal audit of the accounts for financial year 2024-25.

### **814/24 Planning Matters**

(a) Applications Received:

HOU/2025/0029 - Threeways, Langrigg to Scotraby Brow, Langrigg, CA7 3LL

Proposal: Driveway to front of property, proposing to drop the kerb - No Objections

FUL/2025/0021 - Home Farm, Langrigg, Wigton, CA7 3LN

Proposal: Roof Over Existing Farmyard Midden Area (Retrospective) - No Objections

FUL/2025/0031 - Langfauld Farm, Langrigg, Wigton, CA7 3LL

Proposal: New covered farmyard area and demolition of existing derelict stone building  
No Objections

(b) Decisions: None

### **815/24 Correspondence**

The following correspondence received was noted:

Connecting Cumbria Newsletter

CALC News

CALC - New Flood Warning Service Testing

CALC - Royal Garden Parties 2025

CALC - Moving over to a .gov.uk domain: New guidance on GOV.UK now live – Cllr Cozens agreed to enquire about setting up councillor email addresses.

CALC – Scam Leaflet

CALC - Planning Policy Event - Tuesday 18th February

Cumberland Council Newsletters

CALC – Devolution Update

Cumberland Council – Waste Matters

### **816/24 Highway Matters**

Cllr Lunken reported that the blocked drains at Langrigg had been reported on HIAMS.

Highways had cleared the drains on the Blencogo to Bromfield road.

The broken drain near Oak Tree Cottage, Langrigg is still outstanding.

### **817/24 Items for Discussion:**

- Footpaths – Members discussed inspecting the footpaths in the Parish. It was agreed that the Clerk would request a maintenance schedule from Cumberland Council.

- Dog Fouling – It was noted that incidents of dog fouling are still occurring. It was agreed to ask Cllr Thurlow if there is any further action Cumberland Council can take. It was suggested that some additional posters should be displayed on the Parish noticeboards. Cumberland Councils campaign to crack down on littering, with the launch of ‘Don't be a TO55 3R – take your litter home!’ was noted by Members.
- Storm Damage to Bus Shelter – Members noted that damage had been caused to the Wheyrigg bus shelter during Storm Éowyn. Cllr Underwood had obtained a quotation for the repair work. Resolved to accept the quotation for £180.00. Cllr Underwood advised that the bus shelter at Wheyrigg had been cleaned and Cllrs Underwood and Cozens would attend to the overgrown ivy on the shelter on the A596.
- Village Hall Funding Request – Produce Show – Members considered the request to support the annual produce show in September by providing a donation to cover the cost of the prizes. Following a discussion members resolved to grant £192.50.
- Village Hall – Members considered the requests from the Village Hall Committee to increase the annual grant for the next two years to £3500 and to consider making a pledge of £3000-£5000 towards the purchase of the Hall when all necessary funding is in place. Members resolved to increase the annual grant to £3500 for the next two years. It was agreed in principle to support the request to pledge an amount of between £3000 - £5000. The exact amount would be flexible and would be confirmed once the Committee has the other funding in place.
- Website – It was raised at the last meeting that there was an issue with the website. It was noted that the issue has now been resolved.
- Vacancies – Members noted that Cllr G. Fellows had resigned from the Parish Council. The Returning Officer would be notified and the vacancy advertised. There are now four vacancies to be filled.

#### **818/24 Items for the Next Agenda**

Defibrillators – Following Cllr Fellows resignation Cllr J. Clark agreed to do the reporting. It was noted that the defib at Langrigg is not registered with the Ambulance Service.

#### **819/24 Date and time of Meetings for the next Council Year**

##### **Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 29 May 2025**

Bi monthly Meetings 31 July, 25 September, 27 November 2025 and 29 January and 26 March 2026 - 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Village Hall, Blencogo

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30 pm