

BROMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in Blencogo Village Hall on Thursday 29 May 2025 at 7.35pm following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present: Cllrs. J. Clark, J. Lee, S. Lunken, W. Miller and M. Underwood.

Also Present: J. Rae (Clerk)

820/25 Election of Chair

There were no nominations for the election of Chair for Council year 2025-26. Cllr. Underwood agreed to Chair tonight's meeting.

821/25 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

As no Chair was elected for the ensuing year no acceptance of office was signed.

822/23 Appointments to Outside Bodies

None

823/25 Chairman's announcements

None

824/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A. Cozens and R. Davison. The reasons for absence were noted and accepted.

825/25 Declarations of interest

None.

826/25 Requests for dispensations

None.

827/25 Minutes - Meeting 27 March 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2025 were a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

828/25 Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

829/25 Reports from Outside Bodies

Cumberland Council - Cllr K. Thurlow was not in attendance

Village Hall Committee – A written update had been provided:

"Chairman's report to the parish Council.

Firstly the committee would like to express their thanks for the increased grant and the support for the produce show in September. This will help to secure the short term future of the hall and ensure the survival of our traditional village show.

Our first ever Murder Mystery night was a great success with glowing reviews from those who attended. The hall was packed and discussions are already underway to bring this back next year. It raised just under £500 for the hall.

This month saw us host the VE day celebrations. Turnout was a little disappointing to be honest as a lot of effort went into the event. Overall, it made just under £300 for the hall but it was very disappointing to see the lack of community spirit within the parish.

On the plus side one of the attendees offered to donate two large marquees to the hall for future events.

By the time you read this we will have also had our outdoor maintenance day where we are going to get a lot of the external woodwork cleaned and re-painted.

Next event is the Strawberry tea in June and then another new event in July our end of school silent Disco battle of the generations!

Gary Bickley, Chairman, Blencogo & District Village Hall Committee”

830/25 Financial Statement

The financial statement as at 31 March 2025 had been circulated with the agenda and was noted by members. Balance 31 March 2025 - Cumberland Building Society £5,834.85. The Chair and Responsible Financial Officer were authorised to sign the accounts book for the year ending 31 March 2025.

831/25 Payments and Receipts

(a) Income Received: Cumberland Council – Precept £6,500.00
Balance 30 April 2025 £12,527.35.

(b) The following accounts were authorised for payment:

Thomson Roofing – Repairs to Bus Shelter	£180.00
CALC Annual Subscription	£227.53
Internal Auditor	£ 60.00
Clerk’s account Quarter 1 2025-26	£440.87
HMRC PAYE Quarter 1 2025-26	£110.20
G. Fellows – Refund Defib battery	£ 55.60

Donations granted:

St Mungo’s Church £800.00

Wigton Baths Trust £100.00

832/25 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were reviewed with no amendments made.

833/25 Audit Financial Year 2024-25

- (a) Internal Audit Report - The internal audit had been carried out with no issues raised.
- (b) Annual Governance Statement – The Annual Governance Statement was considered. Members agreed that arrangements are in place for effective financial management and the accounting statements are prepared in accordance with Accounts and Audit Regulations. RESOLVED that the Chair and Clerk be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement.
- (c) Accounting Statement 2024/25 – Members agreed that the Accounting Statement represents the financial position of the parish council. RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the annual return.
- (d) Certificate of Exemption - Members resolved that the Certificate of Exemption be signed by the Chair and Clerk certifying that the Parish Council is exempt from a limited assurance review and during the financial year 2024/25 the gross income for the year or gross annual expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000.
- (e) Period of Exercise of Public Rights – Members noted that the period for the exercise of public rights will commence on 3 June and will end on 14 July. A notice will be displayed on the parish notice board notifying electors of their rights to inspect the accounts.
- (f) Publication on website – The requisite documents will be uploaded to the parish council’s website.

834/25 Planning Matters

- (a) Applications Received:
HOU/2025/0081 - Bramblewood, Crookdake, Aspatria, Wigton, CA7 3SH
Proposal: To erect a block-built chicken/potting shed.

(b) Decisions:

FUL/2025/0030 - Langfauld Farm, Langrigg, Wigton, CA7 3LL

New roofed machinery passageway GRANTED

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

Roof Over Existing Farmyard Midden Area (Retrospective) GRANTED

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

New covered farmyard area and demolition of existing derelict
stone building GRANTED

835/25 Correspondence

The following correspondence received was noted:

CALC News January and February

CALC - Town and Parish Council Devolution Briefing April 2nd

Hyperfast GB Newsletter - Spring 2025

Cumberland Council Newsletters

CALC - Building Safe and Strong Communities, Principles of collaboration between Town and Parish
Councils, Cumbria Association of Local Councils and Cumberland Council

Cumberland Council Housing Strategy - Formal Stakeholder Consultation

Cumberland Council - Update: Update on waste and recycling changes

CALC - Litter Champions Event

PSPO and Dog Fouling Event -1 May 2025

Dementia Action Week 19 – 23 May 2025

CALC News March and April

Fells & Solway Network Event Wigton 28 May

836/25 Highway Matters

Response received from Highways - Enquiry reference: EI/178057 - Date Submitted: 09-
December-2023

Our team has inspected the reported drain at Langrigg Bank on a number of occasions and
found that a private septic tank is discharging into the Highways gully. A project brief to
remove the gully from the private line has now been submitted to the Highways Board for
approval. We do not have a timescale for this, however once approval has been granted we
will arrange for the works to be undertaken as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience
whilst we work to resolve this matter.

Road surface deteriorating near Home Farm and Langrigg House.

837/25 Items for Discussion:

■ **Defibrillators**

Cllr J. Clark reported that the defib in Langrigg had been checked and is fully
operational. Replacement pads had been purchased for the defib at Langrigg and a
replacement battery had been purchased for the defib at Bromfield.

■ **Footpaths**

Cumberland Council had confirmed that the Parish will be surveyed as part of the survey
and maintenance cycle this year. Post the survey a works instruction will be issued to
their contractors highlighting any works that are required.

■ **Donation Request – St Mungo’s Church**

RESOLVED to support the request received from St. Mungo’s Church and grant £800
towards the maintenance of the churchyard.

■ **Notice Board, Bromfield**

A report had been received that the noticeboard at Bromfield is rotten and in need of
repair or replacement. It was noted that the noticeboard in Langrigg also requires

repair. It was agreed to order 2 aluminum wall mounted noticeboards of a similar size to the existing boards. Cllr W Miller agreed to order the replacements.

■ **Bus Shelter**

It was noted that an advertising sign had been erected on the bus shelter on the B5302. It was agreed to contact Wheyrigg Hall Hotel to advise that the Parish Council's consent is required to erect advertising signs on the shelter.

■ **Use of .gov emails/website**

Cllr A. Cozens had contacted the website administrator regarding the use of councillor emails. It was noted there would be a cost incurred in having a .gov email. It was agreed that as it is not mandatory at the moment to have a .gov email or .gov website each councillor should set up a separate email account for council business rather than using a personal account using the following format: cllrname.bromfieldpc@gmail.com.

■ **Dog Fouling**

Incidents of dog fouling are still occurring in the Parish. CALC had arranged a PSPO and Dog Fouling Teams Meeting on Thursday 1 May. The main speaker was Paul Shearsby, Interim Manager Education and Enforcement, Cumberland Council. Cllr Lunken reported that he had spoken to Paul Shearsby subsequent to the meeting who advised there is no data recorded of dog fouling incidents in the Langrigg to Bromfield area. It was noted that for Cumberland Council to be able to take further action residents should submit complaints to Cumberland Council of every incident.

■ **Donation Request – Wigton Baths Trust**

Members considered the request for financial assistance received from Wigton Baths Trust. RESOLVED to support the request and grant £100.00.

■ **Resignation – Cllr G. Fellows**

Cllr. G. Fellows had resigned from the Parish Council. The Returning Officer at Cumberland Council will be notified and the vacancy will be advertised in the Parish.

■ **FOI Request**

The Clerk reported that a freedom of information request had been received. The Clerk had responded and forwarded the information requested.

838/25 Items for the Next Agenda

Items for the next agenda to be with the Clerk by 20 July 2025

839/25 Date and time of next meeting

Bi monthly Meeting 31 July 2025 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Village Hall, Blencogo

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35 pm