STANWIX RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, 13th May 2026 at 7.30pm in Houghton Village Hall

PRESENT
The Chairman, Cllr C Nicholson, Cllrs A Robinson, C Savory, E Leitch and N Watson

IN ATTENDANCE
The Clerk, S Kyle.

SR 673/05/26 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
Resolved to elect Cllr C Nicholson as Chairman for the Council year 2026/27. Cllr Nicholson signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

SR 674/05/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Bell, B Bell, P Nedved and J Mallinson.

SR 675/05/26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2026
Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a true and accurate record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council.

SR 676/05/26 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
No requests for dispensations were received. No declarations of interest were made with the exception of the long-standing interest from Cllr Robinson in respect of appn 25/0655.

SR 677/05/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
677.1 Members of the Public
No members of the public were present.

Cllr Robinson raised ongoing concerns regarding planning application 25/0655, noting that objection submissions closed on 11th May and that there are complex drainage issues.

677.2 Cumberland Councillors
No Cumberland Councillors were present.

SR 678/05/26 PLANNING MATTERS
678.1 Resolved to receive planning consent decisions:

26/0032 The Old Cottage, Linstock, Carlisle, CA6 4QD Proposed Replacement Of Existing Thatched Roof With Natural Slate Including 2no. Roof Lights To Front Elevation

21/1143 Land adjacent to Meadow Cottage, Tarraby, Carlisle, CA3 0JS Erection Of 4no. Dwellings And Associated Works

26/0023 8 Beech Grove, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0NU - Variation Of Condition 2 (Approved Documents) Of Previously Approved Permission 24/0543 (Erection Of Single Storey Side And Rear Extension To Provide Additional Living Accommodation; Erection Of Front And Rear Dormers To Roof To Provide 1no. Additional Bedroom At First Floor Level) To Change Dormer Roofs From Pitch To Flat

678.2 Resolved to note withdrawn applications

26/0004 HDG Land to the south of Holme View, Linstock, Carlisle, CA6 4PZ Removal Of Hedge

It was noted that the applicant has withdrawn the application as the hedge was not classified as historic and therefore enforcement was not available on this occasion.

678.3 Resolved to consider applications received:

26/0219 Land adjacent Glenroy, Houghton, Carlisle, CA6 4JF Erection Of 1no. Dwelling (Outline)

Resolved to recommend determination in accordance with local and national planning policy and guidance. The absence of detailed plans was noted; concerns were expressed regarding sight lines from the existing access, especially to the south.

26/0172 44 Jackson Road, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0NX Erection Of Two Storey Side Extension To Provide Lounge & Store/Gym On Ground Floor With En-Suite Bedroom Above Together With Porch To Front Elevation; Replacement Of Rear Low Level Flat Roof With New Pitched Roof

Resolved to recommend determination in accordance with local and national planning policy and guidance.

25/0282 Shortdale Farm, Tarraby, Carlisle, CA3 0JT Demolition Of Existing Outhouses And Sheds To Existing Farmhouse Courtyard; Erection Of Two Storey Side Extension To Farmhouse To Provide Living/Dining/Family Room At Ground Floor With 1no. En Suite Bedroom Above; Installation Of Air Source Heat Pump And Associated Solar Panels To Farmhouse; Erection Of Detached Stable Block And Formation Of Horse Arena With Associated Flood Lights; (Part Retrospective)

Resolved to suggest conditioning that the horse arena be for private use only and to prohibit amplified music/speech as well as to object to the proposed floodlighting.

25/0655 Land to the east of Lansdowne Close/Lansdowne Court, Carlisle Erection Of 91no. Dwellings With Associated Parking, Landscaping, Drainage And Surface Water Attenuation, Public Open Space And Access (Revised Application)

The Chairman provided an update was provided for members, noting a large number of objections with no support. Additional documents continued to be received. No swept path analysis is available and Development Control Committee in July was being aimed for.

Cllr Robinson did not participate in this item.

678.5 To consider other planning matters

25/0521 Land at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton Road, Houghton, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 0LG Residential Development With Associated Open Space, Infrastructure, Landscaping And Ancillary Works Including Temporary Construction Access, Haul Roads & Sales Cabin

Members were informed that the application had been approved during a large debate at the Development Control Committee on flooding on Houghton Road. Subsequently, a complaint was submitted arguing that the Parish Council had suffered unfair treatment at the meeting, when the agent was allowed to speak during members' deliberations, yet the Parish Council was denied an equal opportunity to respond. Members will be kept informed of future responses from the Cumberland Council.

26/0047 Eden Lodge Retreat, Eden Golf Club, Crosby on Eden, Carlisle, CA6 4RA - Removal Of Condition 3 (No Chalet, Caravan Or Other Unit Of Tourism Accommodation As Described In The Planning Permission Shall Be Occupied Other Than By Bona Fide Holidaymakers, Shall Not Be Occupied For More Than 28 Successive Days By Any Individual Or Group, And Any Such Individual Or Group Shall Not Occupy The Chalet, Caravan Or Unit As Otherwise Specified For More Than 13 Weeks In Any Calendar Year) Of Previously Approved Permission 24/0085 (Change Of Use Of Part Of Golf Course To Allow For Stationing Of Up To 100 Caravans)

A letter has been sent to Cumberland Council following the approval of the above with no supporting evidence for a change in condition. A response was received that refutes the parish council's concerns. It was agreed to write again with concerns about the occupancy conditions. A draft of the proposed letter had been previously circulated to members. It was also resolved that a follow-up letter could be sent in twelve months requesting a list of visits and checks made by Cumberland Council to confirm the applicant is complying with the conditions.

SR 679/05/26 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk noted that there had been no progress with the: police letter, bench installation, or speeding in Crosby however the tree removal at Linstock had been completed.

SR 680/05/26 VILLAGE MATTERS

680.1 Report from Police and Parish Council Meeting

Cllr Savory reported that he attended an online meeting of the above on 29th April and gave a brief verbal report, confirming he raised concerns from the parish about Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) usage, parking on Houghton Road North, parking at Houghton school, and HGV parking in Houghton.

680.2 Houghton Drainage Adjacent to the Village Hall

Cllr Nicholson reported that Vodafone has accepted liability for the damaged drainage works, with rectification work expected over the coming weeks.

SR 681/05/26 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

681.1 Appointment of Vice Chairman To appoint a Vice-Chairman for the Council year 2026/27

Resolved to appoint Cllr Savory to the role of Vice Chairman for the Council year 2026/27.

681.2 Programme of Meetings

Resolved to agree the meeting schedule and dates as circulated with the June meeting date to be amended under item 686/05. All dates remain provisional until the agenda is published.

681.3 Review of Policies and Procedures

Resolved to consider the review undertaken by the clerk of the Council's Standing Orders; Financial Regulations, complaints procedure; procedures and practices in respect of freedom of information, General Data Protection Regulations; and policy for dealing with the press/media, with no amendments suggested. It was also noted that the recently adopted IT policy, accessibility statement and vexatious policy were also reviewed with no amendments suggested.

681.4 Cumberland Ward Boundary Review - Final Recommendations

Resolved to consider the above review. Cllr Nicholson outlined the proposed arrangements for 2027 of the new and updated borders with some minimal implications for the parish warding.

681.5 Summer Rural Play Scheme

Resolved to receive an update on the summer rural play scheme, noting that four dates were to be held at Houghton with two at Crosby. Bookings can be made online via the GLL website.

682/05/26 Highways matters.

682.1 Autospeedwatch update

Cllr Savory provided a report regarding the newly installed Autospeedwatch camera and signage. The unit became operational on 22nd April during daylight hours and records vehicle registrations on Houghton Road from north to south. Over 200 vehicles registered at or over 35mph on some days. Some issues over photo quality were noted however it was agreed that the system is beneficial.

SR 683/05/26 FINANCE MATTERS

683.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise payment of the accounts listed in document SR0526.

683.2 Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to note the bank reconciliation as noted in document SR0526.

683.3 Receipts

Resolved to note receipts from precept for 2026/27 and a VAT return from HMRC.

683.4 Banking arrangements
Resolved to reconfirm approval for the Clerk to authorise Internet banking payments and also to confirm approval for the direct debit for ICO and pension payments to continue.

SR 684/05/26 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26
684.1 Internal Auditors Report
Resolved to accept the end-of-year internal auditors report.

684.2 Annual Governance Statement
Resolved to approve the attached Annual Governance Statement and authorise the Clerk and Chairman to sign the annual return.

684.3 Accounting statements
Resolved to approve the attached Accounting Statements for the previous financial year and authorise the Chairman to sign the annual return.

SR 685/05/26 COUNCILLOR MATTERS
Cllr Nicholson reported the presence of two traditional caravans on Linstock village green and incidents of fly-tipping.

SR 686/05/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday 24th June 2026, at Linstock WI Hall at 7.30pm. Agenda items must be submitted to the Clerk by 15th June 2026. Please note the later-than-normal date.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.22pm.