

MORLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Morland Parish Council held on Monday 10th March 2025 at 7.30pm at Morland Village Hall.

Present: Parish Councillors: Dan Fitton, Peter Taylor, Steve Wilson (Chair), Lesley Robson, Gillian Garratt, Phil Hancock
Officers: Lisa Beken, Parish Clerk

Westmorland and Furness Councillor Neil McCall was also present.
No members of the Public were present.

- 03/25/1** **Apologies for absence: RESOLVED** that the following absences were noted;
a) Councillor Vines, due to personal commitment.
- 03/25/2** **Declarations of Interest: RESOLVED** that the following interests were declared;
a) Councillor Fitton with regards to agenda items 7 and 12a (minutes numbers 03/25/7 and 03/25/12a).
b) Councillor Garratt with regards to agenda item 12b (minute number 03/25/12b).
- 03/25/3** **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13th January 2025 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair.
- 03/25/4** **Public Participation: RESOLVED** that Councillor McCall confirmed that Westmorland and Furness Council had agreed in October 2024 to discontinue provision of sandbags to local communities. An option was available for gel bags, and the Parish Council agreed to request some for a trial. Councillor McCall further confirmed that Westmorland and Furness Council had agreed to a Council Tax rise of 4.99%, and had achieved a balanced budget through the raising of Council Tax on second and empty homes.
- 03/25/5** **Progress Reports: RESOLVED** that the following updates were received;
a) **Neighbourhood Development Plan** – the plan is progressing, with final details to be agreed for submission.
b) **Emergency Plan** - work is progressing on a draft plan. There is also potential funding available for flood risk areas.
c) **20mph application** – Clerk is awaiting further response from Westmorland and Furness Council.
- 03/25/6** **Tree survey: RESOLVED** to resurvey Ash trees in 18 months, and all other trees in 3 years. Further **RESOLVED** to consider any required work at the May meeting.
- 03/25/7** **Sluice Gate: RESOLVED** that the Clerk would apply for grant funding with one quote, as specialist work.
- 03/25/8** **Risk Assessment: RESOLVED** that areas to be covered by individual assessments were agreed. Clerk to circulate draft overall risk Assessment for approval at May meeting.
- 03/25/9** **Annual Parish Meeting: RESOLVED** to hold the meeting prior to the Annual Parish Council meeting on 12th May 2025 at 7.15pm.
- 03/25/10** **Cumbria Police: RESOLVED** the Council agreed to participate in online meetings for updates from Cumbria Constabulary.
- 03/25/11** **Planning matters: RESOLVED** that there were no current applications in the Parish, and no decisions made since the last meeting of the Parish Council. There were no further updates on the application at Tanglewood at this time.
- 03/25/12** **Highways and Maintenance: RESOLVED** that the following was discussed;
a) **White bridge on Ford.** Councillor Fitton to price up materials and organise painting of bridge.

- b) **Allotments.** The problem with flooding is caused by a tree in the Beck. Councillors Wilson, Fitton and Taylor to organise remedial works to correct issues with flooding.
- c) **Highways.** Concerns were raised over road closures for work by Fibrus. Councillors made a direct complaint to Westmorland and Furness Councillor Neil McCall regarding inappropriate and unsafe traffic diversions.
- d) The Clerk was requested to report the deteriorating condition of the road past the Church.

03/25/13 **Financial matters: RESOLVED** to approve payments as listed in the payment schedule.

03/25/14 **Council matters: RESOLVED** that Councillors were informed of current consultations on warding arrangements for Westmorland and Furness Council, and a consultation on creating a Mayoral Authority for Cumbria.

03/25/15 **Date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting: Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.30pm, at Morland Village Hall.**

Meeting closed: 8:45pm