

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th May 2026
at 7.30pm *(to be approved at the Parish Council meeting to be held 8th July 2026)*

Present: Cllr B Holmes (Chair), Cllr B Tanham (Vice Chair), Cllr A Heffernan, Cllr J Nunn

Also Present: Clerk C Davidson, District Cllr D Rathbone, 3 members of the public

115/26 **Election of Chair**

Cllr Tanham nominated Cllr Holmes, seconded by Cllr Nunn and unanimously agreed.

116/26 **Election of Vice-Chair**

Cllr Nunn nominated Cllr Tanham, seconded by Cllr Heffernan and unanimously agreed.

117/26 **Apologies**

Cllr Hall's apologies for absence were accepted and reason noted.

118/26 **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th March 2026 were approved and signed by Chairman.

119/26 **Declaration of Interest and Applications for Dispensation**

Cllr B Tanham declared an interest in Agenda item 12 Canal as owner of part of towpath. Cllr Tanham can take part in discussion but not vote.

120/26 **Public Participation**

3 members of the public attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding ongoing anti-social behaviour within the village, including reports of damage and distress affecting residents.

The resident requested that the Parish Council consider maintaining an incident log to record reported incidents and patterns of behaviour. It was further suggested that the Parish Council maintain communication with the police regarding ongoing concerns and request that Westmorland & Furness Council support the Parish Council and residents' concerns. The possibility of installing CCTV was also suggested.

The Chair reported to the meeting that Councillors met with the Police at the Millenium field that morning and witness statements were being compiled regarding the latest issues. Other suggestions would also be considered.

The Chair thanked the residents for attending and advised that the concerns raised would be noted accordingly.

122/26 Reports

- a) Westmorland and Furness Cllr Rathbone was in attendance and agreed to help where possible with concerns raised earlier.

123/26 Officers Roles and Responsibilities

Office roles and responsibilities were agreed and will be published on the website in due course.

124/26 Planning

2026/0862/HOU Passing Winds, Sedgwick, LA8 0JU

Members considered the application and raised concerns that the scale and extent of the proposed extensions and enlarged terrace would be overbearing and out of keeping with the character of the area. Concerns were also raised regarding overlooking and loss of privacy affecting the adjacent playground.

Resolved: That Sedgwick Parish Council objects to the application on grounds of overbearing impact, overlooking, loss of amenity and being out of keeping with the area

125/26 Highways/Footpaths

- a) Hincaster road had been resurfaced
- b) Markings on the pavements now, so path repairs must be imminent
- c) Still issues with state of road from Castle View to Crosscrake/Stainton
- d) Kissing Gate still to be replaced – CD to contact Mike Tattersall of W & F

126/26 Playground/Millennium Field

- a) The new slides have finally been installed and look great.
- b) Unfortunately due to the recent vandalism the park has had to stay closed. It was agreed to instruct Cumbria Landscaping to remove the remains and make safe to allow the park to be opened again.
- c) A date for the maintenance day was agreed for July 18th/19th
- d) Clerk to get a price for 5 x bulk bags of chippings
- e) Clerk to research alternative inspectors and costs for playground inspection which needs to be done in August.

127/26 Canal

- a) Cllr Holmes presented the monthly report. Clerk to contact the owner of the wall that requires repair.
- b) An updated handrail has been sent from W & F Council requesting partnership contribution to install a handrail at the Aqueduct Steps. Following discussion it was agreed that at this time the Parish Council are unable to financially support this handrail. This is partly due to liability issues, but mainly due to financial constraints.

128/26 Safeguarding Report

Nothing to report

129/26 Review and Adoption of Governance Documents

The following documents were reviewed and adopted:

- a) Standing Orders
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Code of Conduct
- d) Asset Register
- e) Risk Management and Internal Controls
- f) Publication Policy
- g) IT & Digital Policy
- h) Data Protection
- i) Complaints Policy
- j) Retention of Documents

130/26 Review of Banking and Signatories

It was agreed that the bank accounts would be moved from Nat West to Unity Trust Online. Forms have been completed.

131/26 Annual Governance and Accountability

The following documents were presented and signed:

- a) Review Internal Audit
- b) Approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement
- c) Approve Section 2 Accounting Statement
- d) Confirm eligibility for exemption from External Audit and sign certificate.
- e) Agree dates for Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited AGAR – 3rd June to 14th July 2026

132/26 Finance

- a) Note the bank balances Current Account: £7971.51

Reserve Account: £22749.51

The reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr B Tanham

- b) The following payments were authorised:

Parish Clerk Salary Mar/April	£415.10
Parish Clerk Expenses March/Apr	£65.55
CALC Membership	£195.56
Village Hall	£48.00
Clear Council Insurance	£589.17
Cumbria Landscaping	£120.00
D & C Atkinson Grass Cutting	£59.80
Boyan Holmes APM refreshments	£30.97
Freshair Fitness (BH)	£70.78
Mitchinsons Accountants	£288
Treble 3 (3 Cllr emails)	£79.20 (replacement cheque)
Boyan Holmes	£7.99
M Richardson (Audit)	£100

134/26 **Newsletter**

Cllr Holmes will make a start on this very soon.

135/26 **Correspondence**

All correspondence received and circulated to Councillors, no further action required.

136/26 **Outstanding items**

Casual Vacancy – keep advertising.

137/26 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 7.30pm

Signed:.....**Date:** 8th July 2026