SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9th September 2026 7.30pm *(to be approved at the Parish Council meeting to be held 11th November 2026)*

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

Also Present: Clerk C Davidson, District Councillor Janet Battye

153/26 **Apologies**
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Boyan Holmes

154/26 **Approval of Minutes**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th July 2026 were approved and signed by Chairman.

155/26 **Declaration of Interest and Applications for Dispensation**
Cllr B Tanham declared an interest in Agenda item 9 Canal as owner of part of towpath. Cllr Tanham can take part in discussion but not vote.

156/26 **Public Participation**
District Councillor Janet Battye attended the meeting and introduced herself. She explained that, following the ward boundary changes coming into effect at the May elections, she would become the District Councillor for Sedgwick if re-elected.

157/26 **Reports from District Councillors**

The District Councillor provided an update on recent changes to national planning regulations. From mid-August, most small-scale applications will no longer be considered by the Westmorland & Furness Planning Committee and will instead be determined by planning officers. Parish and public comments will still be accepted through the planning portal, but decisions will be more tightly based on planning legislation, the Local Plan and Design Code. Parishes may therefore need to frame future responses more specifically around material planning considerations and within statutory timeframes.

An update was also given on the Story Homes application, with a strong recommendation submitted that construction traffic should access the site only from the new A65 entrance due to safety concerns for Sedgwick and Natland.

Councillors were reminded that applications for September 2027 school places are now open, with secondary applications closing on 30 October and junior applications closing on 15 January.

158/26 **Casual Vacancy**

Mr Liam Dobson attended the meeting and introduced himself to the Parish Council. Councillors proposed his co-option, and this was unanimously agreed. Mr Dobson then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

159/26 **Planning**

a) 2026/0862/HOU Passing Winds, Sedgwick, LA8 0JU – is due to go to Planning Committee on the 10th September. Planning was likely to be granted with conditions.

160/26 **Highways/Footpaths**

No official updates from W & F – The Clerk has asked if/when the road from Sedgwick to the A65 at Crosscrake is likely to be resurfaced as it is in a bad condition. No response as yet.

161/26 **Playground/Millenium Field**

a) The ROSPA safety inspection report was circulated. Cllr Nunn will go and inspect the issues raised along with Cumbria Landscaping and rectify any issues where necessary.
b) Insurance claim has been settled. Clerk to instruct Playdale to go ahead with replacement slide.
c) The CCTV installation is ongoing. The wayleave has been signed by neighbours, the lamppost has been delivered. Cllr Heffernan will arrange to dig the channel and install the post. First the pipes for the water supply to the field need to be located so as not to cause any issues.
d) The Working Party in July went very well and the majority of tasks were completed.

162/26 **Canal**

a) The Canal report was circulated by Cllr Holmes prior to the meeting and also read out by the Clerk at the meeting.
b) The meeting on the 20th August with the Canal Trust went well. Cllr Heffernan to update Cllr Holmes on her return. A site meeting has been arranged for the 30th September at 12 noon.

163/26 **Safeguarding Report**

Nothing to report

164/26 **Finance**

a) The Deposit account is still Nat West and a closure form has been signed and sent to Nat West to transfer the money to Unity Trust.

b) Cllrs noted the annual National Pay Scale increase and agreed the backdated increase of 3.3%.

c) Note the bank balances Current Account: £19,967.76
Reserve Account: £22,749.51

d) Note the receipt of the Insurance claim and the following payments were authorised:

Parish Clerk Salary May/June	£513.76
Parish Clerk Expenses March/Apr	£101.89
Microsoft Subscription	£84.99
HMRC PAYE	£128.44
Cumbria Landscaping	£240.00
D & C Atkinson	£206.00
James Park	£700.00
Printing Plus	£102.00

e) It was agreed to set up a monthly standing order for the Clerk's salary and HMRC PAYE, in accordance with the Financial Regulations for monthly salary payments, once the Unity Trust Bank account has been opened.

165/26 **Newsletter**

Next newsletter due November time.

166/26 **Correspondence**

Correspondence received and circulated to Councillors. This included:
CALC/NALC news
Westmorland and Furness Council updates
Planning Scheme Delegation webinair 17.9.26

167/26 **Outstanding items**

Item	To be actioned	Update
Insurance Claim	Clerk/Chair	Insurance settled and slide ordered

Anti Social Behaviour	All	Encourage people to log any incidents with police
Wall Gap – canal	Clerk	Waiting response from landowner
CCTV Installation	Clerk	Ongoing

168/26 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm

Signed:……Date: 11th November 2026