



Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 03 August 2026 at the Sedgwick Room, Dent

Present: Jocelyn Manners-Armstrong (Chair), Andrew Povey, Ian Mitchell, Emma Richardson, Bryan Garwood, Paul Shepherd and Richard Huxley

Clerk: Scott Thornley

To be presented for acceptance at the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 25 August 2026

1061	/26	Apologies for absence: RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr. Woof.	
1062	/26	Declarations of Interest: RESOLVED to accept the declaration Cllr. Povey as a Director of CALC, Chair of Dent Community Pub, Member of Western Dales Bus Committee and Director of Personnel Services Ltd and from Cllr. Garwood as a Director of Western Dales Bus and from Cllr. Mitchell with regard to the Car Park Cleaning Contract.	
1063	/26	Minutes of the meeting on Monday 06 July 2026: RESOLVED that the minutes of Wednesday 06 July 2026 needed to be amended to show that Cllr. Povey was not a director of Western Dales Bus but a member of the committee The Clerk was asked to circulate the legal advice received regarding the car park charges. Cllr. Mitchell noted that the Libraries Officer was still not in post at Westmorland and Furness Council. Cllr. Mitchell reminded the council that the councils' comments on planning applications carried a lot of weight and that saying no objections was not as powerful as supporting an application. RESOLVED that the minutes be signed once they had been amended.	
1064	/26	Co-option of New Councillor: The nomination of Rebecca Gordon had been circulated prior to the meeting and her eligibility confirmed. RESOLVED that Rebecca be co-opted to the council.	
1065	/26	Clerk's Report: Cllr. Shepherd joined the meeting The report had been circulated to all councillors and was accepted. The problems with moving a bench to the play area were noted and it was agreed to leave the benches where they are for now. It was suggested that Westmorland and Furness Council may be able to provide a contact for maintenance of the EV Chargers. Noted that repairs to Millthrop bridge were scheduled for March 2027. Noted that the data exercise on the car park had not progressed as planned. Clerk to chase up.	
1066	/26	Chair and Member Announcements: There were no announcements from the Chair or members.	
1067	/26	Public Forum: A member of the public asked if traffic lights had ever been considered at Gate Hill where the road narrows and passing is difficult for large vehicles. Cllr. Mitchell agreed to speak with officers at Westmorland and Furness Council.	
1068	/26	Account Balances: RESOLVED to note the account balances as: Current Account £5,722.51 Deposit Account £60,416.63	

Chairperson:.....

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1069	/26	Reserves Position: RESOLVED to note the councils earmarked reserves as: Car Park Reserve £7,000.00 Playing Field Reserve £3,002.43 Emergency Verge Maintenance £308.00 Beech Hill Project £500.00 Parish Plan £500.00 Village Green £3500.00 General Reserve £11,828.71	
1070	/26	Payments made since the last meeting: RESOLVED to note the list of payments made since the last meeting. 27-Jul-26 Water Plus (Car Park Water) -63.71 23-Jul-26 HMRC (PAYE Contributions Q1) -538.96 22-Jul-26 Direct 365 (New Defibrillator Battery) -264.00 21-Jul-26 Mark Harrod (Goal Post Spares) -121.44 21-Jul-26 Total Energies (Electricity Footway Lighting) -38.63 21-Jul-26 Flowbird (Card Processing Fees) -96.00 21-Jul-26 CALC (Training) -520.70 20-Jul-26 Scan Computers (New Laptop) -587.98 15-Jul-26 AIBMS (Card Processing Fees) -58.96 15-Jul-26 British Gas (Electricity EV Chargers) -144.37	
1071	/26	Grants: RESOLVED to approve the recommendation from the Task and Finish Group and to award grants as follows: Dent CE Primary School £1000.00 Dentdale Community Gym £587.90 Dent Meditation Centre £1000.00 (This award is made on the condition that materials used comply with all building and planning regulations) Dent Community Pub Ltd £2340.00 (This award is made on the condition that the survey shows that the building is structurally sound) Cumbria Youth Development £250.00 (This award is made on the condition that the money is used to help children in Dentdale specifically) Dent Church Quinquennial Group £250.00 Dent Gala £50.00 Western Dales Bus £1500.00 Total £6977.90	
1072	/26	External Committee Membership: The clerk had checked with all of the council's appointees and many of them wished to step down. RESOLVED that the following members would join the following committees:	

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		Playing Field Committee – Richard Huxley and Rebecca Gordon Dent Combined Charities – Andrew Povey Dent Grammar School Education Foundation – Ian Mitchell and Richar Huxley Dent Memorial Hall – Rebecca Gordon	
1073	/26	Housing Policy: It was noted that the policy required some updating as there was no mention of derelict barns, farm diversification or sustainability. RESOLVED to form a Task and Finish Group to update the policy with Cllrs. Povey, Shepherd, Gordon and Garwood.	
1074	/26	Use of Playing Field: It was suggested that there are 4 types of users Casual Football Commercial Not for Profit It was noted that commercial use may be an issue with the council's insurers. Clerk to check. RESOLVED to respond to current enquiries and to draw up some proper terms and conditions. Any use must be on a non-commercial basis. A request had been received from the Sheep Show Committee for use of the field. RESOLVED to respond that this could be granted on payment of last year's donation.	
1075	/26	EV Charger Maintenance: RESOLVED that there was no further information.	
1076	/26	Defibrillators: RESOLVED that Cllr. Mitchell will speak with the property owner in Gawthrop this week to confirm positioning.	
1077	/26	Beech Hill: The survey had been circulated. RESOLVED that another meeting was required and this was scheduled for 06 August at 6pm.	
1078	/26	Landslip at Dent Head: Noted that the drainage and passing place were still an issue and this should be followed up with Westmorland and Furness Council. The Chair had written to Westmorland and Furness Council and would forward the letter to Cllr. Mitchell for follow up.	
1079	/26	Parish Plan: Noted that the survey had been extended to 22 August and that 80-90 had so far been returned. A meeting was scheduled to discuss and analyse the data received and it was suggested that members of the group attend Dent Gala.	
1080	/26	Village Green: The Chair has written to Westmorland and Furness Council and Cllr. Mitchell has asked for justification for the lease only stance that Westmorland and Furness Council have taken. The Chair will forward a copy of her letter to Cllr. Mitchell for follow up.	
1081	/26	Exceptional Items: Noted that people were putting items in green bins that have no stickers and that these will not be emptied. Cllr. Mitchell confirmed that the bins will be removed by Westmorland and Furness Council.	
1082	/26	Planning: <u>New Applications</u>	

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		None <u>Decisions to note</u> RESOLVED to note the following decisions S/01/324B at Birchentree Barn, Cowgill – Full planning permission for change of use of barn to C3 residential use; installation of domestic sewage treatment system; provision of new access track, parking area and domestic curtilage (Approved Conditionally)	
1083	/26	Date of Next Meeting: RESOLVED that the next meeting will be held on Monday 14 September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Sedgwick Room, Dent Meeting closed at 21.13	

Chairperson:.....

Date:.....