

Askham and Helton Parish Council

Meeting: Parish Council Meeting

Date: Thursday, 25th September 2025

Venue: Askham and District Community Centre

Present: Laura Harker (LH), Malcolm Holt (MH), Gary Calland (GC), Sophie Riches (SR),
Chris Whittaker (CW) John Banks (JB)

Apologies: Mary Westgarth (MW)

In Attendance: Sandie Watson (Clerk/RFO), Cllr Nicky Vecqueray, Westmorland & Furness Council (NV)

Members of Public: 3

Minutes

434.1 Apologies	Cllr Mary Westgarth – Family Resolved that the apologies be accepted and the reasons recorded.	
435.2 Declarations of Interest	i. Register of Members Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests. None received. ii. Personal/Prejudicial Interests. None received. iii. Dispensation Requests. None received.	ALL
436.3 Minutes	Resolved that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting on 24 th July 2025 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
437.4 Public Participation/ Open Session	Footpath between Askham and Helton- the council received a draft proposal from Lowther Estate which included the proposal for woodland creation. The public consultation will open next week. All Councillors and residents are encouraged to respond. The consultation will be posted through letter boxes with copies also available at the shop. CW will add onto the village Facebook page and SW will inform the newsletter editor. The following points were raised: 1) safety concerns during events held in the village – discussed in item 10. 2) Askham Bridge repairs– the Clerk has requested an update but not had a response from Highways yet. 3) 20mph after the TRO has been implemented is there a traffic survey to see if the restriction is working? CW offered to request one. The council received a brief outline of a planning proposal at Askham Gate Farm. The plans will be submitted to LDNPA and the Council will be consulted by LDNPA in due course.	CW SW CW
438.5 Outcomes of Actions of last meeting	Tree seat – will be installed in October. MH to chase up grant. Askham Bridge repairs – Clerk has requested an update and awaiting response. Septic Tank Upgrade – due to overwhelming response the applications closed early. Gully between Helton and Butterwick is still blocked. Highways have been out to investigate. Awaiting their response.	MH

439.6 External Meetings	NV gave a brief recap on Devolution – decision to be made at the next cabinet meeting. Concrete Road Haweswater – UU are installing barriers at either end of the private road due to necessary weight restrictions on the bridges. Heavy vehicles will be diverted and NV has received concerns about it from residents in the Askham ward. Waste services harmonisation will be implemented – general waste, replacement of blue bags with 240l wheelie bin for fortnightly collections. Recycling, replace boxes and bags with two 180l wheelie bins, fortnightly collection. Place Action Group grant available – is there anything Askham would like funding for. MH will put forward ideas at the next meeting. In 2027 a big celebration is being planned to celebrate the birth of England (927) Eamont Bridge was where King <i>AEthelstan</i>’s authority was recognised by other British rulers. NV will keep us updated.	MH
440.7 Planning Applications	Applications: Lake District National Park Notice Under Article 38 of Proposal for Local Development Order Granting Planning Permission to - Replace a septic tank or sewage treatment plant, serving up to three dwellings with a new sewage treatment plant, including the installation of associated pipes, cables, vents, ducts, manholes or kiosks, and any ancillary engineering operations. - Install additional equipment, designed to reduce phosphorus discharge, to an existing sewage treatment plant. Resolved no comment. 7/2025/3063 Askham Hall Farm CA10 2PF Change of use of farm buildings and adjoining land to mixed agriculture and firewood processing and storage. No comment. LDNPA considering. 2025/0505/PACOU Shed at Highfield, Tirril CA10 2LG Prior notification under schedule 2, part 3, class R, for change of use of an agricultural building to storage or distribution (use class B8). Under officer investigation. 7/2025/3054 Fellgate Farm, Helton, Penrith CA10 2QA Installation of an air source heat pump at the back of the property. No objection. Granted. 7/2025/3045 (Listed Building Consent) Fellgate Farm, Helton, Penrith CA10 2QA Installation of an air source heat pump at the back of the property. No objection. Granted. T/2025/0127 Holywell House, Helton, Penrith CA10 2QA Conifer Tree (T1) – fell to ground level	SW

	Conifer Tree (T4) – reduce height by up to 5m and trim x 2 lower branches 2 x Conifer trees (T5 & T6) – trim 3 x lower branches over the conservatory. Granted. 7/2025/3021 Fellgate Farm, Helton, Penrith CA10 2QA Internal alterations to create living accommodation within existing adjoining store at upper ground floor and to renovate existing store and workshop at lower ground floor. Remedial works to existing external envelope to stabilise and improve existing materials. New window to existing loft opening on front elevation, new window/door opening to existing barn door on rear elevation and 2no. new conservation rooflights to front elevation of main roof pitch. No objection. LDNPA considering.	
441.8 Fell Runner Bus	Resolved to support donation request for £362.00.	
442.9 New Parish Council Website	Quotations circulated before the meeting. The Council resolved to proceed with G Business Solutions. Clerk to action.	SW
443.10 Sports and organised events in the Village/Parish	Following the concerns raised at the last meeting The council resolved to progress communications to event holders and NV will request support and information from the events team at W&FC: Inform event organisers of concerns (speed of cyclist through the village, confusion from competitors), request to mitigate risk on road between Bampton and Askham (signage/keep left, marshals, race pack information, road closures). CW to support with details.	NV SW CW
444.11 Footpath between Askham and Helton	Proposal and update received during item 4 Public Participation. Public Consultation to begin next week.	
445.12 Bus Shelter	MH reported shelving has been inserted. The village noticeboard will be relocated into the bus shelter next year.	
446.13 Financial Report	Resolved: The Clerk circulated the budget and bank reconciliation. Closing balance on 30 th August 2025 £14,167.96. The Council reviewed and accepted the transactions and budget 2025/26 updates.	SW
447.14 Payments of Account	Resolved. The Council approved for payment: Clerk's wages/expenses £656.74, HMRC £206.20 CPSL £37.80, HP Ink £5.10, Hall Rent £16.00, M Holt (fuel) £37.20, Lloyd Ltd £592.24.	SW
448.15 Correspondence	Clerk to email Highways to check if the TRO for 10m length is still in place at Askham Bridge	SW
449.16 Items for agenda and dates of next meetings	Parish Council Meetings: Thursday, 27th November 2025 Budget and Finance, Parish Plan/Resilience Planning. Parish Council Meetings 2026 Thursday 22nd January 2026 Thursday 19th March 2026 Thursday 21st May 2026	SW

	Thursday, 30 th July 2026 Thursday, 24 th September 2026 Thursday, 19 th November 2026 All meetings held at 7.00pm at Askham and District Community Centre.	
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Meeting closed 21.19pm