

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 17TH JUNE 2025 AT 5.30PM 2025 IN EGREMONT MARKET HALL**

Present:

Mrs Elaine Woodburn (EW) Chairperson

Also:

Mr Graham Calvin (GC) Mr Sam Pollen (SP)
Mr Robbie Tear (RT) Mr David Wright (DW) who arrived at 5.45pm
Mr Chris Whiteside (CW)
Mr Chris Colley (CC)

Mrs Geraldine Pritchard (GP) Town Clerk
Mrs Nicola Cattnach (NC) Assistant Clerk

Four members of the general public

030.25.26	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RESOLVED to accept with reasons noted, apologies from Gareth Stringer, Patrick McMahon, Jean Lewthwaite and Cumberland Councillor Graham Minshaw.	ACTIONS NC
031.25.26	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA RESOLVED to note that CW declared an interest in matters relating to Mr Morley & defibrillators & EW declared an interest in matters relating to Calderwood House.	
032.25.26	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION A member of the public attended & spoke about the possibility of having a "Letters to Heaven" post box in the cemetery for people to write letters to lost loved ones, this would help with the grieving process. The organisers would raise funds to purchase this white post box and would arrange how best to manage the letters, the idea being that the letters would not be opened and people could retrieve them or they will be disposed of respectfully and made into compost to scatter in the cemetery grounds. The question was raised about potential vandalism, EW felt it would be minimal as most people who go to the Cemetery are respectful & she suggested the Jubilee garden as an ideal site. The member of the public requested that the post box is mounted onto one of the chapels however she was informed that this building is listed so it would not be possible. Councillors agreed to allow this post box to go ahead & it was RESOLVED that once the post box was ready, a site visit would be arranged with the curator to agree upon the best location & details of how the post will be managed. EW read out a report from Cumberland Councillor Graham Minshaw which stated the following: Pearson Close at Moor Row has been closed due to United Utilities roadworks. GM is awaiting a response about work being done against planned work regarding previous TRO at Moor Row and he will give an update when he receives a reply. With regard to the Woodend/A595 junction, GM asked Cumberland Council to consider moving the 30mph limit sign back slightly as well as the option of smaller reminder signs. There are still ongoing parking issues outside of O'Halloran's pub in Bigrigg. GM is liaising with Highways on how to move forward and all relevant parties will be involved in the decision making.	GP

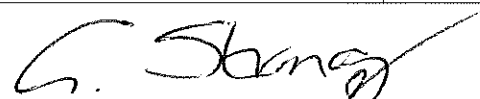


	<p>EW then invited SP to give his Cumberland Councillor report: SP had recently met with the local MP and the Town's Team for a walkabout in Egremont to address issues. SP is in contact with the Chief Executive and others at Cumberland Council regarding future investment plans in the town such as the building of the Aldi store and regeneration of the former Red Lion site. Any issues that other Town Councillors have can be passed to SP to look into. SP is aware of various forms of anti-social behaviour going on in the town & he has been in touch with the police & is looking to invite a representative to the next Town Council meeting. The next South Cumberland Community Panel is to be held on Wednesday 25th June at the St Mary's Centre in Egremont & he will be at the next Farmer's Market to promote the SCCP. There are still complaints about the ongoing issue of Sellafield workers and issues are being discussed. Lowes Court Gallery has flooded again due to heavy rain even though Highways had cleaned the drains, days beforehand. EW said that she had received a request from a Councillor to ask if the Town Council could pay for hardened glass to go in a door belonging to a business following vandalism, EW reiterated that the Town Council do not have the power to do this. EW asked about anti-social behaviour aimed at a business owner, SP said he would be doing a walk around & he invited other Councillors to join him. CC said that he had been liaising with this business owner & he did have recordings of youths which CC had discussed with the police. EW said the cycle of Sellafield parking issue needs to be broken, SP said it was frustrating for other workers in the town who did not have free parking provided. DW mentioned parking permits for residents however this would only move the Sellafield parking onto somewhere else.</p>	SP
033.25.26	<p>CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS EW raised her concern about a Facebook post originating from Cumberland Council regarding a proposed gating to the public access path beside 16 Main Street, Egremont. The deadline for comments was 20th June but she felt it was wrong to carry out a survey on social media without consulting Egremont Town Council & although it wasn't a planning application, she wondered what weight would be used from the survey as not everyone uses social media. SP said he was aware of this survey & it followed on from a proposal by the owner of 16 Main Street due to antisocial behaviour, graffiti, litter & urinating. SP said he would support the idea for this path to be a gated & locked at night. Following a discussion, it was RESOLVED that SP try to find out which department the survey originated from so the Town Council can write & air their concerns & to find out the legalities regarding this public right of way path.</p>	SP
034.25.26	<p>TO CONSIDER, APPROVE & SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING: RESOLVED to approve & sign the minutes of the AGM of Egremont Town Council held on 20th May 2025. RESOLVED to approve & sign the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council held on 20th May 2025.</p>	

035.25.26	<p>TO CONSIDER & REVIEW ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS</p> <p>4/25/2185/TPO Application to fell 8 trees situated within a conservation area Egremont Castle, Egremont No objections</p> <p>4/25/2180/0F1 Construction and installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) & associated infrastructure, landscaping and buried grid cable route Land between Woodend & Moor Row, Egremont No objections</p> <p>4/25/2186/0A1 Application for advertisement consent for the erection of fascia signs and totem signs 10/14 Bridge End Industrial Estate, Egremont No objections</p>	
036.25.26	<p>TO RATIFY COMMENTS WITH REGARDS PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN MEETINGS</p> <p>4/24/2429/0F1 Consultation on Amended Description: Change of use of site to accommodate shop (trade counter), warehouse, offices and storage; & proposed two storey link extension to connect existing units 10 and 14, including recladding of unit 10 and formation of new openings to units 10 and 14 and external works (part retrospective). 10/14 Bridge End Industrial Estate, Egremont No objections</p>	
037.25.26	<p>CONSIDER ANY REPORTS INCLUDING FINANCE, PERSONNEL, WEBSITE, BOWLING GREEN, ALLOTMENT, CEMETERY, MARKETHALL, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, EG CASTLE, PUBLIC REALM & BORDERLANDS, LENGTHSMAN SCHEME</p> <p><u>Bowling Green</u></p> <p>Following the initial objection by the Bowling Club to agree to the defibrillator being sited on the outside of the Bowling Green pavilion, Mr Morley has since spoken to the Committee who have now agreed so it was available for the public as well as the Club. RESOLVED that GP contact the club to find out if they will still be guardians of the defibrillator.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u></p> <p>GP said there is an increase in rats at East Road and GS is to arrange an allotment visit but he is away at the moment. CC was thanked for his help in arranging the removal of old corrugated sheeting from a plot.</p> <p><u>Cemetery</u></p> <p>GP said the tenant of Cemetery House had requested a meeting with Councillors and DW & GC had agreed to meet her on 18th June at 4.00pm.</p> <p><u>Christmas Lights</u></p> <p>Cumberland Council reported a dead tree outside of Marion's shop & requested that the Christmas lights are removed so the tree can be taken down. The cemetery curator along with the lengthsman have taken down the lights they can reach & it has</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GS</p> <p>DW.GC</p>

	<p>been arranged with Cumberland Council to let us know when they will be felling the tree so we can remove the remaining lights.</p> <p>Cumberland Council also said that the lights should be removed & installed on an annual basis, SP had spoken with the officer & informed him that this is not the case & like other towns, the lights remain in situ throughout.</p> <p><u>Egremont Castle</u></p> <p>GP said that a crime number had been issued by the police for reported antisocial behaviour/vandalism.</p> <p>GP said that PM has put up a CCTV camera in the castle, signage has been erected & he has the permission of Lord Egremont.</p> <p>DW said he would speak to the Friends of Egremont Castle Group regarding the cameras as CCTV is a good thing as long as people are aware of it.</p> <p>EW said residents are happy to put comments on facebook but they still need to be reporting it to the police.</p> <p><u>Borderlands/Public Realm</u></p> <p>SP said at a recent meeting, bids were submitted for funding & an answer would be received in September. He said hopefully the former Red Lion site project will begin in Spring. SP also said that matched funding should be applied for.</p> <p><u>Any Other Reports</u></p> <p><u>Egremont Youth Partnership</u></p> <p>Following the Egremont Youth Partnership report by Neil Ferguson, Councillors were concerned to hear that Lord Egremont will no longer be financing them nor will they receive the Holiday Activity Funding. Two staff members have left to have children so they are looking for replacement staff & more board members. RESOLVED to contact T McFadden to find out how much lost funding this equates to.</p> <p><u>Defibrillators</u></p> <p>CW reported that after speaking to Mr Morley, hopefully a defibrillator will be fitted shortly at the Bowling Green as well as the Orgill shops.</p> <p>CW thinks a grant might be given from Sellafield for more defibrillators in Egremont & suggested areas for siting are the Market Hall, Queens Drive & Rainbow Nursery although power sources need to be taken into account but now street lights can be used as a power source too.</p>	DW
038.25.26	<p>CONSIDER & REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Confirmation had been received from Cumberland Council that the Nashville Bar at 27 Market Place, Egremont was granted a licence to serve alcohol on 25th April 2025, the investigation into the facility operating differently to what was stated on the planning application however is still ongoing.</p> <p>A request from Calderwood House to borrow 35/45 tables & chairs for their Calderfest event in Egremont Castle on 23rd August 2025 was RESOLVED.</p> <p>Following a request to the enforcement dept at Cumberland Council for figures regarding vehicles parking on pavements, they have agreed to send us a monthly report. May figures show 54 visits and 31 Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) were issued. With regards to dog fouling, due to lack of resources, dog fouling fines have not been a priority & therefore no fines were issued in May.</p> <p>Cumberland Council have confirmed also that Egremont Cemetery is now classed as a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) so enforcement can issue fines to anyone</p>	GP

	seen in the cemetery with a dog. A notice informing people has been erected at the entrance to the cemetery.	
039.25.26	TO CONSIDER & RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT RESOLVED to accept, consider and approve the Clerk's report.	
040.25.26	TO RATIFY THE PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS RESOLVED to ratify the payments at 11th June 2025 amounting to £5,667.28.	
041.25.26	TO RECEIVE & APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 11TH JUNE 2025 RESOLVED to accept, consider & approve the financial statement at 11 th June 2025 amounting to £16,277.73.	
042.25.26	TO REVIEW & ACCEPT THE BI-ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT RESOLVED to accept the bi-annual internal auditor's report	
043.25.26	TO REVIEW & ACCEPT THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT ON THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2024/25 It was RESOLVED to accept the internal audit report on the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024/25	
044.25.26	TO CONSIDER, APPROVE & SIGN THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ON THE (AGAR) 2024/25 RESOLVED to approve & sign the Annual Governance Statement on the (AGAR) 2024/25	CW
045.25.26	TO CONSIDER, APPROVE & SIGN THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENT ON THE (AGAR) 2024/25 RESOLVED to approve & sign the Accounting Statement on the (AGAR) 2024/25	
046.25.26	TO RATIFY THE DECISION TAKEN TO REPLACE THE FRONT DOOR OF CEMETERY HOUSE Following the discovery that the cemetery house front door was in a much worse condition than when originally inspected, it was agreed that as the door could not be repaired, a new door would be made & installed at an additional cost of no more than £1,000 plus the original cost of £1,850, this was RESOLVED.	
047.25.26	TO CONSIDER & MAKE A DECISION REGARDING A PEST CONTROL QUOTE FOR EGREMONT MARKET HALL RESOLVED to accept the pest control service quote of £534 + vat per annum from Cumberland Council to include 6 routine visits per year and free call outs (to a maximum of 8).	GP
048.25.26	TO CONSIDER QUOTES AND MAKE A DECISION REGARDING THE WORK REQUIRED IN THE MARKET HALL Two quotes to carry out dry rot treatment were received & after consideration, it was RESOLVED to accept the quote from the Kingfisher contractor at a cost of £7,840.49 to carry out the treatment within the bar area, replace units where necessary & install new vents for air circulation.	GP



049.25.26	<p>TO CONSIDER QUOTES AND MAKE A DECISION REGARDING THE CEMETERY HOUSE ROOF</p> <p>Two quotes were received to replace the roof. Following a long discussion, it was RESOLVED to obtain a valuation from an estate agent on the value of the property in comparison to the cost of a new roof and consider all options before the next meeting where a decision will be made DW left the meeting at 7.20pm</p>	GP
050.25.26	<p>TO CONSIDER THE ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CUMBERLAND COUNCIL</p> <p>A suggestion was made to change Egremont parish into four wards instead of the two now in place – Egremont North & Egremont South. RESOLVED that the Town Council's response is that it wishes to remain as North & South.</p>	GP
051.25.26	<p>TO REVIEW THE FOLLOWING TOWN COUNCIL POLICIES:</p> <p>Disciplinary procedures, Social Media Policy, Press & Media Policy, General Privacy Policy, Data Protection Policy, Eye Test Policy, Highly Contagious Infectious Disease Policy.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to agree all the policies with a slight amendment to the Social Media policy.</p>	GP
052.25.26	<p>COUNCILLORS MATTERS – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MINOR MATTERS NOT ON THIS AGENDA AND NOT FOR DISCUSSION</p> <p>SP said he will be attending the Friendship Group at the Market Hall at 10.00am on 16th June, in the Market Hall and all Councillors are welcome to attend. CC thanked SP for his help and advice over some resident's issues. RT said he would fly his drone over the weekend to capture images of the Market Hall roof and EW asked if he could also do the same at the Cemetery for the house and chapel roofs. It was confirmed that the Chairperson's Annual Report was now accessible via the Town Council website, SP suggested that it should be linked via facebook too. GC said the grass on the public footpath adjacent to Rusper Drive is overgrown & he asked if the lengthsman could cut it back. GC had been asked by Moor Row residents if they could tidy up the area at the entrance to Moor Row which was originally installed & maintained by Jimmy Redden & the Moor Row Residents Group. GC said he would go along with the residents to see what work needed doing & he would speak to the Moor Row hub to see if they would like to get involved too.</p>	RT EW GP GC
053.25.26	<p>ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA</p> <p>No items were brought up at the meeting.</p>	
054.25.26	<p>RESOLVED THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED the next ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council will be held on Tuesday 15th July 2025 at 5.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting was brought to a close at 8.00 pm</p>	

