

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman/Mayor:
Cllr. Roger Handley

Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:
Cllr. Ann Walmsley

Town Clerk:
Mrs. C. Benbow



Council Offices
Main Street
Grange-over-Sands
Cumbria, LA11 6DP

Tel: (015395) 32375

www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk
council@grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk

V.A.T. Reg.No: 164 8707 80

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held at the Victoria Hall on Monday 11 May 2026 commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. R. Handley – **Chair**
Cllr. T. Thomas, Cllr. A. Walmsley, Cllr. J. Mason, Cllr. B. Berry.
Mrs. C. Benbow – Town Clerk

In attendance: 5 members of the public and Westmorland and Furness Unitary Councillor Tim Bloomer.

Minute Ref:		Agenda No:
C26/01	Council Chairman for the Council Year 2026/27	1

Cllr. Roger Handley was elected Council Chairman for the Council Year 2026/27 from the current Council membership, and the Acceptance of Office form was signed and received.

C26/02	Vice-Chairman for the Council Year 2026/27	2
---------------	---	----------

Cllr. Ann Walmsley was elected Council Vice-Chairman for the Council Year 2026/27 from the current Council membership, and the Acceptance of Office form was signed and received.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/03 Apologies for Absence

3

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Jane Walmsley and Wlodek Tych who were absent due to holidays and Cllr. E. Walmsley who was absent due to work commitments.

RESOLVED

That apologies from Cllrs. Jane Walmsley and Wlodek Tych who were absent due to holidays, and Cllr. E. Walmsley who was absent due to work commitments, were approved.

C26/04 Reports

4

Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council Report

Unitary Councillor Tim Bloomer reported that:

1. Unitary Council Annual Meeting

The Annual Plan for the final year before the May 2027 elections was agreed. Cllr. Archibald stepped down from the Cabinet. Cllr. Waite has taken over as portfolio holder for green spaces, bins and transport. Cllr. Murray is portfolio holder for climate.

2. Planning System

Central Government is introducing changes to the planning system. Town and Parish Councils are likely to have less influence as consultees on planning applications. Fewer applications will be heard by the Unitary Planning Committee. The Unitary Council is updating the Local Plan, and everyone is encouraged to get involved and respond to consultations.

3. Funding

Westmorland and Furness Council will consider an application to their Community Infrastructure Levy Fund for the Victoria Hall. Cllr. Bloomer suggested a meeting with Unitary Cllr. Helen Chaffey. This was arranged for 6 pm on Monday 8 June.

Later in the meeting, at the item 21 adjournment, Cllr. Bloomer added the following to his report:

4. Anti-social Behaviour

He reported the tyre cutting incident at Main Street car park to the relevant Unitary portfolio holder. As it was a single incident, this has been noted and mitigation is not being considered.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cllr. Handley thanked the Councillors for voting him as Chairman again and is looking forward to continuing to work with the whole team.

C26/05 Public Participation: Public Have Your Say

5

Speaker 1

Addressed the meeting, as the Chair of Save Grange Lido CIC, to report that their AGM took place, a new secretary was appointed and a new member welcomed onto the board. A skills audit of the current board will now take place ahead of advertising for more new members.

The collaboration with Westmorland and Furness Council about taking over the Lido continues to strengthen with regular meetings and positive steps forward.

Phase One is to open the site with a focus on a strong heritage offer and immersive visitor experience reconnecting people with the history and story of the site and acting as a gateway to fundraising and further development.

Plans for the site still include three pools and creating more room for people to move around and enjoy the site. Plans will evolve over time due to changing legislation, accessibility requirements and operational needs as the project develops.

Branding work is ongoing. They have been advised that 'Grange Baths' would not be appropriate for the future development, as the vision is about far more than simply a swimming pool and the name itself needs to feel aspirational and reflect that wider ambition. No final name has yet been agreed.

Regarding the delays, it is in the public domain that the Unitary Council and the contractors have agreed further works to be carried out. What matters is that the issues are properly resolved and that the site handed over is safe, future-proofed and built to last.

Save Grange Lido want this project to evolve with the community and invite suggestions on groups, organisations and networks they can work alongside to ensure they hear voices from all ages, backgrounds and abilities as plans develop.

Anyone who remembers the large clock that once adorned the main pavilion in the early days of the Lido is invited to get in touch, the Group are interested in any memories, photographs or stories connected to it.

Please feel free to call into the Community Hub to see Sally or contact via the website.

The Group will continue to share updates as progress is made. Tickets are still available for the Cross Bay Walk on Sunday 12 July, all are welcome.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/06 Minutes of the Previous Meeting 6

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 13 April 2026 were accepted as a true record.

C26/07 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations 7

NOTED No interests were declared.

C26/08 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item 8

RESOLVED That no items should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2.

C26/09 Planning Report 9

1. Members considered the following full or outline planning permission/reserved matters/discharge of conditions/listed building/change of use/advertising consent or appeal:

- a. 2026/0513/HOU BRACKENWOOD METHVEN ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7DU
Replace existing windows with bifold doors. Construct elevated platform/balcony with iron guard rail.
Householder

**RESOLVED
NO OBJECTION**

- b. 2026/0756/HOU
Householder
Marigold House The Crescent GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6AW
First floor extension over balcony and replacement of existing external staircase

**RESOLVED
NO OBJECTION**

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

2. Decisions - Members noted that the following decisions had been made since the last Full Council meeting:

- a. 2026/0039/LBC BROWN ROBIN LINDALE ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EU Listed Building Consent Approved With Conditions
- b. 2026/0038/FPA BROWN ROBIN LINDALE ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EU Full Application Approved With Conditions
- c. 2026/0535/NMA FORMER AGE CONCERN UK LINDALE ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EH Non-Material Amendment Approved
- d. 2026/0423/LDEX 3 MAYFIELD TERRACE KENTS BANK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7DW Lawful Development Certificate - Existing Use Approved
- e. 2026/0288/FPA FLAT 3 RAVENSCOURT LINDALE ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EL Full Application Approved With Conditions

C26/10 Finance - Monthly Payments

10

a. Verification of Expenditure

NOTED

That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified invoices received and payments made since the last full council meeting prior to the council meeting and could verify their authenticity.

b. Verification of Accounts Reconciliation

NOTED

That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation had taken place.

c. Approval of Payments

RESOLVED

That the payments of the accounts and wages for this finance period as recorded in the payments list were approved as below.

d. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments

RESOLVED

That Cllrs. Handley and Thomas would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

e. Identification of Councillors to complete online authorisation of payments

RESOLVED That Cllrs. Mason and A. Walmsley would complete online authorisation of payments for the next payment period.

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Payments for Approval

May 2026

Accounts for Payment

Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit

Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque

Total Bank Account No. 1

<u>£</u>	
£	-
£	-
£	-

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

9	Lloyds Bank Plc - Card April 2026 - Monthly fee	3.00	
9a	Buzz Catering Supplies - Wine Glasses, Conical Glass, Hiball Glass (VHSG)	238.00	
9b	Amazon – Calculator	10.95	
9c	Buzz Catering Supplies - Tongs, No Smoking Sign & Champagne Flute	191.96	
9d	Amazon - Push button Key Safe	<u>29.40</u>	£ 473.31
10	Npower - Elec V Hall 01/03/26 - 31/03/26		£ 228.45
11	Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/03/26 - 31/03/26		£ 79.17
12	Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/03/26 - 31/03/26		£ 42.54
13	Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/03/26 - 31/03/26 (recoverable)		£ 24.24
14	WFC - 2/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall		£ 725.00
15	WFC - 2/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3		£ 176.00
16	WFC - 2/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4		£ 98.00
17	WFC - 1/9 Non Dom Rates Rooms 6 & 7		£ 156.47
18	Waterplus - Victoria Hall (Room 4) 01/04/2026 - 31/03/2027		£ 263.55
19	Waterplus - Victoria Hall 01/04/2026 - 31/03/2027		£ 131.78
20	Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/03/2026 - 01/04/2026		£ 1,019.94
21	BT - Tel & Broadband 01/04/26 - 30/04/26		£ 58.74
22	Sage - Support 01/04/26 - 30/04/26		£ 126.00

Bank Account No. 2 - Bank Payments

23	CALC/NALC subscription fee 2026/27	£	703.39
24	JT Atkinson - Plywood Materials for Vic Hall Maintenance	£	14.82
25	Calc/NALC - Effective Councillor Module 2 Training.	£	40.00
26	NPG - Firesafety Callout	£	316.49
27	KTD - 6 x Cloud backup and monitoring 01/06/26 - 30/06/26	£	67.20

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

28	KTD - Photocopying April 2026	£ 61.79
29	Healthmatic - PC cleaning 01/05/26 - 31/05/26	£ 1,779.43
30	Sinkfall Recycling - Skip (April)	£ 405.00
31	Turnstone HR - HR support 01/05/26 - 31/05/26	£ 75.00
32	UK Office Direct - Paper, Storage Boxes, Wall Sign Holder	£ 90.89
33	Lengthsman 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	£ 260.27
34	Debbie's Cleaning - V Hall cleaning 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	£ 702.00
35	Country Roads - TicketSource Event Revenue	£ 754.05
36	Hall Manager expenses - Hospitality packs & Chair Cushions Vic Hall	£ 192.52
37	Staff expenses - Computer Mouse	£ 22.99
38	Lancasters - Bucket, Weed Killer, Batteries, Padlock	£ 57.95
39	Paul Johnson Property Development - Recreation Ground Maintenance	£ 595.00
Total Bank Account No. 2		£ 9,741.98
 Total Accounts		£ 9,741.98

Page 2

Salaries, PAYE & N.I. (Bank Account No. 2)

Total Salaries	£ 9,061.83
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 1	£ 3,129.05
LG Pension Scheme Month 1 - Employer payment	£ 2,907.34
	£ 15,098.22
 Total Bank Account No. 2	£ 24,840.20
 Total all payments for approval	£ 24,840.20

Accounts paid in previous month:

Bank Account No. 1

Direct Debits

Cheques

Bank Account No. 2

Direct Debits

40	Waterplus - Victoria Hall 07/03/2026 - 06/04/2026	£ 149.27
41	Waterplus - Orn. Gardens PC 07/03/2026 - 06/04/2026	£ 66.59
42	Waterplus - Church Hill PC 06/03/2026 - 05/04/2026	£ 75.77

Direct Bank Payments

Total Accounts paid in previous month	£ 142.36
 Grand Total	£ 24,982.56

Bank Balances

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

Bank Account No. 1 As at 30/04/26

£217,828.53

Bank Account No. 2 As at 30/04/26

£197,598.13

Signed (Chairman)

Dated.....

C26/11

Finance and Governance (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

11

a. **Finance Report**

Members considered the full year Finance Report to 31 March 2026.

RESOLVED

That the full year Finance Report to 31 March 2026 was approved as below.

b. **Victoria Hall Support Group (VHSG) Quarterly Financial Report**

Members noted that the balance at the end of the previous quarter to 31 December 2025 was £15,717.33. Expenditure in the quarter to 31 March 2026 was £6,491.90.

This included Chamber refurbishment and bar equipment requested by the Support Group:

- Painter and Decorator £4,950.00
- Lights £1,078.13
- Montage Wallpaper £180.90
- Projector and tech equipment £245.41
- Bar Stool £37.46

The balance at the end of the quarter to 31 March was £9,225.43.

c. **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

i) **Quarterly Report**

Members noted that the balance for the quarter to 31 March 2026 in the CIL ring-fenced reserve is £66,508.48. There has been no movement this quarter.

ii) **Income**

Members noted that £35,235.55 was paid to Grange Town Council for CIL income received from development between 1 Oct 2025 and the end of March 2026. This was received on 14 April 2026 and will show in the next quarterly financial report.

d. **Asset Register**

Members noted that a full review of inventory of assets including buildings and equipment had taken place.

RESOLVED

That the Asset Register dated 31 March 2026 was approved.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

e. **Insurance**

Members noted that there is cover in respect of all insurable risks. The Council's insurance with Zurich Municipal will complete the third year of a three-year contract on 1 July 2026.

f. **General Power of Competence**

Members reaffirmed that the Council meets the criteria for eligibility.

RESOLVED

That the Council meets the criteria for eligibility to use the General Power of Competence:

- i) That two thirds of Councillors are elected members.
- ii) That the Clerk is qualified.

g. **Casual Vacancy**

Members noted that there is a casual vacancy on the Town Council. Anyone interested in getting involved is invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or see: www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk

h. **Assertion 10 Digital and Data Audit Compliance**

- i) Members noted that the Town Council and Victoria Hall websites have been produced to the necessary specifications and considered the Accessibility Statements.
- ii) Members considered the Grange Town Council Data Audit March 2026.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Accessibility Statements on the Town Council and Victoria Hall websites were approved.
- ii) That the Grange Town Council Data Audit March 2026 was approved.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Grange-over-Sands Town Council		Meeting: 11 May 2026			Prepared: April 2026		
Budget Monitoring 12 months to 31 March 2026		100% Budget			% Spend		
INCOME	Sage Code	Budget for year £	Budget to date £	Actual to date £	Variance £	Spend to date	Comments
Precept	4000	261,559	261,559	261,559	0	100%	
Refreshment Sales	4009	-	-	944	944		Includes Music in the Park events
Sundry Receipts	4010	-	-	84	84		Refund underpaid postage/compensation Prom loo damage
Interest Received	4015	-	-	-	0		
Grant Receipts - General	4105	-	-	-	0		
Grant Receipts - WFC Comm Infrastructure Levy	4107	-	-	61,796	61,796		Total CIL grant received
Donations Received	4115	1,200	1,200	450	(750)	38%	Donation from Civic Society for Music in the Park
Donations - Victoria Hall	4117	-	-	60,444	60,444		£10k VHSG donation and £50k Crane-Wexler donation
Tenanted Room Rent Receipts	4120	6,800	6,800	5,940	(860)	87%	Room 6/7 (The Planning Office) no longer tenanted
Allotment Rent Receipts	4121	1,631	1,631	1,607	(24)	99%	
Room Hire Receipts	4125	20,000	20,000	22,504	2,504	113%	
Hospitality Recharged	4126	-	-	347	347		
Hall Team Recharged	4127	2,000	2,000	4,342	2,342	217%	
Bay Villa Trust Admin Fee	4162	450	450	350	(100)	78%	
Commission Received	4170	-	-	38	38		Ticketsource referral income
Lease Registration Fees	4175	-	-	-	0		Cedric Walk
Toilet Entry Fees	4500	12,000	12,000	11,605	(395)	97%	Entry price 40p
Fund Raising Income	4600	500	500	844	344	169%	Christmas Fair
		306,140	306,140	432,852	126,712	141%	
EXPENDITURE	Sage Code	Budget for year £	Budget to date £	Actual to date £	Variance £	% Spend to date	
Fund Raising Expenditure	6170	200	200	316	116	158%	Christmas Fair
Musicians' Fees	6200	1,200	1,200	400	(800)	33%	Music in the Park
Music in the Park Staff Team Costs	6201	580	580	2,855	2,275	492%	
Mobile Toilets	6220	750	750	450	(300)	60%	Music in the Park
Event Equipment	6550	-	-	1,265	1,265		Music in the Park
Event Refreshments - Purchases	6560	-	-	399	399		
Staff Salaries	7000	117,000	117,000	148,743	31,743	127%	
Hall Team Salaries	7000	24,000	24,000	14,752	(9,248)	61%	Excludes Music in the Park Staff Team Costs - see code 6201
Pensions	7001	29,000	29,000	30,823	1,823	106%	
Printing and Stationery	7010	650	650	826	176	127%	

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

EXPENDITURE cont...	Sage Code	Budget for year £	Budget to date £	Actual to date £	Variance £	% Spend to date	
Postage	7012	70	70	40	(30)	57%	
Water	7015	5,400	5,400	4,532	(868)	84%	
Business Rates	7020	10,000	10,000	11,138	1,138	111%	
Telephone/Broadband	7025	650	650	546	(104)	84%	
Insurance	7030	6,800	6,800	6,572	(228)	97%	
Subscriptions	7040	1,355	1,355	1,036	(319)	76%	Annual CALC, NALC, SLCC subscriptions
Information Technology	7046	9,000	9,000	7,441	(1,559)	83%	
Website	7047	2,500	2,500	2,123	(377)	85%	
Travelling Expenses	7050	100	100	-	(100)	0%	
Training Expenses	7052	1,600	1,600	905	(695)	57%	
Civic Expenses	7055	300	300	96	(204)	32%	Wreaths VE Day and VJ Day
Hospitality	7065	100	100	188	88	188%	Refreshments (see also code 4126 Hospitality Recharged)
Bank Charges	7070	240	240	232	(8)	97%	
Audit Fees	7075	1,200	1,200	1,292	92	108%	2 x Internal and External Audit fee to 31/03/25
Accountancy Fees	7080	2,800	2,800	4,253	1,453	152%	
Gas	7100	7,000	7,000	6,981	(19)	100%	
Electricity	7105	6,050	6,050	4,145	(1,905)	69%	
Christmas Lights	7106	4,800	4,800	11,914	7,114	248%	New Christmas lights added along Main Street 2025
Donation Expenditure - Victoria Hall	7110	-	-	9,865	9,865		
Hall Maintenance, Repairs and Renewals	7119	18,700	18,700	36,755	18,055	197%	Includes Chamber refurbishment
Repairs and Maint. (Toilets, Rec Ground, Bandstand, Allotments & Public Domain)	7120	14,500	14,500	13,541	(959)	93%	Includes signage and maintenance at Recreation Ground
Professional Fees - Non Financial	7125	3,180	3,180	2,001	(1,180)	63%	Includes HR support and Premises Licence
Toiletries and Cleaning Materials	7130	9,300	9,300	740	(8,560)	8%	See below
Hall Cleaner	7131	-	-	8,037	8,037		New code - Budget included in code 7130 above
Rent Payable	7160	760	760	807	47	106%	Rent bandstand & Grange Fell/Yewbarrow allotments
Card Handling Charges (Toilets only)	7190	1,300	1,300	1,615	315	124%	Nayax card readers and service fee
Cleaning	7200	16,455	16,455	17,101	646	104%	Public Conveniences Cleaning Contract
Communications	7255	600	600	1,139	539	190%	Adverts for Finance Administrator/Grounds Contractor
Lengthsman	7455	8,000	8,000	10,850	2,850	136%	Includes skip hire
Parish Election Costs	7600	-	-	-	0		
Bad Debt Write Off	8100			85			Debt written off by Full Council March 2025 Ref: C25/196
		306,140	306,140	366,798	60,658	120%	
Net profit (Loss)		-	-	66,054			
Balance Sheet Summary as at 31/03/26							
Total Assets Less Total Liabilities				395,610			

C26/12

Appointments to Committees (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

12

- a. Members considered the Staffing Committee Terms of Reference, which have been reviewed, and no amendments recommended.
- b. Members noted that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were members of this Committee.
- c. Members noted that it is good practice to appoint the previous years' Chairman and Vice-Chairman, if re-elected to the Council, for continuity of line-management for staff.
- d. Members noted that the 2025/26 Staffing Committee were Cllrs. Handley, A. Walmsley, Thomas, J. Walmsley and Tych.
- e. Members considered appointments to the Staffing Committee for the 2026/27 Council Year, noting that Cllr. Jane Walmsley expressed an interest in being a member of the Staffing Committee when she sent her apologies to the meeting.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

RESOLVED

- i) That the reviewed Staffing Committee Terms of Reference were approved.
- ii) That Cllrs. Handley, A. Walmsley, Thomas, J. Walmsley, and Tych were voted to the Staffing Committee for the 2026/27 Council Year.

C26/13

Members External Office Holders 2026-27 (*Standing Item - Annual Town Council Meeting*)

13

- a. Members noted the approved appointments for the previous year:

Members External Office Holders 2025–26

- i) CALC District Association – Town Clerk
 - ii) Grange in Bloom – Cllr. Mason
 - iii) Nutwood Patients Group – Cllr. Thomas
 - iv) Furness Line Community Rail Partnership – Cllr. Thomas
 - v) Bay Villa Trust – All Councillors
 - vi) Cartmel Old Grammar Foundation – Jane Strawbridge (nominated by GTC)
 - vii) The Civic Society – Cllr. Thomas
 - viii) Friends of Kents Bank Station and Foreshore – Cllr. Mason
 - ix) Victoria Hall Support Group – Cllr. Handley
 - x) Christmas Tree Committee - Mrs C. Logan (nominated by GTC) and Cllr. Mason
 - xi) Morecambe Bay Partnership – Cllrs. Handley and Thomas
 - xii) Grange Chamber of Trade and Hoteliers Association – Cllr. A. Walmsley
 - xiii) U3A – Cllr. Handley
 - xiv) Cumbria Better Connected – Cllr. Thomas
 - xv) Peninsula Environmental Action Together (PEAT) – Cllrs. Thomas and Handley
 - xvi) Save Grange Lido Community Benefit Society – Cllrs. A. and E. Walmsley
- b. Members noted that Mrs. Strawbridge is happy to continue as the Council's representative on the Cartmel Old Grammar Foundation Trust. Mrs. Strawbridge was thanked.
- c. Members noted that Mrs Logan is happy to act as the Council's representative on the Christmas Tree Committee. The Council expressed thanks.
- d. Members considered appointments for the new Council year 2026-27.

RESOLVED

That the approved Member External Office Holders 2026-27 were as follows:

Members External Office Holders 2026–27

- i) CALC District Association – Town Clerk
- ii) Grange in Bloom – Cllr. Mason
- iii) Nutwood Patients Group – Cllr. Thomas
- iv) Furness Line Community Rail Partnership – Cllr. Thomas

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- v) Bay Villa Trust – All Councillors
- vi) Cartmel Old Grammar Foundation – Mrs. J. Strawbridge (nominated by GTC)
- vii) The Civic Society – Cllr. Thomas
- viii) Friends of Kents Bank Station and Foreshore – Cllr. Mason
- ix) Victoria Hall Support Group – Cllr. Handley
- x) Christmas Tree Committee – Mrs. C. Logan (nominated by GTC) and Cllr. Mason
- xi) Morecambe Bay Partnership – Cllr. Berry
- xii) Grange Chamber of Trade and Hoteliers Association – Cllr. A. Walmsley
- xiii) Discover Grange-over-Sands - Cllr. Berry
- xiv) U3A – Cllr. Handley
- xv) Cumbria Better Connected – Cllr. Thomas
- xvi) Peninsula Environmental Action Together (PEAT) – Cllr. Berry
- xvii) Save Grange Lido Community Benefit Society – Cllr. A. Walmsley and Berry

C26/14

Memberships (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

14

Members reviewed the Council's and employees' memberships noting that the membership of the following bodies required approval for renewal (paid from budget for Subscriptions):

- a. Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC).
- b. Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) and National Association of Local Councils (NALC) combined annual membership.
- c. NALC *Local Council Review* (publication).

RESOLVED

- i) That the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) annual membership for Town Clerk due in May, cost to be confirmed, was approved.
- ii) That the Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) and National Association of Local Councils (NALC) combined annual membership renewal for Council due now, cost £703.39, was approved.
- iii) That the NALC Local Council Review (publication) annual subscription amount to be confirmed, payment approved in June, was approved.

C26/15

Statutory Document Review (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

15

- a. Members noted that it is a statutory duty to review the Standing Orders and Delegation Scheme at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council in May.
- b. Members considered the reviewed Standing Orders and Delegation Scheme, noting that no amendments had been made, or were recommended, or were required by legislation.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

- c. Members considered the reviewed Financial Regulations, noting that the maximum value of petty cash held has been amended.

RESOLVED

- i) That the reviewed Standing Orders and Delegation Scheme were approved.
ii) That the reviewed, amended, Financial Regulations were approved.

All statutory documents are published on the Town Council website.

C26/16

Council Policies and Procedures (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

16

a. **Review Schedule**

Members considered the review schedule for Council policies and procedures.

RESOLVED

That the review schedule for Council policies and procedures was approved.

b. **Annual Reviews**

Members considered the annual review of the following policies, noting that no material changes had been made, or were recommended:

- i) Complaints Policy
ii) Data Protection
iii) Disciplinary Policy and Procedure
iv) Disciplinary Rules
v) Equal Opportunities
vi) Freedom of Information
vii) Grievance Procedure
viii) Health and Safety
ix) Meetings Part 2 Exclusions
x) Model Publication Scheme
xi) Press and Media
xii) Privacy Notice
xiii) Recruitment and Selection
xiv) Social Media

RESOLVED

That the annually reviewed policies, as listed, were approved.

All statutory documents are published on the Town Council's website.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

c. **Reviews due 2026**

Members noted that the following policies have been reviewed, as scheduled, and no material changes made or recommended:

- i) Councillor and Employee Relations Protocol
- ii) Unacceptable Behaviour Policy

Members noted that the Communication Protocol has been significantly reviewed and updated. Adopted in 2014, it repeated information that is already stated in other policy documents.

RESOLVED

That the reviewed Councillor and Employee Relations Protocol, Unacceptable Behaviour Policy and Communication Protocol were approved.

The Clerk was thanked for all the review work.

C26/17

Meeting Dates (*Standing Item – Annual Town Council Meeting*)

17

Members considered the dates, times, and place of ordinary meetings of the Full Council including the Annual Town Council meeting and noted that dates, times, and place of Council committee meetings will be decided, as necessary.

RESOLVED

That the dates, times, and place of ordinary meetings of the Full Council including the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Council meeting were approved as below and published on the Town Council's website.

Full Council Meeting Dates

7pm, Victoria Hall, Grange-over-Sands

2026 – 2027

Monday 8 June 2026

Monday 13 July 2026

Monday 10 August 2026

No meeting in September

Monday 12 October 2026

Monday 9 November 2026

Monday 14 December 2026

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Monday 11 January 2027

Monday 8 February 2027

Monday 8 March 2027

Monday 12 April 2027

Annual Town Council – Monday 10 May 2027

Note – dates below will be formally agreed May 2027

Monday 14 June 2027

Monday 12 July 2027

Monday 9 August 2027

No meeting in September

Monday 11 October 2027

Monday 8 November 2027

Monday 13 December 2027

C26/18

Consultations

18

There were no consultations.

C26/19

Member Updates

19

Members received the following updates from Councillors on works in progress and meetings and events attended, including:

a. **Cllr. Berry – Save Grange Lido AGM**

Cllr. Berry attended the AGM on 9 May 2026 and thanked the Save Grange Lido Chair for her excellent summary of the meeting in item 5 of the agenda.

b. **Cllr. Berry - Morecambe Bay Partnership Visioning Workshop**

Cllr. Berry attended the workshop on 6 May 2026 which was very positive and constructive.

a. **Victoria Hall Working Party**

Members noted that a meeting took place on 23 April, 2pm, attended by Cllrs. Handley, Berry and Tych and the Hall Manager, Hall Administrator and Town Clerk. The next meeting will be Wednesday 3 June, 2–3.30 pm.

Members noted an update from the meeting which included discussion about how the Hall booking system works in relation to the Town Council's partners and the agreement to draft a Partnership Working Policy.

b. **Partnership Working Policy**

Members considered the draft Partnership Working Policy.

RESOLVED

That the draft Partnership Working Policy was approved.

c. **Proposed Room Use – Cumbria Coastal Route**

Members received an update from Cllr. Berry about the proposed Cumbria Coastal Route and considered the proposal that the Town Council supports the project by offering use of the Chamber for a presentation by Cumbria Tourism about the proposed route.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council would support the Cumbria Coastal Route project by offering use of the Chamber on 3 June 2026 for a presentation by Cumbria Tourism about the proposed route, as a one-off free of charge room hire for the benefit of the community.

d. **Central Heating System (Project 125) Task and Finish Group**

Members noted an update from Cllr. Handley, that the energy surveyor is now preparing the next version of the required documents with proposed specifications and costings.

a. **Integrated Transport: Practical Opportunities for Town and Parish Councils**

An online session about local transport, including the role of commercial bus services, supported routes and community transport, was held for town and parish councils on Thursday 30 April 2026 at 7.30pm. Cllrs. Berry and Thomas attended.

Members noted an update that the meeting was interesting and that Westmorland and Furness are keen to improve the bus services and wanted to know what communities wanted.

The next meeting is on 20 May 2025, 1 - 4pm at Kendal Town Hall.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

b. Highways Meeting

Members noted that Unitary Cllr. Tim Bloomer met the Westmorland and Furness Highways Officer to discuss the possibility of a one-way system on Kents Bank Road, Cllr. Bloomer requested the Town Council's support.

The meeting was adjourned to hear from Cllr. Bloomer

Cllr. Bloomer reported that the traffic problems on Kents Bank Road are complicated and there is not a single straightforward solution. He is going to ask Highways to consult on the matter as congestion on Kents Bank Road is a serious problem.

The meeting was reconvened.

Members considered that the Town Council writes to the Unitary Council, in response and in support of Cllr. Bloomer, following his correspondence with them.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council will write to the Unitary Council, in response and in support of Cllr. Bloomer, following his correspondence with them to request that the traffic and congestion problems on Kents Bank Road are investigated.

C26/22

Music in the Park

22

Members noted an update on the 2026 season and considered the Risk Assessment for the events.

RESOLVED

That the Risk Assessment for the 2026 Music in the Park season was approved for submission to Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council as part of the licence requirement.

C26/23

Peninsula Environment Action Together (PEAT)

23

Members noted updates from Cllr. Berry:

a. Litter Picking

PEAT have published an article in Grange Now about the litter pick and the new pickers being kept at Victoria Hall. The possibility of re-locating under-utilised litter bins to the Prom shelters is being investigated with the Unitary Council.

b. People's Emergency Briefing

This on Sunday 17 May, 7pm at the Victoria Hall.

Cllr. Berry encouraged everyone to attend. Tim Farron MP will be attending.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

c. **Sea Changes Water Bottle Refill Grant**

PEAT have been successful in their application for a water bottle refill station, which will be installed on the Prom Loos.

C26/24

Training

24

CALC Effective Councillor Training

Members noted that Cllr. Berry took part in the Effective Councillor Module 2 training on 20 April.

C26/25

Next Meeting

25

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting will be at the Victoria Hall on:

Monday 8 June 2026, 7pm.

Meeting closed 8.10 pm