

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, Victoria Hall
Main Street
Grange-over-Sands
Cumbria, LA11 6DP

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Victoria Hall**on Monday 13 January 2025 commencing at 7.00 pm.**

Present: Cllr. R. Handley – **Chair**

Cllr. A. Walmsley, Cllr. T. Thomas, Cllr. E. Walmsley, Cllr. J. Mason,
Cllr. W. Tych, Cllr. J. Walmsley

Mrs. C. Benbow – **Town Clerk**

In attendance: Westmorland and Furness Unitary Councillor A. Hull and six members of the public.

Minute

Ref:

Agenda No:

C24/141 Apologies for Absence

1

Apologies were received from Cllr. Logan who was absent due to other commitments.

RESOLVED

That apologies from Cllr. Logan due to other commitments were approved.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Resident 1	Thanked the Town Council for providing the Christmas lights and made representation to members regarding:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Traffic – enforcement is needed to stop people blocking the pavement by parking vehicles outside Parkers Garage.ii) Prom and Lido refurbishment - requesting the reinstatement of the Yewtree Playing Field where cables have been laid and the reinstatement of the footpath from the field to the Prom.
Council Response	As these are all Unitary Council matters, Unitary Cllr. Hull said he would follow them up.
Resident 2	Made representation to members regarding access for people with disabilities on trains and specifically on rail replacement services.
Council Response	Cllr. Thomas responded that she attended a Furness Line Community Rail Partnership (FLCRP) meeting and received the following responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Rail Replacement Services – all coaches for this service should be accessible to people with disabilities, however, they are not always available at short notice as they are used for school contracts. Northern cannot guarantee accessible vehicles will be used for rail replacement services; they are aware of the matter and are looking into it.ii) Seat reservations – Northern have no current plans to install these as the costs are prohibitive and there is no subsidy available to help with this.
Resident 3	Made representation to members regarding:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Prom and Lido refurbishment – requesting that Westmorland and Furness Council report on progress to resolve the snagging on the works and communicate with residents.ii) Traffic – the information about diversions for the proposed closure of Pig Lane is inadequate.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C24/143 **Westmorland and Furness Council Report**

3

Unitary Cllr. A. Hull reported:

- i) River Winster Flooding – the dredging work is now scheduled to start on 12 May. There will be a public consultation.
- ii) Library – this will be closed for 5 weeks, and a pop-up library will be held at the Methodist Church, open on Wednesday mornings, Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings.
- iii) Cart Lane Flooding – the culvert at Cart Lane will be dredged by United Utilities.
- iv) Gritting – there have been queries about the gritting routes at Cartmel. All the gritting routes on the peninsula will be reviewed.

Unitary Cllr. Hull left the meeting.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cllr. Roger Handley reported that he attended a Councillor Surgery on Saturday 11 January at the Victoria Hall. Unitary Cllrs. Andy Hull and Tim Bloomer and Town Cllr. Tricia Thomas also attended. No members of the public attended, but it was a useful meeting for the Unitary and Town Councillors.

C24/144 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

4

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 December 2024 were accepted as a true record.

C24/145 **Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

5

NOTED Cllrs. Ann and Emma Walmsley declared interests in Item 7, Planning (g) 2024/2390/FPA and (h) 2024/2385/FPA as their family business is connected to the sites.

C24/146 **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item**

6

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.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

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. 2024/2243/FPA

Full Application

Holm Bank Fernleigh Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7HT

Demolition of existing conservatory and provision of a timber two storey external staircase to provide direct garden access

Extension to comment deadline requested.

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

b. 2024/2246/FPA

Full Application

6 Priory Crescent GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7BL

Raise existing house roof, new front and rear dormers, single storey flat roof extension to rear and new flat roof canopy and supporting structure to front elevation. Demolition of existing garage and new 1.5 storey annex accommodation, connecting back to the main house with pitched roof slate canopy.

Extension to comment deadline requested.

RESOLVED

OBJECTION

Grange Town Council supports the neighbours in OBJECTING to the application on the following grounds:

- a. The proposed development, with a substantial change in roof levels, would be out of character with the area.
- b. The proposed raising of the roof level would be out of keeping with the neighbouring properties.
- c. The removal of the garage would result in a loss of parking.
- d. There is concern that the development would be a holiday let and that this would increase pressure on parking and infrastructure.
- e. There is concern that the development would increase pressure on local drainage and water supply.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

c. 2024/2183/FPA

Full Application

Victoria Mount Church Hill GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BD

Erection of 5.5m x 4.5m x 2.9m high 'Vue Grande' glass veranda, over existing terrace area to the side elevation.

Extension to comment deadline requested.

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

Grange Town Council has no objection in principle to a veranda at the property but request one more in keeping with the design of the building.

d. 2024/2340/FPA

Full Application

Sandyfield Cottage Hampsfell Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BG

Conversion of attached cart store and stable to provide additional living space, replacement and enlargement of a utility room, addition of new dormer window, window and roof refurbishment/replacement and addition of a new doorway and window. *Extension to comment deadline requested.*

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

e. 2024/2300/LBC

Listed Building Consent

Castlehead Field Centre Castlehead Lindale GRANGE-OVERSANDS LA11 6QT

Listed Building Consent to replace first floor windows to staff accommodation with white Heritage aluminium framed windows with double glazed units (Resubmission of 2024/1906/LBC)

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

f. 2024/2420/FPA

Full Application

Silver Mist 6 Fellside Court GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BY

Replacement first floor, second floor window

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

g. 2024/2390/FPA

Full Application

Middle Fellgate Farm Cartmel Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7QA

Erection of general-purpose agricultural building.

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- h. 2024/2385/FPA
Full Application
Lingwood Park Cartmel Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7QA
Siting of two additional caravan units

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

- i. 2024/2422/FPA
Full Application
Cedric Walk GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7DG
Creation of an additional 7 vehicle parking spaces on site

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

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

- a. 2024/1885/FPA FAIRWAYS 8 HIGHFIELD ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7JA Full Application Approved with Conditions
- b. 2024/1916/LBC CASTLEHEAD FIELD CENTRE CASTLEHEAD LINDALE GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6QT Listed Building Consent Approved
- c. 2024/1826/FPA HIGH SPRING BANK FARM SPRING BANK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6HA Full Application Refused
- d. 2024/1048/FPA FORMER NATWEST BUILDING SOCIETY BANK MAIN STREET GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6DP Full Application Approved with Conditions
- e. 2024/1047/ADV FORMER NATWEST BUILDING SOCIETY BANK MAIN STREET GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6DP Advertisement Approved with Conditions
- f. 2024/1347/FPA CLARE HOUSE PARK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS CUMBRIA LA11 7HQ Full Application Approved
- g. 2024/1304/FPA 3 FELL CLOSE GRANGE-OVER-SANDS CUMBRIA LA11 7JG Full Application Approved with Conditions
- h. 2024/0921/FPA LAND ADJACENT TO THE SHIELING EDEN PARK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BW Full Application Refused

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C24/148 Finance - Monthly Payments

8

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 complete online authorisation of payments

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

e. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments

RESOLVED

- i) That Cllrs. A. Walmsley and Thomas would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.
- ii) That Cllr. Thomas would meet the Finance Administrator by appointment to complete verification.
- iii) That Cllr. A. Walmsley would meet the Town Clerk at 6.15pm prior to the next Full Council meeting to complete verification.

T O W N C O U N C I L O F G R A N G E - O V E R - S A N D S

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Payments for Approval

January 2025

<u>Accounts for Payment</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit</u>	-
<u>Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque</u>	-
<u>Total Bank Account No. 1</u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

251 Lloyds Bank Plc - Card Dec 2024 - Monthly fee	3.00
251a Amazon - Logitech wireless Bluetooth audio receiver & sign	44.10
251b Smithonix - Cable Mountain RCA to 3.5mm audio cable	14.69
251c Shen Zhen - 4 x Heavy duty wall mounted hooks	20.99
251d Amazon - Plasterboard fixings & 6 x wall mounted hooks	39.98
251e Amazon - 3 x Safety signs	12.66
251f DOMU - VonHaus folding platform trolley	34.64
251g Select Hardware - 2 x Move-It platform dolly	33.98
251h Bosver - 2 x Silverline TB01 portable folding workbench	45.98
251i Amazon - Dewalt compact combi hammer drill	189.00
	439.02
252 WFC - 10/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall	663.00
253 WFC - 10/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3 / Council office	167.00
254 WFC - 10/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4	94.00
255 Npower - Elec V Hall 01/11-30/11/24	402.78
256 Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/11-30/11/24	60.66
257 Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/11-30/11/24	38.79
258 Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/11-30/11/24 (recoverable)	19.62
259 Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/10-01/11/24	744.92
260 Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/11-01/12/24	1,025.63
261 Sage - Support 01/01-31/01/25	109.20
262 BT - Tel & Broadband 01/01-31/01/25	52.39

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Bank Payments

263 WB Elec. - Take down Bandstand speakers & return to hall	50.00
264 WB Elec. - V Hall portable appliance testing	588.00
265 WB Elec. - Fit new kitchen water heater & fused switch	60.00
266 Sinkfall Recycling - Skip for lengthsman	235.00
267 Sinkfall Recycling - Add'l Skip for lengthsman	235.00
268 James Park - Remove Xmas lights & string new lights on tree (recoverable)	200.00
269 WFC - Premises Licence V Hall 2024-25	180.00
270 KTD - 3 x laptops MS 365 annual fee 17/01/25-16/01/26	444.96
271 KTD - Photocopying 29/11-31/12/24	49.90
272 KTD - Microsoft Entra ID annual fee 14/02/25-13/02/26	70.56
273 KTD - MFA/2FA for 365 support annual fee 14/02/25-13/02/26	57.60
	623.02
274 Grange Now - Hall Manager advert	221.24
275 MD Hanafin - Grange Fell allotments fencing works (app'd C23/192)	9,065.29
276 Dobsons - Jet wash external areas of V Hall	120.00
277 Westmorland Fire - Call out and replacement Call Point glass	124.13
278 JT Atkinson - Materials for fire escape signs	14.03
279 Robinsons - Fitting, removal & storage of Xmas tree lights (recoverable)	499.20

T O W N C O U N C I L O F G R A N G E - O V E R - S A N D S

Page 2

280	Healthmatic - PC cleaning 01/01-31/01/25	1,645.49
281	Turnstone HR - HR support 01/01-31/01/25	60.00
282	LITE - 2024 Festive lighting final instalment 30% (approved C22/21)	1,710.36
283	Lancasters - Buckets, fixings, hooks, keys, felt pads, draught excluders etc.	151.20
	Total Bank Account No. 2	19,598.97

Total Accounts	19,598.97
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Salaries, PAYE & N.I. (Bank Account No. 2)

Total Salaries	8,452.06
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 9	2,335.23
LG Pension Scheme Month 9 - Employer payment	2,424.41
	13,211.70

Total Bank Account No. 2	32,810.67
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Total all payments for approval	32,810.67
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Accounts paid in previous month:

Bank Account No. 1

Direct Debits

Cheques

Bank Account No. 2

Direct Debits

247	Waterplus - V Hall 06/11-05/12/24	152.14
248	Waterplus - Orn Gdns PC 07/11-06/12/24	62.31
249	Waterplus - Church Hill PC 07/11-06/12/24	55.29

Direct Bank Payments

250	Refund of monies paid to GTC in error	70.00
	Total Accounts paid in previous month	339.74

Grand Total	33,150.41
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Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 31/12/24	206,647.62
Bank Account No. 2 As at 31/12/24	190,210.48

Signed (Chairman)

Dated.....

a. Casual Vacancies

Members noted that there is a casual vacancy on the Town Council. Informal meetings will take place on Wednesday 29 January and voting at the February 2025 Town Council meeting. Anyone interested in getting involved is invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or see www.grangeoversandtowncouncil.gov.uk

b. Council Tax Base

Members noted that this is the number of dwellings liable for council tax, expressed as an equivalent number of band D dwellings for the parish. Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council (WFC) calculate the number. Any decrease or increase in properties will affect council tax bills.

WFC have confirmed the council tax base for 2025/26 is 2,391.90 which is an increase of 222.31 properties.

c. Draft Budget 2025/26

Members considered the draft budget and report 2025/26, discussing that the resolved budget would need to cover:

- i) The increase in National Insurance contributions following the October 2024 Government budget.
- ii) The withdrawal of the £7,850 Westmorland and Furness Council Tax Grant which was given annually to supplement the council tax demand.
- iii) The recruitment of staff to operate the Victoria Hall and for re-branding/website/social media and professional design of logo/signage to promote the Hall.
- iv) Continued provision of a number of subsidised facilities and services including three blocks of public conveniences, two allotment sites, the band concerts and Christmas lights.

RESOLVED

That budget B, as presented, with £261,559 precept income, and the budget report, were approved.

d. Precept 2025/26

Members considered the precept for 2025/26.

Members noted that the council tax demand for the resolved budget would increase for a Band D household, for the year, from £104.75 to £109.35. This represents an increase of 38p per household per month.

RESOLVED

That the total amount for Parish Purposes (General Spending) was £261,559 and that Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council were requested to pay Grange-over-Sands Town Council a precept of £261,559.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

e. IT Equipment Renewal

Members considered the purchase of a new laptop for the Clerk as the existing one has stopped working.

RESOLVED

That the purchase of a new laptop from KTD Ltd as quoted at £899 (ex VAT) was approved.

C24/150 Consultations

10

There were no consultations.

C24/151 Updates from Members

11

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

Cllr. Thomas – Furness Line Community Rail Partnership – attended the FLCRP Meeting on 12 December and asked about the problems that disabled people face on Northern trains (see report at Item 2 - C24/142).

C24/152 Victoria Hall

12

There were no updates.

C24/153 Westmorland and Furness Council Updates

13

a. Bus Services - Outcome of Tender Process

Members noted correspondence from WFC and details of enhanced bus services which will be in operation from Spring 2025.

b. Lighting Policy

Members noted that Westmorland and Furness Council are currently in the process of developing a lighting policy to replace the policies from the former District and County Councils. The new Highways and Local Lighting Policy is due to go to cabinet on 18 March 2025.

A Parish Councils Engagement Session was held 10 January 2025.

Cllrs. Handley, Thomas, Tych and the Town Clerk attended.

Members noted an update from the Clerk, that the street lighting charge will no longer be made. This was a charge from Cumbria County Council, levied by South Lakeland District Council on Grange residents, through the Grange Town Council precept demand.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

c. Temporary closure of footpath at Yewbarrow Lodge

Members noted that the footpath 526016 alongside Yewbarrow Lodge will remain closed until 21 December 2026 or until the completion of works, whichever is earlier.

C24/154 Allotments

14

Members noted an update from Cllr. Mason on the new fence at Grange Fell allotments, that the work has been completed. Minor snags are being resolved.

Members noted that the total invoice was £208.75 more than the approved quote in March 2024 (C23/193) as the quote was amended to included enhanced rabbit proof fencing.

RESOLVED

That the payment for the work costing £7,554.41 ex VAT was approved.

C24/155 Christmas Lights

15

Members noted an update from Cllr. A. Walmsley on the Christmas lights provided under contract by LITE Ltd, that there had been no problems during the Christmas holidays. Members noted that putting the lights up earlier had been well received by the public.

C24/156 Staffing

16

a. Hall Cleaner

Members noted that the vacancy for Hall Cleaner has been filled.

b. Hall Administrator

Members noted that recruitment is underway, the application deadline is 20 January 2025, and shortlisting will take place on 23 January.

C24/157 Next Meeting

21

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be held:

Monday 10 February 2025, 7.00pm Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Chair, Grange-over-Sands Town Council