

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
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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 9 December 2024 commencing at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Thomas – **Chair**

Cllr. A. Walmsley, Cllr. C. Logan, Cllr. E. Walmsley, Cllr. J. Mason,
Cllr. W. Tych, Cllr. J. Walmsley

Mrs. C. Benbow – **Town Clerk**

In attendance: 5 members of the public.

Minute Ref:	Agenda No:
C24/123 Apologies for Absence	1

Apologies were received from the Chairman, Cllr. R. Handley, who was absent due to illness.

RESOLVED

That apologies from Cllr. R. Handley due to illness were approved.

C24/124	Public Participation: Public Have Your Say	2
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Resident 1 Made representation to members regarding the provision for people with disabilities travelling with carers on Northern trains and requesting the Town Council's assistance in working with Northern to improve services.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Council Response	Cllr. Thomas responded that she was attending the Furness Line Community Rail Partnership meeting on Thursday 12 December and would raise the matter with the train company. Any response will be reported to the next meeting of Grange Town Council.
Resident 2	Made representation to members regarding: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Traffic – opining that the Unitary Council should look at traffic mitigation at Crown Hill roundabout which is hazardous as vehicles come out of the Esplanade too quickly.2. Dropped Kerbs – suggesting that the Unitary Council spray dropped kerbs yellow so drivers can see them and avoid parking across them.
Council Response	Cllr. Thomas encouraged the speaker to attend the Councillor Surgery on the second Saturday in January, 10am-12, at the Victoria Hall, where Westmorland and Furness Councillors will be in attendance.
Resident 3	Cllr. Mason spoke on behalf the manager of a charity shop in Grange, reporting that footfall is low, and town is noticeably quiet and wondering what could be done to encourage people to come to the town.

C24/125 Reports

3

Westmorland and Furness Council Report

Councillors Jenny Boak, Tim Bloomer and Andy Hull all sent their apologies.

Cllr. Hull sent out a written report which was read out to the meeting by the Chairman:

1. Prom Gardeners – WFC are looking at getting them funding/grants.
2. Lido and Prom refurbishment – WFC are still working with contractors to resolve snags and residents can be assured that the Prom surface is not yet finished.
3. Bandstand - the assets team have gone out to tender for the quotes for the bandstand refurbishment.
4. Age UK (Spar) development – the planning for the site was passed.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Mayor's Report

Cllr. Thomas reported in the mayor's absence that he attended the Victoria Hall Christmas Fair and the Christmas Tree lighting on 30 November 2024.

C24/126 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 November 2024 were accepted as a true record.

C24/127 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

5

NOTED There were no requests received for dispensations or declarations of interest.

C24/128 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.

C24/129 Planning Report

7

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. 2024/2152/FPA
Full Application
Kirk Hey Kirkhead Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7DB
Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) attached to planning permission
SL/2018/0551 (Detached dwelling)
Extension to comment deadline requested.

RESOLVED

OBJECTION

Grange Town Council OBJECTS to the application on the grounds that the application represents a significant departure to previous plans and there are a number of areas of concern:

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1. **Drainage** – the development could be used as two separate dwellings, and this would have a significant effect on drainage and rainwater runoff. The infrastructure is not sufficient for two separate dwellings.
2. **Application Details** – it is unclear from the application what the proposed use for the site is.
3. **Application Terminology** – the intended use of the proposed ‘plant room’ is ambiguous. The wording implies a commercial purpose.
4. **Loss of Parking** – the repurposing of the garage would mean the loss of a parking space at the site.

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

- a. 2023/1117/FPA ABBOTT HALL LAMBERT MANOR KIRKHEAD ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7BG Full Application Approved with Conditions
- b. 2024/1673/DISC 1 AND 3 BROWN ROBIN LINDALE ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EU Discharge of Conditions
- c. 2024/1632/DISC GARDEN OF PINE TREES FERNLEIGH ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7HG Part Discharge of Conditions
- d. 2024/1839/FPA 6 KENTSFORD ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7AP Full Application Approved with Conditions
- e. 2024/1348/FPA 18 CROWN HILL MAIN STREET GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6AB Full Application Approved with Conditions
- f. 2024/1827/LDPR FOUR OAKS 23 FERNHILL ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7JD Lawful Development Certificate Proposed Use Refused
- g. 2024/1906/LBC CASTLEHEAD FIELD CENTRE CASTLEHEAD LINDALE GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6QT Listed Building Consent Refused
- h. 2024/0995/FPA 18 - 26 BERNERS CLOSE GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7DQ Replacement of existing timber windows with cream PVC to match existing. Easting Northing 340405 477266 Berners Close Apartments Limited Full Application Approved with Conditions

3. South Lakeland Local Area Planning Committee Alerts

- a. Reference Number: 2024/0582/FPA
Site address: Former Age Concern UK, Lindale Road, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EE
- b. Reference Number: 2024/1885/FPA
Site address: Fairways, 8 Highfield Road, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7JA

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The above applications to be reported to the [South Lakeland Local Area Planning Committee](#) on Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024. The meeting begins at 10.00 am in District Council Chamber, Kendal Town Hall, Kendal.

C24/130 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. Thomas and A. Walmsley 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. Mason and Tych would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.
- ii) That both Cllrs. would meet the Finance Administrator by appointment 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

December 2024

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

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

216 Lloyds Bank Plc - Card Nov 2024 - Monthly fee	3.00
216a Amazon - Desk lamps x 3	28.12
216b Amazon - Wall clock for Room 4 (VHSG donation)	30.82
216c Amazon - Desk lamps x 2	18.74
216d Nisbets - Cleaning materials	12.34
216e Nisbets - Cleaning materials	25.90
216f Nisbets - Cleaning materials	4.86
216g Nisbets - Cleaning materials	123.50
216h Amazon - Calculator	9.05
216i Amazon - Fire safety sign	2.43
216j Amazon - Fire safety signs	67.53
216k Amazon - Fire safety sign	3.59
216l Amazon - Water boiler filter cartridge	19.99
	349.87
217 WFC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall	663.00
218 WFC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3 / Council office	167.00
219 WFC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4	94.00
220 Npower - Elec V Hall 01/10-31/10/24	370.87
221 Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/10-31/10/24	48.88
222 Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/10-31/10/24	41.83
223 Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/10-31/10/24 (recoverable)	17.97
224 Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/10-01/11/24	732.25
225 Sage - Support 01/12-31/12/24	109.20
226 BT - Tel & Broadband 01/12-31/12/24	52.39

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Bank Payments

227 Sinkfall Recycling - Skip for lengthsman	235.00
228 PPL PRS Ltd - Performing Rights to 05/10/24 (recoverable)	272.03
229 J Davenport - Clean int. office, ground floor ext. windows & bus shelter	35.00
230 National Allotment Society - Subscription 14/11/24-13/11/25 (app'd C24/119)	66.00
231 Town Clerk expenses - Remembrance Day expenses	28.28
232 JT Atkinson - Wood for projector stand (VHSG donation)	33.00
233 Cater-kwik - Lincat water boiler (VHSG donation)	503.99
234 J Airey - Internal audit for 1st half year 01/04/24-30/09/24	220.00
235 Treble3 - Website hosting to 14/01/26	144.00
236 Treble3 - Events calendar to 16/12/25	105.60
237 CALC - Effective Councillor Training	30.00

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238	Grange Now - Christmas Box advert	43.20
239	Robinsons - Festoon strands x 16 (recoverable)	1,920.00
240	Healthmatic - PC cleaning 01/12-31/12/24	1,645.49
241	Abi & Tom's - Christmas Tree for hall	91.00
242	KTD - Photocopying 30/10-29/11/24	50.03
243	Lengthsman - Recreation Ground 01/11-30/11/24	727.16
244	Lengthsman - 01/11-30/11/24	593.60
245	Turnstone HR - HR support 01/12-31/12/24	60.00
246	Hall Manager expenses - Remembrance Day expenses	21.00

Total Bank Account No. 2 9,471.64

Total Accounts 9,471.64

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

Total Salaries 7,946.73

HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 8	2,865.81
LG Pension Scheme Month 8 - Employer payment	2,854.06

13,666.60

Total Bank Account No. 2 23,138.24

Total all payments for approval 23,138.24

Accounts paid in previous month

Bank Account No. 1

Direct Debits

Cheques

Bank Account No. 2

Direct Debits

213	Waterplus - V Hall 06/10-05/11/24	158.50
214	Waterplus - Orn Gdns PC 07/10-06/11/24	63.09
215	Waterplus - Church Hill PC 07/10-06/11/24	59.57

Direct Bank Payments

Total Accounts paid in previous month 281.16

Grand Total 23,419.40

Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 30/11/24	204,143.30
Bank Account No. 2 As at 30/11/24	208,272.04

Signed (Chairman)

Dated.....

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

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. The vacancy has been advertised in 'Grange Now,' with posters and on Facebook. Anyone interested in getting involved is invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or see www.grangeoversandstouncil.gov.uk

b. **Internal Audit**

Members noted the interim half-year Internal Audit report to 30 Sept 2024 following the Internal Audit on 21 November 2024. There were no recommendations. The Internal Auditor confirmed that the Council finances are operated in compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulation.

The Town Clerk and the Finance Administrator were thanked for their work.

c. **Draft Budget 2025/26**

Members considered the draft Budget and report 2025/26, noting that the council tax base for 2025-26 has increased from 2,169.59 to 2,391.90 (increase of 222.31 properties).

Members considered the following consultations:

a. **Westmorland and Furness Council - Help to shape future of your waste and recycling collections.**

WFC are inviting stakeholders to share their thoughts on current services by completing the survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/WFwastesurvey
Paper copies are available in the library.

The closing date for responses is 20 December 2024.

RESOLVED

That, as the survey is clearly designed for individuals to respond to, rather than organisations, councillors would respond as individuals and encourage residents to also do so.

b. **Westmorland and Furness Council (Consolidation of Speed Limits) Consultation**

Grange Fell Road: Proposed extension of the existing 30mph speed limit.

To consider this statutory consultation, which follows the initial consultation, which the Town Council responded to in October 2024 as below:

- i) That Grange Town Council responds to the consultation to support the extension of the existing 30mph speed limit at Grange Fell Road.

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- ii) That the Town Council requests that the existing 30mph speed limit is further extended along Grange Fell Road to the junction with Haggs Lane.

Deadline for responses: 20 December 2024.

RESOLVED

That Grange Town Council would respond to the consultation raising the points as sent in the initial consultation.

C24/133 Updates from Members

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

a. **Cllr. J. Walmsley – Cumbria Tourism**

Cllr. J. Walmsley attended the 50th year anniversary conference at Low Wood 'Innovations and Future Trends' on 21 November and the Cumbrian Coastal Route 200 consultation at Furness College on 26 November 2024.

b. **Cllr. J. Walmsley – 'Safety in Community' Meeting**

Cllr. J. Walmsley attended this online meeting, held by WFC and the police on 14 November 2024.

c. **Cllr. C. Logan – 78th Christmas Tree Lighting**

Cllr. Logan reported that the event, on 30 November, was a great success, with a very high turnout and lots of money raised. The Committee are now continuing fundraising and want to get the tree's height measured to see where it ranks as one of the biggest living Christmas trees in the country.

The Council thanked and congratulated the Christmas Tree Committee.

C24/134 Victoria Hall

12

a. **Legionella**

Members considered the draft Legionella Policy and Risk Assessment for the Victoria Hall and public conveniences.

RESOLVED

That the draft Legionella Policy and Risk Assessment for the Victoria Hall and public conveniences was approved. The Hall Manager was thanked for her work on this.

b. **Victoria Hall Christmas Fair**

Members received a report from Cllr. Thomas on the event, which took place on Saturday 30 November. It was the best fair ever, with 23 stalls and a big turnout with many families attending. A total of £629.20 was raised.

Cllr. Thomas thanked Cllr. Ann Walmsley for providing the catering.

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c. Concert Club Piano

Members considered formally accepting the gift of the Concert Club grand piano and received a report written by the Hall Manager. The piano has been gifted as the Club has now formally dissolved.

RESOLVED

- i) That the gift of the Concert Club grand piano was formally accepted
- ii) That the Concert Club were thanked for the gift and for all their work over the years bringing such high-quality events classical music events to the Hall. The Club will be much missed, and it is hoped that someone will step forward to continue their work. The piano is a great asset to the Hall and the gift is much appreciated.
- iii) That the piano is added to the Council's asset register and insurance inventory.

C24/135 Westmorland and Furness Council Updates

13

a. Public Space Protection Orders

Members noted correspondence from WFC following their consultation.

b. Footpath Notice

Members noted the footpath closure at Yewbarrow.

c. Grit Bins

Members noted that residents can check if the grit bin on their street is owned by WFC by using the postcode search on the map on the website

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/salt-bins>.

If it is, and they find it empty, anyone can submit this on the highways online reporting form on the WFC website or call the Highways Hotline on 0300 373 3306.

C24/136 Christmas Lights

14

Members noted an update from the Town Clerk on the provision by Lite Ltd and noted that Cllr. Ann Walmsley will be the contact for outages over the Christmas break.

C24/137 Allotments

15

Members noted an update from Cllr. Mason on the works to replace the fence at Grange Fell allotments that the work start date was delayed but is nearly finished now.

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C24/138 Training

16

CALC Councillor Training

Members noted that Cllr. Tych attended the Councillor 1 online course on 21 November 2024, 7pm.

C24/139 Staffing

17

Members noted the draft minutes of the Staffing Committee held Wednesday 20 November 2024 and considered the recommendations made to Full Council.

RESOLVED

The following recommendations from the Staffing Committee were approved:

- a. That Full Council is recommended to re-grade the Hall Cleaner role to SCP LCI (13-17) to make it commensurate with the Hall Team staff grade. The increment to be backdated from 1 April 2024.
- b. That Full Council is recommended to re-grade the Hall Manager role to SCP LC2 (24-28) to reflect the significant and increasing line management responsibilities undertaken. An increment to be awarded from 1 January 2025 to reflect this and the Chairman authorised to sign the updated salaries sheet.
- c. That a Hall Coordinator is recruited on grade SCP LC2 (18-23) for up to 24 hours per week following the resignation of the Hall Caretaker.

C24/140 Next Meeting

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

Monday 13 January 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