

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 8 June 2026 commencing at 7.00 pm.

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

In attendance: Westmorland and Furness Unitary Councillor T. Bloomer and 4 members of the public.

Minute Ref:	Agenda No:
C26/26 Apologies for Absence	1

Apologies were received from Cllr. E. Walmsley who was absent due to work commitments, from Cllr. A. Walmsley due to other commitments and from Cllr. Mason due to ill-health.

RESOLVED

That apologies from Cllr. E. Walmsley due to work commitments, Cllr. A. Walmsley due to other commitments and Cllr. Mason due to ill-health were approved.

C26/27	Public Participation: Public Have Your Say	2
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Resident 1 Made representation to members raising a number of points regarding services which Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council have responsibility for, including street drain clearance, household refuse collection, road markings, traffic speed management, road surface repair

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

and maintenance, parking enforcement, and management of local notification of planning applications.

Resident 2 Made representation to members speaking as a resident of the Castles and Coasts Housing Association development at Cedric Walk, expressing concern that, following an incident in 2018, it has become clear that there are no fire escapes, and that double parking in the development consistently restricts access for emergency vehicles.

Resident 3 Made representation to members regarding concerns of a health and safety risk at the Tesco Express shop in Kents Bank Road as the aisles are often congested due to deliveries being processed. It is a planning condition that Tesco do not take deliveries until 9am due to noise nuisance but it could be argued that the fire safety risk of deliveries being processed when the shop is busy is the greater hazard.

The resident also expressed concern about the lack of response from Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council, that a report of an empty grit bin sent 16 weeks ago has still not been responded to.

C26/28 Reports

3

Westmorland and Furness Council Report

Councillor Tim Bloomer reported:

1. **Lido** – gave assurance that work is due to recommence on site in June. Westmorland and Furness Council are holding regular meetings with Save Grange Lido and Cllr. Bloomer is genuinely hopeful of progress and a timely resolution.
2. **Community Infrastructure Fund** – hopeful for funds for the Promenade and the Victoria Hall.
3. **Local Plan** – a scoping consultation will be underway, for 6 weeks, from 1 July 2026.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cllr. Roger Handley reported that he opened the Music in the Park season of free summer concerts in Park Road Gardens. He attended the online meeting on 4 June with the new Westmorland and Furness Chief Executive Officer and has been in correspondence with Westmorland about the standard of works of the ID Verde grass cutting contract at Park Road Gardens and Cox's Corner.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/29	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	4
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RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 May 2026 were accepted as a true record.

C26/30	Declarations of Interests and Dispensations	5
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NOTED There were no requests received for dispensations or declarations of interest.

C26/31	Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item	6
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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.

C26/32	Planning Report	7
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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. 2026/1033/HOU
Householder
Crossing Cottage 31 Cart Lane GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7AF
Proposed erection of boundary screen

RESOLVED
NO OBJECTION

- b. 2026/0162/LBC
Listed Building Consent
Victoria Hall Main Street GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6DP
Listed Building consent to remove a 1960s timber-framed glazed office partition from an upstairs room to reinstate the space to its original proportions and improve its usability. All original features, including coving, will be protected, and any damage caused by the 1960s installation will be carefully made good.

RESOLVED
SUPPORT

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

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

- a. 2026/0552/HOU 23 PRIORY CRESCENT GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7BL Householder Approved With Conditions.
- b. 2026/0522/HOU THE OLD PARSONAGE 6 GRANGE FELL ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BJ Householder Approved With Conditions.
- c. 2026/0031/FPA YEWBARROW LODGE MAIN STREET GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EB Full Application Approved With Conditions.
- d. 2026/0789/LDPR GARTH HOUSE KENTS BANK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7HD Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed Use Refused.
- e. 2026/0436/LDEX 29 CHARNEY ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BP Lawful Development Certificate to confirm that - Existing Use Approved.

C26/33 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

Members noted that Cllr. Handley authorised in place of Cllr. J. Walmsley for the June Payments List.

RESOLVED

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

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

e. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments

RESOLVED

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

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Grange-over-Sands Town Council

Payments for Approval

June 2026

Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit

Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque

Total Bank Account No. 1

£	-
£	-
£	-

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

43	Lloyds Bank Plc - Card May 2026 - Monthly fee	£	3.00	
43a	Amazon - Chalkboard (Vic Hall Bar)	£	11.00	
43b	Amazon - Chalkboard (Vic Hall Bar)	£	11.00	
43c	Amazon - Chalkboard (Vic Hall Bar)	£	11.00	
43d	Amazon - Chalkboard (Vic Hall Bar)	£	11.00	
43e	Amazon - Radnor Still Spring Water x24 (MITP)	£	15.89	
43f	Amazon - Radnor Sparkling Spring Water x24 (MITP)	£	16.99	
43g	Amazon - Whole Earth Organic Sparkling Cola Drink x24 (MITP)	£	31.90	
43h	Amazon - Whole Earth Organic Sparkling Lemonade x24 (MITP)	£	31.94	
43i	Amazon - Whole Earth Organic Sparkling Elderflower x24 (MITP)	£	27.94	
43j	Amazon - Long Handled Dustpan & Brush	£	12.95	
43k	Amazon - Storage Shelves 5 Tier	£	77.51	
43l	Amazon - The EcoGuru 10 Pack Cleaning Clothes & Sponge	£	14.99	£ 277.11
44	WFC - 3/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall	£		725.00
45	WFC - 3/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3	£		176.00
46	WFC - 3/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4	£		98.00
47	WFC - 2/9 Non Dom Rates Rooms 6 & 7	£		154.00
48	Npower - Elec V Hall 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	£		248.65
49	Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	£		77.16
50	Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	£		53.12
51	Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/04/26 - 30/04/26 (recoverable)	£		35.15
52	Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/04/26 - 01/05/26	£		756.74
53	Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/03/26 - 01/04/26 - Invoice reissued	£		0.01
54	Sage - Support 01/05/26 - 31/05/26	£		126.00
55	BT - Tel & Broadband 01/05/26 - 31/05/26	£		58.74

Bank Account No. 2 - Bank Payments

56	J Airey - Internal audit for 2nd half year 01/10/25-31/03/26	£	239.60	
57	WFC - Annual Play Area Maintenance Check	£	266.40	
58	JT Atkinson - Plywood Materials for Vic Hall Maintenance	£	109.72	
59	NPG - Intruder Alarm Takeover Service	£	589.50	
60	NPG - Fire Alarm Install (13th April '26, Item 12a NPG Quote SQ-0909)	£	18,912.32	
61	Wallings - Ice Creams (MITP)	£	208.72	
62	Alpha Furniture - 25 stacking chairs, trolley, clips & 12 chairs (VHSG)	£	3,212.70	
63	Habispac - Architectural Services for Listed Building Consent	£	458.70	
64	Amuir - Provision Stage 1& 2 Decarbonisation report, Project 125	£	1,500.00	
65	The Dobsons - Jet Washing May 2026	£	120.00	
66	Cumbria Roofing Ulverston - Repair Damaged Roof slates Victoria Hall	£	2,184.00	
67	Bay Big Band - Performance Fee 24th May 2026 (MITP)	£	150.00	
68	Aindale KTD - Manage Email Security 28/06/26 -27/06/2027	£	259.20	
69	Aindale KTD - 6x Cloud Backup 01/07/2026 - 31/07/2026	£	67.20	
70	Aindale KTD - Photocopying May 2026	£	71.73	
71	PPL/ PRS - Music Licence (Rechargeable)	£	72.24	
72	Turnstone HR - HR support June 2026	£	75.00	
73	Healthmatic - PC cleaning June 2026	£	1,779.43	
74	Lengthsman May 2026	£	765.50	
75	Paul Johnson Property Development - Recreation Ground Maintenance	£	595.00	
76	WB Electrical - Fit fused connection unit Rear Hall & Kitchen	£	390.00	
77	WB Electrical - Fit and test bandstand Speakers (MITP)	£	60.00	
78	Debbie's Cleaning - V Hall cleaning May 2026	£	702.00	
79	Hall Manager Expenses - Refreshments, Stamps, Glasses & Cleaning products (VHSG)	£	347.94	
80	Hall Team Expenses - Brooke Supplies Refused sacks, Ties & Ice Cubes (MITP)	£	23.78	
81	Hall Team Expenses - Banners (MITP)	£	69.84	
82	Lancasters - 2x Keys & Knife, Hook	£	29.90	
83	Councillors Expenses - Nickel Hinges & 2xLocks (VHSG)	£	48.00	
84	CALC - Equality & Diversity Councillor Training June 2026	£	40.00	
85	Shorrocks Trichem Ltd - Hand Towel, Citra Clnr, System Plus	£	172.15	
86	Aindale KTD - Terra 24" Wide Screen Monitor	£	181.20	
	Total Bank Account No. 2		£ 36,487.45	

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Salaries, PAYE & N.I. - Bank Account No. 2

Total Salaries	£ 10,191.76
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HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 2	£ 3,257.47
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LG Pension Scheme Month 2 - Employer payment	£ 3,012.96
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Salaries, HMRC & Pension Total	£ 16,462.19
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Total Bank Account No. 2	£ 52,949.64
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Total all payments for approval	£ 52,949.64
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Accounts paid in previous month:

Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit	£ -
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Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque	£ -
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Total Bank Account No. 1	£ -
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Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

87	Waterplus - V Hall 6th April - 5th May 2026	£ 160.12
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88	Waterplus - Om Gdns PC 7th April - 6th May 2026	£ 78.56
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89	Waterplus - Church Hill PC 7th April - 6th May 2026	£ 83.52
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Bank Account No. 2 - Bank Payments

90	Aqua Clean - Recreation Ground Deep Clean	£ 6,921.50
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Total Accounts paid in previous month	£ 7,243.70
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Grand Total	£ 60,193.34
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Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 31/05/26	£ 219,771.99
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Bank Account No. 2 As at 31/05/26	£ 472,246.16
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Signed (Chairman)

Dated.....

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/34

Finance and Governance – Internal Audit

9

Members noted that the Internal Audit took place on 12 May 2026, and considered the Internal Audit Report, and that the Town Council is fully compliant with the Account and Audit Regulations.

RESOLVED

That the Internal Audit Report dated 12 May 2026 was approved.

C26/35

Finance and Governance – External Audit

10

- a. Members considered the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2026, having noted the previous year final report.

RESOLVED

That the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2026 was approved.

- b. Members considered the Accounting Statements in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2026.

RESOLVED

That the Accounting Statements in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2026 were approved.

- c. Members considered authorising the Chairman and Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) to sign the statements.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman and Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) were authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts in the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2026.

- d. Members noted the Intermediate Review Request and that the responses will be submitted with the AGAR.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- e. Members considered authorising the submission of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026 for external audit to commence following the prescribed period for public examination from Wednesday 10 June 2026 to Tuesday 21 July 2026.

RESOLVED

That the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026 for external audit to commence following the prescribed period for public examination from Wednesday 10 June 2026 to Tuesday 21 July 2026 was authorised.

C26/36

Finance and Governance

11

a. **Insurance**

Members considered a quote from Zurich Insurance to renew cover for 3 years from 1 July 2026:

Renewal terms: 1 Year: £7,908.47; 3 Year: £7,156.50. Costs are per annum.

Last year cover cost £6,684.32. All prices include Insurance Tax. All Council property was revalued this year.

RESOLVED

That the quote from Zurich Insurance to renew cover for 3 years from 1 July 2026 costing £7,156.50 per year was approved.

b. **Reserves**

Members reviewed the Reserves Policy and considered the reserves allocation at the opening of the new financial year.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Reserves Policy was approved.
ii) That the reserves were allocated as below:

Opening Reserves 2026 - 2027 FOR CONSIDERATION JUNE 2026	£
General Reserve	
Council	84,876
Earmarked Reserve	
Victoria Hall	140,000
Public Conveniences	20,000
Recreation, Play and Culture	10,000
Allotments	10,000
Public Domain (currently represented in CIL)	0
Professional Fees	5,000
Restricted (ring-fenced) Reserve	
The Crane Wexler Donation December 2025 C25/138	50,000
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment	66,508
Victoria Hall Support Group donations	9,225
Reserves as AGAR Box 7 March 2026	395,610

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

c. **Victoria Hall Support Group**

Members noted that the Victoria Hall Support Group has donated £15,000 to the Hall. These funds will be held in a ring-fenced reserve.

d. **Casual Vacancies**

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

C26/37 Consultations

12

There were no consultations.

C26/38 Updates from Members

13

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

Cllr. Berry – Cumbria Coastal Route Presentation - 3 June 2026 The event was attended by 28 people including Cllrs. Berry, Handley, J. Walmsley and the Town Clerk. It was an opportunity to find out more about Cumbria Tourism's plans and for businesses to network.

C26/39 Victoria Hall

14

a. **Listed Building Consent**

Members noted that the application for Listed Building Consent to remove the Room 6/7 Planning Office partition wall has been accepted. The reference is 2026/0162/LBC.

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

- i) Members noted an update from the Central Heating Task and Finish Group which reported to the Victoria Hall Working Party held on 3 June 2026 at 2pm.

Cllrs. Handley, A. Walmsley, Tych, Berry, J. Walmsley and the Hall Manager and Town Clerk attended.

- ii) The surveyor's next report has been received. It is proposed to replace the failing gas boilers, for which spares are no longer available, with air-source heat pumps, renew the badly designed pipework to the main hall area and install solar panels with battery backup, install secondary glazing, extra insulation, and draft proofing.

- iii) Members considered putting forward a Strategic Outline Case to the Westmorland and Furness Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Fund.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- iv) The next meeting of the Victoria Hall Working Party will be Wednesday 8 July 2-3.30pm.

Members noted that the Central Heating Task and Finish Group has now completed its task in commissioning the energy audit and the feasibility study into converting the central heating from gas.

The project has developed to include wider improvement and accessibility aspects and is now called 'Project 125'.

RESOLVED

- i) That, as the Central Heating Task and Finish Group has now completed its task in commissioning the energy audit and the feasibility study into converting the central heating from gas, the Group is dissolved.
- ii) That, as the project has developed to include wider improvements and accessibility aspects, it is now called 'Project 125' and the Victoria Hall Working Party continues the development work, meeting monthly on the first Wednesday of the month.
- iii) That a Strategic Outline Case to the Westmorland and Furness Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Fund would be submitted.

C26/40 Westmorland and Furness Council

15

a. **Adoption of Westmorland and Furness Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

Members noted correspondence that, on 7 May 2026, Westmorland and Furness Council formally adopted the Westmorland and Furness Design Code SPD.

b. **Integrated Transport Enhanced Partnership Forum**

This was scheduled for Wednesday 20 May, 1-4 pm at Kendal Town Hall. Cllr. Berry attended, reporting that there were interesting developments about providing demand response transport; she has arranged a meeting with Blueworks Bus Company.

c. **New Chief Executive of Westmorland and Furness Council.**

An online briefing was held on 4 June, for members of Parish and Town Councils, to meet Miranda Cannon, the new Chief Executive of Westmorland and Furness Council. Cllr. Handley reported in Item 3, and Cllr. Berry reported that many parish and town councils attended and that it was reassuring to hear that they share the same problems.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/41 Music in the Park

16

Members noted that the Music in the Park Sunday Concerts in Park Road Gardens started on Sunday 24 May 2026 with the Big Bay Band. Due to poor weather forecast, Burneside Brass played on Sunday 7 June at the Victoria Hall. Both bands were excellent and well-received by good audiences.

C26/42 Recreation Ground

17

Members noted the annual Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council safety inspection report and that the works to re-surface the skate ramps have been commissioned and are scheduled.

C26/43 Public Conveniences

18

Members noted an update on the grant application to WAF Public Conveniences capital fund, that there has been no response from Westmorland.

C26/44 Peninsula Environment Action Together (PEAT)

19

Members noted updates from Cllr. Berry:

- a. **People's Emergency Briefing on Sunday 17 May, 7pm, at the Victoria Hall.**
The public showing took place; it was well-attended. There will be a showing at Arnside on 11 June and 'Churches Together' are considering a showing.
- b. **Sea Changes Water Bottle Refill Grant.**
The unit has now been delivered and will be installed by Miniheat at the Prom Loos.
- c. **Great Big Green Week.**
PEAT are holding a drop in event at the Victoria Hall, 11 June, in Room 4 at the Victoria Hall.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C26/45

Public Domain

20

Members considered a proposal from Cllr. Thomas to install a handrail at the steps into the Normandy Veterans' Garden at the base of the sloping path access from the road down to the picnic bench, to be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy reserve.

RESOLVED

That Cllr. Thomas was authorised to source a quote for the works to install a handrail at the steps into the Normandy Veterans' Garden at the base of the sloping path access from the road down to the picnic bench, to be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy reserve, for consideration at the next Town Council Meeting.

C26/46

Yewbarrow Development

21

Members noted an update from South Lakes Housing on the Yewbarrow Lodge Development:

Construction is progressing well with Highall Developments Limited. From mid-June, works will commence to alter the road known as Back Yewbarrow Terrace. We are aiming to maintain access while the works take place, and we will work closely with residents to minimise disruption.

For safety reasons, the pedestrian route past the northern rockery remains closed until the development is complete. We are grateful for the continued support and patience of the community as this development progresses.

C26/47

Training

22

Members noted that Cllr. Berry attended CALC Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion training on 2 June 2026, costing £40, which was instructive and thought-provoking.

C26/48

Next Meeting

23

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be held: Monday 13 July 2026 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Chair, Grange-over-Sands Town Council