

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman/Mayor:
Cllr. Roger Handley

Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:
Cllr. Ann Walmsley

Town Clerk:
Mrs. C. Benbow



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Cumbria, LA11 6DP

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

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Victoria Hall on Monday 13 April 2026, following the Annual Town Meeting at 7pm.

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

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

Minute Ref:		Agenda No:
C25/211	Apologies for Absence	1

Apologies were received from Cllr. E. Walmsley who was absent due to work commitments.

RESOLVED

That apologies from Cllr. E. Walmsley due to work commitments were approved.

C25/212	Public Participation: Public Have Your Say	2
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Resident 1 Made representation to members expressing concerns about the Unitary Council Highways and Planning Departments, asking about 20mph speed limits in Grange, congratulating the Town Council on the new improved website and giving suggestions of further possible improvements.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

Council Response The Chairman responded that the Town Council has requested of the Unitary Council that Grange is included in the next round of consultation.

C25/213 Reports 3

Westmorland and Furness Council Report

Councillor Tim Bloomer reported:

1. **Transformation Programme** – this is a streamlining exercise at the Unitary Council, which is underway, starting with voluntary redundancies. The Locality Board system is ending and a new system of working with communities will come into place from May 2027.
2. **Highways Budget** – funding has been made available to address the problems with dropped kerbs. The kerb near Daisy Roots bookshop is a clear priority. Cllr. Bloomer will be writing to Highways requesting that this is resolved and asked the Town Council to also write in support.
3. **Highways Meeting** – Cllr. Bloomer is meeting the Highways Officer this week to request that the possibility of investigating a one-way system on Kents Bank Road is investigated and requested the Town Council's support in this.
4. **Lido and Prom** – there is no update – Cllr. Bloomer is chasing a progress report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cllr. Roger Handley reported that he attended the Guide Association Leaders Awards Event at Kendal Golf Club.

C25/214 Minutes of the Previous Meeting 4

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 March 2026 were accepted as a true record.

C25/215 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations 5

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

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C25/216 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.

C25/217 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. 2026/0552/HOU
Householder
23 Priory Crescent GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7BL
Removal of existing flat garage roof plus rear wall, construction of single storey rear and side extensions with new hipped roof profiles.
Extension to comment deadline requested.

**RESOLVED
NO OBJECTION**

- b. 2026/0522/HOU
Householder
The Old Parsonage 6 Grange Fell Road GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6BJ
Removal of existing garage roof. Erection of structural lining walls to form garage enclosure and new pitched roof.

**RESOLVED
NO OBJECTION**

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

- a. 2026/0163/DISC YEWBARROW MAIN STREET GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EB Approval of Details Reserved by Condition(s) Discharge Of Conditions
- b. 2025/1081/LBC MONKS REST, 12 CART LANE, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS, LA11 7AB Listed Building Consent Approved With Conditions
- c. 2026/0111/DISC YEWBARROW, MAIN STREET, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6EB Approval of Details Reserved by Condition(s) Discharge Of Conditions

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- d. 2026/0086/HOU CRAGMERE, LYNDENE DRIVE, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 6QP Householder Approved With Conditions
- e. 2025/1227/FPA HARRISONS LODGE KENTS BANK ROAD GRANGE-OVER-SANDS LA11 7EY Change of use - Full Application Refused

C25/218 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 Mason would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.
 - ii) That Cllr. Mason 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.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Payments for Approval

April 2026

Accounts for Payment

£

Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit

Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque

Total Bank Account No. 1

-
-
-

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

412	Lloyds Bank Plc - Card March 2026 - Monthly fee	3.00
413	Npower - Elec V Hall 01/02/26 - 28/02/26	309.91
414	Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/02/26 - 28/02/26	85.29
415	Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/02/26 - 28/02/26	39.01
416	Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/02/26 - 28/02/26 (recoverable)	21.90
417	Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/02/26 - 01/03/26	1,133.12
1	WFC - 1/10 Non-Dom Rates V Hall	727.00
2	WFC - 1/10 Non-Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3 / Council Office	171.23
3	WFC - 1/10 Non-Dom Rates Room 4	100.41
4	Sage - Support 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	126.00
5	BT - Tel & Broadband 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	58.74

Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Bank Payments

418	WB Electrical - Rewire, fit lighting & power circuits to Chamber (VHSG donation)	2,536.99
419	KTD - Systemcare IT cover 30/03/26 - 29/03/27 (app'd C29/196 (e))	2,473.20
420	KTD - 6 x Cloud backup and monitoring 01/05-31/05/26	67.20
421	KTD - Photocopying March 2026	48.28
422	CALC - Climate Action Councillor Training 24/03	35.00
423	Debbie's Cleaning - V Hall cleaning 01/03/26 - 31/03/26	648.00
424	The Lawn Man - Recreation Ground maintenance - 01/03-31/03/26	409.00
425	Lengthsman - 01/03/26 - 31/03/26	275.58
426	Lamont Pridmore - Fees re appointment of Finance Administrator	1,752.00
427	A Thould - V Hall external window cleaning	45.00
428	Lancasters - Screws, Hooks, Doorstops	29.75
429	P Dalton Engineering & Construction, Handrails for Park Road (CIL)	3,816.00
6	Turnstone HR - HR support 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	75.00
7	Healthmatic - PC cleaning 01/04/26 - 30/04/26	1,715.94
8	Former Staff - March 2026 Additional Hours	282.75

Total Bank Account No. 2

16,985.30

Total Accounts

16,985.30

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Page 2

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

Total Salaries	8,914.31
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 12	4,190.10
LG Pension Scheme Month 12 - Employer payment	3,933.49
	17,037.90
 Total Bank Account No. 2	 34,023.20
 Total all payments for approval	 34,023.20

Accounts paid in previous month:

Bank Account No. 1

Direct Debits

Cheques

Bank Account No. 2

Direct Debits

409	Waterplus - Victoria Hall 06/02/26 - 05/03/26	131.75
410	Waterplus - Orn Gdns PC 07/02/26 - 06/03/26	7.72
411	Waterplus - Church Hill PC 07/02/26 - 06/03/26	61.71

Direct Bank Payments

Total Accounts paid in previous month	201.18
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Grand Total	34,224.38
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Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 31/03/26	217,320.76
Bank Account No. 2 As at 31/03/26	190,550.90

Signed (Chairman)

Dated.....

a. 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

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

b. Police Update

Members noted that following a spate of graffiti, the police identified the culprit using CCTV. As the offender is under 18, a Community Resolution took place. This included the offender writing letters of apology to the Town Council, Westmorland Council and two private businesses. This correspondence has now been received by the Town Council.

c. Annual Audit

Members considered the Assertion 10 Audit wording and the quote from KTD to provide gov.uk emails for all Town Councillors.

RESOLVED

That the provision of gov.uk emails for all Town Councillors is not a good use of public funds as the use of gov.uk emails by the Council staff fulfils the audit criteria set by Assertion 10.

C25/220

Consultations

10

Friends of the Lake District - Fairer Housing, Stronger Communities Campaign

Members noted that the campaign aims to address some of the adverse effects holiday lets and second homes are having on local communities and considered signing their petition:

<https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/work/fairerhousing/>

RESOLVED

That Grange Town Council would sign the Friends of the Lake District - Fairer Housing, Stronger Communities Campaign petition.

C25/221

Updates from Members

11

Members received the following updates from Members on meetings/works in progress not covered in other agenda items:

a. Cllr. Berry – Cumbria Coastal Route

A drop-in session was held for local businesses about the Cumbria Coastal Route being proposed by Cumbria Tourism and the Westmorland and Cumberland Unitary Councils. The event was well attended, and businesses are keen to take the project further.

b. Cllr. Thomas – Furness Line Community Rail Partnership

Reported that the windows at Grange station have been repaired.

a. **Security**

- i) Members noted that the company commissioned to provide a security access integrated system (resolved May 2025 C25/28) have been unable to fulfil the contract. This contract has now been terminated and alternative quotes sourced.
- ii) To consider new quotes for fire/intruder and security access integrated system.

RESOLVED

- a. That the quote from NPG Fire Safety Ltd, for £26,733.86 was accepted to upgrade the Fire Alarm System and Intruder Alarm and provide security access system.
- b. That the work is funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) grant reserve as the proposed expenditure addresses the demands that development places on the area and supports the ongoing provision and improvement of community infrastructure and is thereby compliant with the requirements of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010.

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

- i) Members noted that the Task and Finish Group met on 25 March. Cllrs. Handley and Tych and the Hall Manager took part.
- ii) Members noted that the Energy Audit – Stage 1 and 2 Re-heating and Decarbonisation Assessment - for the whole building (resolved December 2025) has been completed.
- iii) Members noted an update from Cllrs. Handley and Tych, that the survey has demonstrated what could be done, in replacing the gas boilers with a sustainable heating system and solar panels. A more detailed report is now being prepared.

c. **Hire Fees**

Members noted that a meeting of the Victoria Hall Working Party took place on 9 April 2026 at 1pm. Cllrs. Handley, Thomas, Berry, A. Walmsley, the Hall Manager and the Town Clerk took part.

Members considered the proposed revised charging schedule, last resolved August 2022 and implemented from 1 January 2023.

RESOLVED

That the proposed revised charging schedule was approved for implementation from 1 May 2026.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C25/223 Westmorland and Furness Council

13

Bailey Lane Level Crossing -Temporary Traffic Order

Members noted correspondence received, that there will be a further six-month extension of the temporary closure of the level crossing. This is to cover the period until after the public hearing in June and was agreed on the basis that this is the FINAL extension for this location. The closure shall be in effect until 6 October 2026 or until a permanent decision has been made of the crossing's future, whichever is the earlier.

C25/224 Recreation Ground

14

a. **Skate Ramps**

Members noted an update on the renewal of the skate ramp surfaces, that, as authorised under delegated powers as resolved at the previous meeting, the Town Clerk has contracted the work to re-surface the skate ramps.

Radii Skatepark Repairs has been contracted for £2,500 to paint the ramps with two coats of anti-slip paint in blue and to remove protrusions from youth shelter.

b. **Deep Clean**

Members noted an update on the contract to deep clean site surfaces as resolved at the previous meeting, that the work is scheduled for as soon as the weather permits. The Town Clerk reported that Cumbria Aqua Clean have the work underway.

C25/225 Public Conveniences

15

Members noted an update on the grant application to Westmorland Public Conveniences Capital Fund that they had responded to request a revised application for £6,000. This has been supplied.

C25/226 Music in the Park

16

Members noted an update on the Music in the Park summer concerts season, that plans for the season are underway.

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C25/227 Peninsula Environment Action Together (PEAT) Active Travel Survey 17

a. **Active Travel Survey**

Members noted that a working party was held on Wednesday 18 March. Cllrs. Handley, A. Walmsley, Mason, E. Walmsley, Thomas, Tych and Berry and the Town Clerk took part. The Council's response to PEAT's Active Travel and Transport survey was agreed for submission by Cllr. Berry.

b. **Film Showing**

Members noted an update from Cllr. Berry about the PEAT showing of the People's Emergency Briefing at the Victoria Hall. Councillors were invited to a private viewing on Tuesday 14 April 7-9 pm and the public viewing is 7-9 pm on Sunday 17 May.

c. **Litter Pick**

Members noted an update from Cllr. Berry about the litter pick held on Saturday 28 March as part of the Great Cumbrian Litter pick. The event was very well attended. PEAT has been donated some litter pickers which will be kept at the Victoria Hall. They are investigating getting litter bins put at the shelters on the Prom.

C25/228 Yewbarrow Development 18

Members noted an update from South Lakes Housing, received on 31 March 2026, that the names for the new development will be Porritt Gardens and Huggett Heights.

C25/229 Training 19

CALC - Local Councils and Climate Action

Members noted that this online workshop took place on Tuesday 24 March, 7pm, £35 per person and received an update from Cllr. Berry, that the training was not well-pitched.

C25/230 Next Meeting 20

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be the Annual Town Council Meeting held Monday 11 May 2026, 7.00pm Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Chair, Grange-over-Sands Town Council