

Torver Parish Council

Minutes and Actions of Torver Parish Council

Meeting held at Torver Schoolroom, Torver,

On Thursday 31st July 2025 at 7.30pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr P Worth

Deputy Chair: Cllr C Bradley

Councillors: Cllr M Feather

Clerk: C Sargeant

Members of the public: 2 (C Barr, V Kay)

Minute Number		Action By
083/25	Public participation: 1. Westmorland and Furness Cllr S Pender sent her apologies and updates: a) Road works – we have a motion going to the Council: This council appreciates the challenge faced by utilities in the maintenance and repair of their assets. We wish to work alongside utilities to manage this in the best viable way. With this in mind, we ask the Leader to write to the Minister for Future Roads requesting a meeting to discuss whether more powers can be granted to councils in respect of the efficient management and coordination of Streetworks with particular attention to rural areas where there may be limited alternative access to communities, properties and businesses. b) How to help small businesses in current crisis. There is a 'Invest in Westmorland and Furness' website which is a good resource with information on business support and funding, skills and recruitment and finding available business space among other things. Advice and funding are currently made available by W&F council through its UKSPF funding, delivered by partners including Cumbria Chamber of Commerce, Enterprising Cumbria, and Cumbria Social Enterprise Partnership. c) Reducing parking charges in LDNPA. d) Better managing events. v) Coniston Medical Centre – all looking positive. Cllr Pender suggested she could join by Teams but when TPC meets in the Schoolroom there is no connectivity to facilitate such an arrangement. Cllr Pender had previously sent notice of a temporary road closure on the A594 at Grizebeck on Friday 1st August and Saturday 2nd August from 19:00 to 07:00 on both nights.	

	2.Representation from members of the public: both CB and VK were content to follow the Agenda and contribute to discussion where their interests were.	
084/25	Apologies: Cllr T Stergiakis.	
085/25	Minutes of the Meeting on 19th June 2025: Resolved: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 th June 2025 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair P Worth and Seconded by Cllr C Bradley.	
086/25	Matters Arising from Minutes: 1.(070/25) After Mr and Mrs Lewis had urged the parish council to look again at the threat of flooding posed by the beck, Cllrs Worth and Bradley, on Tuesday 15th July, walked the beck to view the problems it raised. On 18th July, Cllr Worth reported: Since the 90-degree corner on the bend had been cleared in March 2023, the woodland has been sold to Jason Hadwin. I have spoken with JH and he is going to clear the stones which have deposited in the corner and use them to build the downhill side up. We have also found out from JH that the issue causing the flooding is water coming from the Tranearth Beck when there has been heavy rain. The path behind High Torver Park up to Ash Gill quarries goes across a wide marshy area, Bull Haw Moss. Before the stepping stones and the stile across the Moss there is a faint path to the right which leads to a low earth dam. This was to do with redirecting water to the Tranearth Beck to power machinery at Bannishead quarries. John Barr is a bit more prosaic and says it is to do with providing water supply to Scarr Head farm back in the 1960s, presumably before mains water became available. The dam is only about 3-4 feet high but has a noticeable dip in the middle, and when there is a heavy rainfall the beck overflows and occasionally comes over the top of the dam. What is needed is to dig out the beck streambed and use some of the material to raise the level of the dam at the low point by about 6-8 inches. Cllr Worth attached a number of videos and photos. [Three were courtesy of JH showing the water over-topping the dam from earlier this year. Two were from when Cllrs Worth and Bradley went to see the problem (15th July). JH provided a video (15th July) showing how quickly the water had risen and was threatening to come over the top of the dam again.] Cllr Worth judged the bigger issue is how to resolve the problems coming from the Tranearth Beck. Cllr Feather thought an engineer ought to be consulted. C Barr said grants were available. Following the publication of a new Flood Map for Torver, councillors thought to devise a strategy for responding to it. a.To make residents aware of the new map and to encourage them to find it on the Gov.UK website. https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/ b.To challenge the Environment Agency about the accuracy of the flood map for Torver. Councillors are aware that the new map	

	could have an impact on insurance, valuation, planning applications, etc. c.To engage with the Environment Agency to explore what could be done to the watercourses above Torver which might slow or divert water during periods of heavy rain. d.To encourage those authorities that have a responsibility for keeping drains fully functional to do so. Councillors are aware of and grateful to those locals who do manage drains in their location. e.To question whether Torver has enough drains to cover the threat of flooding. f.To research the history of flooding in the village, and to consult with locals who have a memory of recent dealings with authorities (such as the Environment Agency, the LDNPA, The Rivers Trust) to attempt to form a more accurate picture of how Torver has been rated and should be rated. g.To encourage residents to make use of the flood alert warning facility. https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings h.To be aware of climate change and the impact it will have on the future of Torver. 2.(072/25) The noticeboard on order from Haverigg Enterprises has been delayed because of machine issues. It was unanimously decided to keep the order open and reconsider it at the TPC Meeting on 4th September 2025. 3.(080/25b) The acquisition of two speed indicators – ongoing. 4. The maintenance of the village green to the left of the road leaving the A593 must be resolved now that David Johnson has informed the council that he can no longer continue with his voluntary work. The council thanks him and wishes him well. A replacement is sought. 5.(064/25) The application to purchase the BT phone box (on the A593 to the west of The Church House) is to be completed by the clerk. Thoughts of the kiosk housing a defibrillator were exchanged. C Barr said, following the demise of the First Responders, money might be available. 6. Establishing a Mayoral Combined Authority across Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness: this consultation seeks views on a proposal to form a Mayoral Authority for Cumbria. The consultation seeks views, particularly from interested parties, including those who live and work across Cumbria, on the effect of establishing a Mayoral Combined Authority in the area. It includes questions on the proposed geography and how the Combined Authority will make decisions, together with questions on the effects of working across this geography through a Mayoral Combined Authority. In some parts of the country, there may be	
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	proposals for reorganisation of existing councils. This is a separate process and is not covered by this consultation.	
087/25	Requests for Dispensation: None declared.	
088/25	Declaration of interests in respect of Agenda items: None declared.	
089/25	Planning: To consider planning application 7/2025/5372 Wilson Arms, Torver, Coniston, LA21 8BB - Retrospective approval for hardstanding within plots and sections of track to northern section of site. Approval for hot tubs and associated hardstanding. After a debate in which members of the public participated and that took into account the documents (8) on the planning website, it was resolved that the following comment would be submitted to the planning authority: This council is of a mind to raise no objections.	
090/25	Financial Matters: A grant of £250 was received from Coniston 14. (058/25) The following payment was authorised: Zurich Insurance £485.08.	
091/25	Councillor vacancy: None has come forward. Advertising to be renewed.	
092/25	Correspondence: Other than that included in the Minutes a. See above (083/25) for emails from W&F Cllr S Pender. b. CALC notices received and forwarded to councillors when relevant. c. NALC Chief Executive's weekly bulletin. d. RSN weekly news.	
093/25	Councillor Matters: Nothing more.	
094/25	Date of Next Meeting: The date of the next meeting of Torver Parish Council will be held on Thursday 4 th September 2025 at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom.	
095/25	Closure: The Chair closed the meeting at 8.25pm.	

Signed

Date

Signed

Date