Minutes of a meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at Ulpha Farm, Witherslack, on Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Andrew Coates and John Geldard, and Westmorland & Furness Councillor Steve Bavin. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Rachel Bell and Mike Walford, and received from Parish Clerk Kevin Price.

25/59 Public participation:

Parking at Church Road junction; residents who live in the area are parking here, which makes it difficult for vehicles/emergency vehicles to get through. The PCSO will be asked to discuss with residents about alternatives.

25/60 Declarations of interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda

25/61 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th August 2025, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

25/62 Westmorland and Furness Councillor:

Councillor Bavin reported as follows:

a. He the LFG on all the work done in making the Winster drain work more effectively as it flowing, and the benefits are seen deeper in the valley. Councillor Geldard also commented on how it has improved the wildlife along the Winster with sights of Kingfishers, Curlews and other habitats. The next challenge for the LFG is the Ulpha main drain.
b. The verges on Meathop road maybe getting repaired later in the month.
c. Blea Crag road flooding – this can possibly be attended to without going on to private land and hopefully it will be put in hand soon.
d. Work at Meathop Hall bank is still in hand.

25/63 Planning:

The following application was considered:

Rose Cottage, 26 Meathop Grange, Meathop. Fell 11x Oak trees due to proximity to buildings. No objections.

25/64 Woodland Leases/Parish Land:

Councillor Geldard suggested that the Council accepts the quotation of £1,500 but also could be prepared to prune the seven parish trees that overhang Stuart Pickup's land.

Councillor Carter will speak to Councillor Walford to confirm the estimate with the tree surgeon and then proceed.

As Councillor Walford was absent from the meeting all other actions from the previous meeting were deferred to the January meeting.

25/65 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

Anne Carter	£350.00	Website management (annual)
Graham Dobson	£75.00	Maintenance (to note)
K M Price	£158.11	Quarterly expenses to 30th September including use of home office and travel.

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

c. The Budget Report was considered and it was resolved to make a Precept upon Westmorland & Furness Council is the sum of £12,143 for the financial year 2026-27.

d. An application for funding for Witherslack Playgroup had been received. This is for new equipment, following completion of a safety audit. It covers the replacement of broken toys, also to buy new high chairs to make sure the playgroup has safe equipment and appliances. It was resolved to make the grant of £500 as requested.

25/66 A590 road improvements:

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No updates have been received.

25/67 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 26th January 2026 at 7pm at Ulpha Farm.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed:

Dated: