Minutes of a meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at Ulpha Farm on Thursday 28tth August 2025 at 7pm.

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

25/48 Public participation: None

25/49 Declarations of interest:

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

25/50 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th May 2025, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

25/51 Westmorland & Furness Councillor:

Councillor Bavin reported as follows:

a. The flooding at Blea Crag - work has commenced on addressing this matter and is progressing. A much wider soakaway is required.
b. A safety audit is being carried out by the Highways Agency.
c. Problems with soft verges were noted.

25/52 Planning:

a. Councillor Bell reported on the recent planning seminar. The report on this first seminar, held in June, had been circulated to all Councillors and was noted with thanks.
b. Horse and rider signs were discussed.
c. The speed camera at the Ulpha Junction has been the subject of online complaints due to the lack of vision, some via Facebook, where the Parish Council has been accused of not doing anything about the situation.

25/53 Woodland Leases/Parish Land:

a. In response to a letter received from a resident, it was resolved that this Council does not have full records of all relevant land and is not currently in a position to sell any of the portions of land.
b. The tenant at Pool Bank wishes to relinquish his lease. Councillor Walford will notify the Clerk of his contact details so that his proposal can be formally accepted.
c. Councillor Walford will contact Edward Miller regarding the Slate Hill quarry.
d. The Clerk will check on all the leases and bring a report to the next meeting.
e. It was noted that there are two diseased trees requiring felling. Councillor Walford will contact Nick Stanley to ask if they can be felled and the wood taken.

25/54 Meeting with Electricity North West:

Councillor Coates had met with David Moore and Electricity North West is not interested in the plot of land under discussion.

25/55 Tree report:

The report from Treescapes Consultancy Limited had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that there are two diseased trees requiring felling. In response to this, it was agreed to fell the two trees now and keep a close eye on the two others. Councillor Walford will progress this matter with the local tree surgeon.

25/56 Finance:

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

Witherslack Parish Hall		
	£500.00	Annual grant from Precept
Graham Dobson	£87.50	Emptying bins and strimming
K M Price	£135.05	Backpay
K M Price	£141.39	Quarterly expenses to 30th June, including use of home off and travel.

b. The report from the Internal Auditor was received with thanks. There were no matters arising to be brought to the Council's attention.

c. The cash and budget statements were noted.

d. The Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025-26 was noted and approved. (The Clerk at Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha is currently employed for five hours weekly, at Point 22 on the Salary Scale)..

25/57 A590 road improvements:

There have been no recent meetings so there is nothing to report at present.

25/58 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm at Ulpha Farm
(This will be the Precept Meeting)

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: