

Minutes of a meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at Ulpha Farm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm.

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

**26/1 Public participation:** None.

**26/2 Declarations of Interest:**

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

**26/3 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**26/4 Westmorland & Furness Councillor:**

No report, as Councillor Bavin had submitted his apologies for absence.

**26/5 Planning:**

A copy of an Enforcement Notice had been received today in respect of E/2025/0012 (Land at Middle Foulshaw, Levens). This proposed development has caused some concern in the neighbourhood, being at the end of a two-mile, single track road and the scene of occasional accidents.

**26/6 Woodland Leases/Parish Land:**

Councillor Walford said there had been no offers to buy any of the parcels of land that had been identified and valued.

The last meeting had accepted the quotation (£1,500) for clearing the trees and it was hoped that the contractor would cut the overhanging branches too, although this might incur a further charge. Councillor Walford will update Councillors as things progress.

**26/7 Finance:**

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

Graham Dobson	£25.00	Maintenance
Treble 3	£120.00	Website
K M Price	£142.64	Bank errors – details provided to Chairman
K M Price	£125.19	Quarterly expenses to 31 <sup>st</sup> December, including use of home off and travel.

- b. The cash and budget statements were noted.
- c. It was resolved that the Chairman should sign the Payroll Services Contract with DM Payroll Services Ltd.
- d. A suggestion was made that the Council could consider the installation of a cycle rack at the Meathop bus shelter. Councillor Bell agreed to monitor the situation and to make enquiries as to how many cyclists would use it, and report back to a future meeting.

**26/8 'Assertion 10 – Digital & Data Compliance':**

This document, from CALC, had been circulated all Councillors and the Clerk explained briefly what is entailed, in order to make the Council fully compliant. It was resolved to accept a quotation from Treble 3 for this work, at a cost of £685.00 plus VAT. All Councillors will, in due course, receive a 'gov.uk' email address and this should be used for all Council business. As there will obviously be some overlap until everything is in place, the present email addresses can continue to be used. The Clerk will update all Councillors in due course.

**26/9 A590 road improvements:**

There was no report and it was uncertain if this group would continue to meet.

**26/10 Open Forum:**

Councillor Geldard updated the Council concerning the River Winster. He said that the recent dredging had now been completed and was successful.

It was agreed to make this a regular agenda item for each meeting.

**26/11 Date and place of the next meeting:**

***Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7pm at Ulpha Farm  
(This will be the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting)***

*Should a meeting be required before then, this will be arranged.*

*The meeting closed at 8.05pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*