

**MINUTES** of the **ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held at the **COUNCIL OFFICES, 9 ESK STREET, LONGTOWN** on **MONDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026** at **7:20PM**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Sir J Graham (Chair), G Routledge (Vice Chair), C Johanssen, E Jeffrey, M Irving, M Gunson, C Adams and R Graham

**ALSO PRESENT** – Parish Clerk and RFO

**APOLOGIES** – Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone

Minute Number	
26/05/013	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b> To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that apologies were received from Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone</p>
26/05/014	<p><b>Declaration of Interest</b> To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that a declaration was received from Cllr M Gunson regarding the allotments</p>
26/05/015	<p><b>Public Participation</b> To receive representation from members of the public on issues relating to items on this agenda. <i>Members of the public are permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes and are not permitted to speak at any other time during the meeting unless invited to do so by the Chair</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that no members of the public were present</p>
26/05/016	<p><b>Minutes</b> To authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026</p>
26/05/017	<p><b>Cumberland Councillor Report</b> To receive a report from Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone (<i>copy herewith</i>)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the attached report was received and noted</p>
26/05/018	<p><b>SIDs – Cllr M Irving</b> To receive a report from the Clerk</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> that a SID for Swan Street is to be sited w/c 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the remaining SID is to be sited on Netherby Road, leaving the town</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Old Road and Church Road to be kept in mind for further potential funding and SID's</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr G Routledge would like it noted that he still has concerns regarding the Brampton Road and the Carlisle road regarding speeding</p>
26/05/019	<p><b>To receive a report from representatives on other bodies (if applicable)</b></p> <p><b>Longtown Community Centre Board of Trustees – Cllr Sir JFS Graham</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The refurbishment should be completed by the end June</li> <li>• Bookings are being taken for birthday's, weddings and funeral teas</li> <li>• There is a Vintage day taking place soon</li> <li>• A Farmer's Market is also being held here</li> </ul> <p><b>Allotment Committee – Cllrs M Gunson and C Adams</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Allotment Committee have had a walk around and are in the process of sending out letters to those who are not working their plots</li> <li>• An email complaint regarding rubbish being stored on plots has been received</li> <li>• 3 new people have now taken over their plots</li> <li>• There has been 1 new application which we are dealing with</li> <li>• There is an Allotment Committee Meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May</li> <li>• Empty plots are in the process of being cleared ready for use</li> </ul> <p><b>Village Veg – Cllr E Jeffrey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A report for the Village Veg is attached</li> </ul> <p><b>Borderlands Project – Cllr M Gunson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A meeting was held in Egremont on 11 May</li> <li>• All the Town Teams were in attendance</li> <li>• Good discussions were had by all</li> </ul> <p><b>Borderlands Project – Community Representative Cllr C Johanssen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Centre is first phase of this project</li> <li>• The A7 will be the second phase</li> </ul>
26/05/020	<p><b>Festive Lunch</b></p> <p>To consider dates for the Senior Citizens Festive Lunch at the Community Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently all Saturdays in December are available to book, and we can set up on the Friday before from 6:45pm onwards</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Festive Lunch to take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2026</p>
26/05/021	<p><b>Borderlands</b></p> <p>To receive a request from Cllr C Johanssen to represent the Parish Council and cease being a Community Rep on this board</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that this was noted and accepted</p>
26/05/022	<p><b>Bobbin Mill</b></p> <p>To receive a report from the site meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> April, regarding the new benches (<i>copy herewith</i>)</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr C Johanssen read out the report to the rest of the Council</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that 1 bench is to be moved</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk and RFO to look at an alternative site within Bobbin Mill to position the 2 benches</p> <p>To receive a request from Cllr E Jeffrey regarding the metal benches (<i>copy herewith</i>)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that this motion was overlooked</p>
26/05/023	<p><b>Play Areas</b></p> <p>To receive a report from Cllr C Johanssen</p> <p>Cllr Johanssen wanted to know why the Clerk and RFO were not doing their jobs regarding new equipment and maintenance of the play areas when the weekly reports are being done.</p> <p>Cllr Johanssen was informed that maintenance has taken place, however, due to significant difficulty in trying to track down the S106 money and receive it in our account to pay the supplier for the new MUGA, skate park and exercise equipment we could not ask the supplier to do more work for the Parish Council as £96,000 was owed to them.</p> <p>They have now been paid, and new seats are on order.</p>
26/05/024	<p><b>Tour De France</b></p> <p>To receive a report from Cllr C Johanssen</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr C Johanssen would like to form a Working Group for a Tour De Longtown event</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council agreed to this and the members are Cllrs C Johanssen, R Graham and M Gunson</p>
26/05/025	<p><b>Neighbourhood Policing Pledge Meeting</b></p> <p>To receive a report from Cllrs C Adams and C Johanssen</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that a mobile SID can be requested from the Police</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk had been in contact with PC P Jopson, and that the problem of speeding within the Town was to be investigated with the presence of a mobile van at various locations</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Longtown officers were not trained in the use of a speed gun, however PC Jopson was to talk to the Brampton officers to see if they could monitor Longtown</p>
26/05/026	<p><b>Reports</b></p> <p>To receive a report from the Clerk detailing what has been worked on in April 2026 (<i>copy herewith</i>)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the report was received and noted</p>
26/05/027	<p><b>Planning (<i>circulated prior to meeting</i>)</b></p> <p>To consider the following planning applications</p> <p><b>App Ref:</b> 26/0233</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Display Of Internally Illuminated Mini Fuel Pricing Totem</p>

	<p><b>Location:</b> Spar Stores Bridge Street Service Station, 20 Bridge Street, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5UD</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO OBSERVATIONS</b></p> <p><b>App Ref:</b> 26/0238</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Installation, Operation &amp; Decommissioning Of A Renewable Energy Generating Station, Comprising Ground-Mounted Photovoltaic Solar Arrays, A 132kv Substation, Underground Cable Route &amp; Associated Equipment, Infrastructure, Access, Landscape &amp; Biodiversity Enhancements</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Land at Hornick Hill and Burnfoot Farm, Sandysike, Longtown</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE IT NOTED THAT THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY CONSULTATION WITH RESIDENTS WITHIN THE ARTHURET PARISH BOUNDARY THEY WOULD LIKE A CONSULTATION ARRANGED WITHIN LONGTOWN</b></p>
26/05/028	<p><b>Planning – Notification of Withdrawal of Planning</b></p> <p><b>App Ref:</b> 25/0303</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Change Of Use Of Land For Car Parking</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Cumbria Logistics, Shed 8 &amp; 63, Site 7 RAF, Sandysike, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5SR</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THIS WAS NOTED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL</b></p>

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**PART B**

<p><b>26/05/029</b></p>	<p><b>Application for Councillor</b> To receive 3 applications and consider acceptance</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to accept 2 of the applications, the third application did not have any details regarding why they are applying therefore is being deferred</p>
<p><b>26/05/030</b></p>	<p><b>Caretaker Roles</b> To agree on how the roles are to be undertaken</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk provided a report as to the implications of the use of vehicles and a ROSPA document citing 'grey fleet vehicles'</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council will allow the use of vehicles, however, these are not to be used on Parish Land</p>

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## **Report to Arthuret Parish Council – 11 May 2026**

Councillor Tim Pickstone, Cumberland Councillor for Longtown Ward

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### **Hespin Wood Landfill**

The Council will be aware of the significant increase in use of the Hespin Wood landfill site. I have had meetings with Cumberland's planning and waste management teams, who have been in close dialogue with the Environment Agency – the primary regulatory body for landfill. Following discussions with both Cumberland as Planning Authority and the Environment Agency, the operator has imposed a voluntary stop notice, meaning no further landfill for now. A new area on the north-east side of the tip near the M6 is being prepared to take more waste, including material that has raised parts of the existing site above their permitted height. Work is also under way to reduce odour from the site, and discussions have taken place about litter enforcement given the increase in lorry movements.

### **Tour de France**

Very exciting news that the Tour de France men's race will be coming through Longtown on 2 July 2027. This is the largest international sports event that Cumberland will ever have hosted, and it will be coming right through Longtown. I have met with the Assistant Director leading Cumberland's preparations, and a new Project Manager is in post. There is significant work ahead on road repairs, road closures – which will have a major impact on Longtown on the day – and wider logistics. This is an amazing opportunity to promote Longtown to a national and international audience. I will work with the Parish Council to ensure all local agencies – Parish Council, Cumberland, Community Centre, School and others – are working together effectively. This is the main agenda item at next week's Extended Services Meeting.

### **Borderlands and the Community Centre**

As members will be aware, two consultation events have taken place on the Borderlands Growth projects in Longtown – the Community Centre and the A7. I am hopeful that the Community Centre project, which is about making the centre fit for the future in terms of modern space and energy efficiency, can progress quickly as there are no planning permission issues. The A7 work will take longer given the complexity of highways issues and the need to get community engagement right; further consultation is planned for later

this year. Good progress is also being made on opening the 'Community Hub' café area at the start of this summer.

### **Boundary Review**

The Local Government Boundary Commission published its final report on new Cumberland council wards on 5 May 2026. The new boundaries – 55 councillors in 55 wards – will be used for the first time at the May 2027 local elections. No changes were proposed for Longtown Ward at the draft stage.

### **Traffic Speed**

As previously reported, two parts of Longtown have been submitted for consideration in Cumberland Council's speed review for the rural Carlisle area – extending the 30mph limit further out on both the Netherby and Brampton Roads. I am also in discussions with Highways about speed surveys within the existing 30mph zones on Carlisle Road and Brampton Road.

### **Highways**

Old Road is scheduled for closure this summer for much-needed road repairs. I am also working with Cumberland's planning department on the issue of uncompleted road surfaces on St Michael's Drive and Waverley Close.

### **Planning**

I have been asked for early comments on the proposed new solar farm between Sandysyke and the River Lynn – views from the Parish Council are very welcome so I can best represent your views. Flooding issues from the Fawns Wood development onto the back of St Michael's Drive are also being discussed with the planning department.

### **Extended Services Group**

Longtown's Extended Services Group, which brings together officers from the agencies working in Longtown, continues to work well. An early success has been securing agreement and funding from Cumberland Council to remove the 'bus' shelter outside the primary school – signed off by all the relevant agencies.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are issues I can help with.

Report for the agenda for Village Veggers.

Jackie and myself were at the Bobbin Mill on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May planting the raised beds.

Jacky had already planted potatoes, carrots, and runner beans.

She has also thinned out the strawberry plants and replanted them in another raised bed.

We offered the unwanted strawberry plants to anyone who would collect them as there was too many. Someone stopped and picked up a box full and had a chat as to what we were planting. She was very complimentary as to what we were doing and what we had done. She went away but came back half hour later with two trays of onion plugs for us to plant in the beds. We planted the onions.

Some one else stopped and then went home to fetch back some courgettes, peas and tomato plants. We planted the courgettes and I am 'bringing on' the peas and tomatoes in my greenhouse.

We have had a lot of compliments from a lot of passers-by, too many to name.

This is definitely inspiring the community to 'get together' to sit and enjoy the area. The area is looking really nice and welcoming and has gone from an unloved area to something we can be proud of.

Request for Authorised objective assessment site visit report from Monday's meeting 11th may.

Report:

- If statements that the Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 Policies are not relevant to street furniture, they are fundamentally misinterpreting how planning law and residential amenity work.
- While individual benches may not always require formal " planning permission" (often falling under Permitted Development) for Local authorities, The impact on residence Must Still Comply with Councils adopted Policies on PRIVACY AND AMENITY.
- DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENT; The Local Plan applies to any " Development" or Change of use that effects the Character or Amenity of an area. Installing these benches in a Small Space Changes its Function from " Visual Amenity" to a " Public Gathering Point" which triggers Policy QD1 regarding adverse effects on amenity.
- AMENITY STANDARD: Policy QD1 and CM5 are not just for Buildings; They Protect The People in the district from " Visual Intrusion" Stating These don't apply to a permanent structure that facilitates looking into a habitable room is factually incorrect in a planning context.
- CUMBERLAND COUNCIL PRACTICE: Itself uses public consultation for its own street furniture projects to ensure they comply with local amenity needs.
- The Councils own policy QD1 is designed to protect residents from " Visual Intrusion" to claim it doesn't apply to a benches 6.452 metres from a habitable room window is a misinterpretation that exposes this council to a legal Nuisance claim.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS;

- 1, Removal of cited bench (front of habitable room)
- 2, Removal of " proposed bench"

Regards

Cllr C Johanssen

Update brief on our objective site assessment visit Report to give our ( Nikki ) : if all in agreement with the following:

(Factual Handover Memo) - to Nikki.

FROM- The Authorised Objective Site Assessment Visit Team : Cllr's. Robert Graham, Margaret Gunson, Carol Adams and Christine Johanssen.

DATE- 15/04/2026

TIME- 1:30pm

**PURPOSE:**

To provide the data collected during the formally authorised objective assessment site visit for inclusion in the official report to Council.

**KEY FACTUAL OBSERVATIONS:**

- Physical Measurements: The distance from the proposed front edge of the bench to the nearest primary residential window ( ground floor) was measured at 6.452 metres (under 7 metres)
- Site Character: There is a direct, unobstructed line of sight between the proposed public seating and the residential internal living area. No physical screening currently exists.
- Policy References:The following policies from the (Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 were identified as relevant to these physical findings:  
SP6 ( criterion 5), HO3, and CH5, alongside the (Achieving Well- Designed Housing SPD.

**SUMMARY TABLE:**

•Feature Observed:

Proximity-  
Privacy-  
Security-

•Measured Fact:

< 7metres - (amenity protection)  
Direct line of sight- (Privacy Standards)  
Lack of buffer zone- (Designing Out Crime)

•Relevant Policy References-

Again, if anyone would like to add or take out please dont hesitate doing so for today if everyone could confirm. and if everyone is happy with the above we can forward to nikki

Many thanks everyone  
Christine

**Elizabeth Jeffrey** < elizabeth.jeffrey@arthuretparishcouncil.gov.uk >

Tue, 05 May 2026 9:52:04 AM +0100

To "Parish Clerk"<clerk@arthuretparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Hello

Whilst myself and Jackie were at the Bobbin Mill we had numerous compliments as stated in the Monthly report.

We also had numerous requests for the metal benches to be turned to face the Bobbin Mill grassed area as they are now looking at a large green box and there is so much more to look at. This would be advantageous for the residents to sit and admire the lovely area.

Could this please be a motion put to the Parish Council, again, for further consideration due to the changes in circumstances. and reasoning.

Elizabeth

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## **Clerks Report – April 2026**

### **Correspondence from Parishioners**

Numerous emails have been dealt with

### **Dealing with contractors for quotes on the following**

Pathway and bollards for Lochinvar Play area

Looking into employee vehicle use

Chasing the insurance company regarding using volunteers for removal of play equipment

### **The following documents have also been circulated: -**

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 9 April 2026

Environment Agency - Invitation to the on-line Environment Agency 'Meet The Regulator' Cumbria nuclear stakeholder meeting taking place on Thursday 14 May 2026 \*\*\*\* RSVP by Thursday 7th May 2026

CALC - FW: Cumbria Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner - PFCC Community Fund 2026

CALC - FW: Upcoming Digital Skills Training from CloudyIT

CALC - CALC AGM - Save the date

NALC – NALC Events

CALC - REMINDER: Carlisle North and East Rural - Neighbourhood Policing Pledge meeting, Wednesday 29 April, 6pm via Teams

CALC - Save the Date - CALC and Cumberland Council Health and Wellbeing Conferences 2026

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 23 April 2026

Cumbria Police - Your Policing Update: Carlisle & rural

CALC - CALC/Cumberland Council Highways Event

CALC - FINAL REMINDER: Carlisle North and East Rural - Neighbourhood Policing Pledge meeting, Wednesday 29 April, 6pm via Teams

CALC - 2026 RPII One Day Routine Training Course

CALC - WorkNest Council HR Webinar

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 30 April 2026

Cumbria Community Foundation April newsletter

CALC - FW: CALC Partner Bulletin May 2026

CALC - FW: Chance to sign up to Security Industry Authority (SIA) webinars on Section 12 Martyn's Law Guidance consultation

Planning Notices – x 2

Withdrawn Planning Application – x1