

ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held at the **COUNCIL OFFICES, 9 ESK STREET, LONGTOWN** on **MONDAY, 6th JULY 2026** at **7:00PM**

PRESENT

Councillors Sir J Graham (Chair), G Routledge (Vice Chair), C Johanssen, E Jeffrey, M Irving, M Gunson, C Adams, P Milnes, W Errington, Lady K Nelligan, J Jefferson and R Graham

ALSO PRESENT – Parish Clerk and RFO

APOLOGIES – Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone

Minute Number	
26/07/049	Apologies for Absence To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone
26/07/050	Declaration of Interest To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda RESOLVED that a declaration was received from Cllr M Gunson regarding the allotments
26/07/051	Public Participation 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> RESOLVED that 1 member of the public was present and read out a letter raising various concerns relating to governance, finance, procurement and grant applications The Parish Council take these matters very seriously and will investigate and report our findings in due course
26/07/052	Minutes To authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 11th May 2026 RESOLVED to authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 11th May 2026 To authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 1st June 2026

	RESOLVED to authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 1st June 2026
26/07/053	Cumberland Councillor Report To receive a report from Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the attached report was received and noted
26/07/054	To receive a report from representatives on other bodies (if applicable) Longtown Community Centre Board of Trustees – Cllr Sir JFS Graham • There is a family day being organised for the 1st August and all is going well Allotment Committee – Cllrs M Gunson and C Adams • Everything is growing well • 4 new plots have been let • There are 2 more people waiting for their plots • 1 more is pending • Letters regarding the state of some plots have been sent to individuals Village Veg – Cllrs E Jeffrey and J Jefferson • A report for the Village Veg is attached Borderlands Project – Cllr M Gunson and Cllr C Johanssen • There has been no recent communication
26/07/055	Tour De France 26/07/055.1 To form a working group and to liaise with Town Teams RESOLVED that the members of the working group are Clls M Gunson, P Milnes, C Johanssen, R Graham and G Routledge 26/07/055.2 To receive ideas regarding the planting of the flower beds RESOLVED that the flower beds are to be planted with a theme and possibly yellow flowers RESOLVED that a plaque to commemorate the event be erected sometime after
26/07/056	Signage for Longtown – Cllr E Jeffrey To receive a request for ‘Welcome to Longtown, the last town in England’ signage RESOLVED that this was a good idea and that the sign could possibly be added to the road sign already in situ RESOLVED that the Clerk is to make enquiries
26/07/057	Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Cllr E Jeffrey To receive and note a report regarding the Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the report was received and noted

26/07/058	Old School Field – Cllr E Jeffrey To receive a request from Cllr E Jeffrey regarding the Cumberland Council land (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the Clerk to contact Cumberland Councillor T Pickstone to find out if this is possible
26/07/059	Play Area Training – Cllr C Johanssen To receive a request from Cllr C Johanssen regarding play area inspection training RESOLVED that Cllr Johanssen wanted this item deferred until next year
26/07/060	Weekly Play Area Inspection – Cllr C Johanssen To receive a report from Cllr C Johanssen Councillor Johanssen wanted to know what was happening with the play areas regarding the volunteers and risk assessment and was there a maintenance budget RESOLVED that the new swing seats are on order RESOLVED that the Clerk had contacted Cllr Johanssen regarding the risk assessment asking for information, and is awaiting a response RESOLVED that there is £10k for maintenance in the S106 monies
26/07/061	Tour De Longtown To receive an update from the working group RESOLVED that the working group had started conversations with the school to hold an event for the children on school grounds RESOLVED that the working group is also looking at the possibility of a circular route on the roads for adults RESOLVED that the working group wanted this event to be held earlier in the year to compliment the Tour De France 2027 event
26/07/062	Funding Applications 26/07/062.1 To receive an application from Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre for funding for a Summer Event (<i>copy herewith & emailed before meeting</i>) RESOLVED that the request for £500 for the above event was agreed and to be awarded from the community pot 26/07/062.2 To receive an application from Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre for funding towards refreshments at the Remembrance Day Service (<i>copy herewith & emailed before meeting</i>) RESOLVED that the request for £100 for the above event was agreed and to be awarded from the community pot
26/07/063	Tree Quote - Clerk To receive a quote for the apple trees at Dolly's Brae RESOLVED that the quote was £800 to prune the trees and £600 to remove

	RESOLVED that the quote for £600 to remove the apple trees was accepted as this removes the source of the problem RESOLVED to replace the trees with non-fruiting ones
26/07/064	Festivities To receive requests from the Festivities Work Group for the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the entertainment was thought to be a good idea and accepted RESOLVED that the ‘top table’ is to remain
26/07/065	August Office Hours - Clerk To receive a request regarding office hours in August (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the office can be closed in early August for the Clerk to sort through the meeting room and that 2 Councillors would like to inspect what is to be thrown away before a skip is ordered
26/07/066	Tender Forms - Clerk To receive and agree to the Grass Cutting tender form for 2027 season (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the Grass Cutting Tender form was accepted by the Council
26/07/067	Grey Fleet Policy - Clerk To receive and agree to the new Grey Fleet Policy RESOLVED that the Council agreed to the Grey Fleet Policy
26/07/068	Reports To receive a report from the Clerk detailing what has been worked on in June 2026 (<i>copy herewith</i>) RESOLVED that the report was received and noted
26/07/069	Planning (<i>circulated prior to meeting</i>) To consider the following planning applications App Ref: 26/0329 Proposal: Remedial Works to Existing Garage Including Replacement Pitched Roof With New Flat Roof & Replacement Garage Door Location: 53 Esk Street, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5PU NO OBSERVATIONS

26/07/070	Planning – Notification of Decision App Ref: 26/0161 Proposal: Display Of 4no. Illuminated Fascia Signs; 1no. Illuminated Petrol Forecourt Canopy Fascia; 4no. Non-Illuminated Wall Mounted Signs; 1no. Non-Illuminated Free-Standing Sign & 1no. Flag Sign Location: Spar Stores Bridge Street Service Station, 20 Bridge Street, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5UD GRANT PERMISSION App Ref: 26/0233 Proposal: Display Of Internally Illuminated Mini Fuel Pricing Totem Location: Spar Stores Bridge Street Service Station, 20 Bridge Street, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5UD GRANT PERMISSION RESOLVED that the above were noted
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PART B

26/07/071	Applications for Parish Councillor To receive 1 application to become a Parish Councillor (<i>emailed before meeting</i>) RESOLVED that the application was accepted
26/07/072	Section 7 of Standing Orders Regarding Bobbin Mill To re-visit the issue regarding the siting of a bench at Bobbin Mill RESOLVED to re-site 1 bench and the Clerk and RFO to look at the position for it

Report to Arthuret Parish Council – July 2026

Councillor Tim Pickstone, Cumberland Councillor for Longtown Ward

Speed Restrictions

The rural Carlisle speed review is progressing. I have confirmed that the 30mph zone on the Brampton Road will be extended further south as part of the developer conditions on the Fawns Wood estate. A similar extension on the Netherby Road is currently being investigated by Highways.

Highways

I am doing a significant amount of work with Highways and Planning around the unfinished road surface on the St Michael's Drive estate. It is over three years since the last house was completed, and it is unacceptable that this remains unresolved. Similar discussions will follow for the more recent Waverley Close area.

I have asked for, and been promised, a schedule of works from Connect Highways for the A7 (maintained under a private contract). This follows complaints from residents, particularly in the Carlisle Road area and the high flooding-risk area to the north of Westlinton.

I have investigated the issue of Christmas lights attachments on street lamps and have had a positive response from Highways. I will liaise on the details with the Clerk.

Tour de France – One Year to Go

2 July marked exactly one year until the Tour de France men's race comes through Longtown. The race begins in Edinburgh on 2 July 2027, coming over the border and down the A7 before the opening stage finishes in Carlisle. Road repairs on the A7 and the Brampton Road are scheduled this summer in preparation.

The Extended Services Group is working across all local agencies – including the Parish Council – to make the day a huge success for Longtown. Key things still to plan include decorating the town and making sure there is a great events and catering offer, as everyone watching the race will be here for some time. More discussions are needed with the Council on road closures.

There is also a great volunteering opportunity: around 9,000 'JOY Makers' are being

recruited nationwide to help welcome spectators and keep things running smoothly across all six UK stages. Anyone aged 16 or over can apply – no experience needed, full training provided. Applications are open until 1 September 2026 at www.letourgb.com/volunteer.

Extended Services Group

A Longtown Fun Day is planned for Saturday 1 August, with activities at the Graham Arms, the Community Centre and a couple of other venues in the town. It is hoped this can grow each year into a larger summer event. The business breakfast for local firms has become a regular networking event, which is really good for the town.

Borderlands and the Community Centre

The first phase of Borderlands funding – the interior work at the Community Centre – has now been submitted to the Borderlands Board for approval. The aim is to create a centre fit for the 21st century, providing more space suitable for activities for all ages, including skills and learning. Once approved, plans can be taken to a final stage and quotes and contractors secured, with work expected to begin in early 2027. The second phase (the A7) will require further public consultation before moving forwards, with engagement planned for later this year.

Cumberland Local Plan

Cumberland Council has published an updated timetable for its new Local Plan, following new government regulations which came into force in March 2026. The Local Plan will set out the long-term vision and policies for development and land use across Cumberland. The first stage of public consultation – a ‘scoping’ consultation – is scheduled for September 2026. I will share details of how to take part nearer the time.

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

Report from Village Veggers, July 2026

The fruit and vegetables are growing after the hiccup of the courgettes.

In addition, there has been leeks and tomatoes planted.

As I informed you there has been a QR code put onto two of the raised beds for people to scan and this will take them to a website where there is the information about the Bobbin Mill Community Area.

We are finding that the benches are well used and that they are enjoying the peacefulness of the area.

I have also been approached by Maureen Lawrie, West Cumbria Development Officer and I arranged to meet her on Friday 26th June, 2026.

Myself and Jackie met with Maureen and it was a good meeting. She was impressed with what we have done to the Bobbin Mill Community Area and has requested that we agree to be a role model for the other groups. We both agreed on this and it will mean that we will have visitors to the site to demonstrate what can be achieved.

Maureen has also informed us that we have more options for applying for grants. One is the Heritage fund. I am to contact Netherby Hall for information on their representative to the group who will hopefully assist.

Maureen is going to email me all the options available so, I will be taking advantage of any available grants. These will be for items such as, compost, plants, bulbs, any more furniture available to be sited on the area.

Elizabeth

Jackie

Cumbria Local Nature Recovery

Bobbin Mill

The two volunteers, who have and are changing the Bobbin Mill into a Community area, state that they have fulfilled some of the criteria set by the Environment Act 2021.

Here is a list of the compliances.

- Using what was an overlooked area into a residents Community area
- Installing Bird boxes to encourage nature back into the area.
- Growing fruit and vegetables in the 3 raised beds, now 4, for the residents to harvest.
- Using the raised beds as an entertainment area by having displays for Easter, Christmas, Valentine's day, Remembrance Sunday and Halloween.
- Installing 3 benches on the grassed area for residents so sit and enjoy and to meet people.
- Installing a pergola for the use of growing and displays on the days listed above.

With the improvements provided by the Arthuret Parish Council, grass cutting and the pruning of the trees in the area, this is now an asset to the community.

Regards

Elizabeth Jeffrey

Jackie Jefferson

Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy Workbook

Penrith Rugby Club 24th March, 2026

In the U.K. most nature has been depleted and also internationally, wildlife is disappearing.

Parish and Town Councils can help with actions in the community which can begin to help enormously.

This can be achieved by maintaining the existing habitats, create new areas of habitat for the native species to flourish.

Cumbria is one of 48 strategies. This is required by the environmental Act 2021. The Environment Act 2021 is a statement of biodiversity and it identifies opportunities for nature recovery.

This strategy must be local led. The LNRS will not do it for you it is guidance only. The hard work begins now by 'Joining the dots for nature'.

- **Why.**
We must begin making space for nature. Getting bigger and better and joined up spaces for nature. Take and embrace what you have and make space for nature. We need Parish Councils to take action. This must be done for nature. Also, it is good for health and wellbeing because spending time outside is good for health.
- **Where**
Any locally Town or Parish owned land can be used to create woodland, gardens or grassland. Encourage volunteers to take part to identify these areas. Also, to identify and halt the spread of non-native species of plants. It is up to the local council and residents to take action on nature recovery. Identify what we already own and draw up a map. Plan what you could have and what is possible. Create a Habitat map and identify local wildlife species.
Privately owned land can be given a licence to grow or acquired for the use of the Parish or Town Councils.
- **Who**
Identify Volunteers who have a good physical attribute and encourage and work with them. This must be community led.

These actions Must be undertaken by law and Town and Parish Councils must follow and consider and enhance biodiversity, plan and act upon what is agreed. Town and Parish Councils can have the greatest impact. Town and Parish Councils need to have a dedicated Nature Councillor and or a Volunteer.

Encourage residents to plant flowers, put up bird boxes, swift bricks and bee houses. Communicate with newsletters, flyers, media, events and Facebook pages.

Please inform CALC your intentions and your progress. Together we can make the Vision a Reality.

Cumbria Wildlife trust will assist with advice, information, support and empowerment. Encourage the planting of trees, nurseries, wildlife areas and gardens. Its all about Wildlife, wild places and people.

If you have mapped an area of importance to Nature this could be used in planning applications.

Natural England can supply a grant.

Elizabeth Jeffrey

26th March, 2026.

Motion to apply to the Cumberland Council to own the Lochinvar fields and changing rooms instead of the leasing of the land and property.

At the two meeting I have attended the Parish Councils are encouraged to make use of any green areas that are abandoned or are unloved.

These green areas can be used as recreational areas, wildlife areas and areas for mental health, health and wellbeing. There is funding to assist these projects.

It has been stated that if there is any areas than can be used for this purpose then we should be actively trying to make this land useful.

It was suggested that the Lochinvar Land and the Changing rooms that we currently lease from Cumberland Council should be requested to be given to us. We are already responsible for the upkeep of the land and the building so it would be no extra cost and would be an asset to the Parish Council.

I propose that Arthuret Parish Council formerly request this from Cumberland Council.

Stephanie Graham < steph.graham@longtowncc.co.uk >

Mon, 22 Jun 2026 3:27:41 PM +0100

To "Arthuret PC"<clerk@arthuretparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Hi Nicola,

I hope you are well. I am writing to request that an application for funding be added to the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

We would like to apply for £500 to support the running costs of a community family event taking place on 1st August. This event is being organised in partnership with the Longtown Social Club, the Graham Arms, the Tavern, Longtown Primary School and Limitless Fitness.

The day will include craft stalls, children's entertainment, a pensioners' afternoon tea, live music, family sports activities and much more.

We are seeking funding specifically to help towards the costs of the children's entertainment so that it can be offered free of charge, and to purchase food for the afternoon tea to ensure this can also be provided at no cost to attendees.

This will be the first community event of its kind in many years, and our aim is to build on its success annually. We hope to establish a special event that brings the community together and grows year by year. We believe this event will offer real value to the community and bring together residents of all ages. Our aim is to make this event accessible and inclusive to all local residents.

Your support would be an important stepping stone in helping us offer free activities and create an accessible, inclusive event for all local residents, ensuring that everyone in the community can take part regardless of circumstance.

Please let me know if any further information is required ahead of the meeting.

Kind regards,

Steph.

Steph Graham.
Centre manager.

Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre .

A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales.

Company registration number: 8552573 Charity registration number: 1153110

LMHCC

Owned and managed for and by the local community. Arthuret Road, Longtown, Cumbria, Ca6 5SJ tel: 01228 791876



Stephanie Graham < steph.graham@longtowncc.co.uk >

Wed, 24 Jun 2026 1:57:40 PM +0100

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

Dear Arthuret Parish Council,

I am writing to request consideration for funding to support the provision of free refreshments for local residents at this year's Remembrance Sunday event.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of RAF Spadeadam, making the occasion especially significant for our community. To honour this milestone, we are working alongside Longtown Primary School and the local Cadets to create a larger and more meaningful celebration for residents of all ages.

As part of the day, we will be displaying our collection of memorabilia and opening the Memorial Hall to the community. We hope this will offer a welcoming space for reflection, remembrance, and connection.

To ensure the event is accessible to all, we are seeking £100 to provide free refreshments for attendees. This contribution would help us create an inclusive and supportive environment for everyone who comes to pay their respects.

We would be grateful if you could consider this request.

Kind regards,

Steph.

Steph Graham.
Centre manager.

Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre .

A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales.

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791876



Festivities Working Group

The Working Group would like to have a disco at the Christmas Lunch this year.

They will set up on stage with lights and mirror balls and some uplighting and on entrance to the venue & through the lunch will play Christmas music. The DJ says he monitors the audience and judges what to play or not. For example – Rock, Motown or Soul music.



For a 4-hour set, the price is £350. We were thinking of 12:00-4pm.

The Working Group would also like to request that the 'Top Table' be abolished and that the guests should mingle with other attendees.

August Office Hours - Clerk

I would like to request that either the first or second week in August that on my working days the office be closed so that I can start to sort out the meeting room.

Everything that is in the meeting room and rear store cupboard needs going through and anything that hasn't been used within the last 2 years needs to be disposed of. The Council really shouldn't be holding on to things that aren't being used.

The meeting room needs to start to look like a meeting room and not a storage room.

As there is no meeting in August, I shall pull everything out into the middle of the room and then look at hiring a skip to dispose of all of it, if the Council agrees.

Clerks Report – June 2026

Correspondence from Parishioners

Numerous emails & phone calls have been dealt with

Dealing with....

- Contracts for the new employees
- New policy for grey fleet vehicles
- Decorator for the outside of the Council Offices
- In conversation with Riverside Housing regarding obtaining a grant for the new footpath & bollards
- In conversation with Cumberland Council Community Investment regarding obtaining a grant for the new footpath & bollards
- Chased T Dickman regarding installation of new waste bins on the football field
- New Electric smart meter due to be installed as current meter has reached its end of life
- New Councillors are being onboarded
- The gutters have been cleaned
- Repairs to the Parish Clock are now complete
- New water meter at the Changing Rooms due to be installed 25 June
- In contact with contractors for legionella testing at the Changing Rooms
- In contact with contractors for the provision of Fire Protection services for both buildings
- Concerns from Councillors regarding the Hopesyke Woodland Management plan were sent and a response received (response emailed to Councillors)
- Started working Remembrance Day – 50th anniversary of RAF Spadeadam
- Booked the Christmas lunch at Community Centre, contacted The Sycamore and the Rotary Club
- P.A.T. has been completed
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The following documents have also been circulated: -

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 28 May 2026

CALC - FW: Highways slides from 20th May

NALC – NALC events

CALC - FW: CALC Partner Bulletin June 2026

CALC - Weekly Bulletin - 3 June 2026

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 4 June 2026

CALC - FW: Upcoming Digital Skills Training from CloudyIT – Ready to Share

NALC – Events

CALC - FW: Family Help, Partnerships & Youth Justice | Service update

Cumbria Bus Reform Pilot Study – invitation to stakeholder engagement

CALC - Weekly Bulletin - 10 June 2026

Cumbria Police - Neighbourhood Policing Update: Carlisle & Rural

CALC - FW: NACTSO message for member councils.

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin -11 June 2026

CALC - FW: Upcoming Digital Skills Training from CloudyIT

CALC - Weekly Bulletin - 17 June 2026

CALC - REMINDER: CALC Climate/Net Zero Event

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 18 June 2026

Cumbria Community Foundation June newsletter

NALC events

CALC - Weekly Bulletin - 24 June 2026

CALC - Reminder: CLNRS Workbook Follow-Up Session – 14 July

Westlinton Parish Council - Meeting for Parish Councils

CALC - Climate Change/Net Zero Event Slides

CALC - FW: Powering communities; exploring community energy opportunities workshop

NALC - Chief executive's bulletin - 25 June 2026

Planning Notices – x 1

Grant Permission Planning Application – x2