

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Janice Rae, 23 Chapel Meadows, Bothel, Wigton, CA7 2AB Tel: 07547 368 323
Email: clerk@seberghamwelton-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of Sebergham Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Welton Village Hall at 7.35 pm on Wednesday 27 May 2026

Present: Cllr M. Hilton, Cllr. P. Pearson, Cllr M. Stockdale and Cllr E. Wilson

Others: M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor.

1/2026	Election of Chairperson for council year 2026-27 Cllr P. Pearson was unanimously elected Chair for council year 2026-27.
2/2026	Election of Vice Chairperson for council year 2026-27 Cllr E. Wilson was unanimously elected Vice Chair for council year 2026-27.
3/2026	Signing of declaration of office by the Chair and Vice Chair Cllr P. Pearson and Cllr E. Wilson signed a declaration of acceptance of office.
4/2026	Apologies An apology for absence was received from Cllr. D. Turton. The reason for absence was noted and accepted.
5/2026	Minutes of last Parish Council meeting The Chairman was authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 March 2026
6/2026	Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation A dispensation had previously been granted to Cllr P. Pearson in relation to Northern Fells Group. No other declarations of interest were received.
7/2026	Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) None
8/2026	Public Participation Cllr M. Hilton raised the correspondence from Galbraiths regarding the woodland management plan for Dentonside Estate. The woodlands extend to around 71 hectares and are located west of Sebergham. A phased programme of thinning and felling is likely to take place across several of the woodlands over the course of the next 10 years. Members had no concerns regarding the proposal.
9/2026	Policies The following policies were reviewed with no amendments made: Financial Regulations Asset Register Risk Management Policy Standing Orders
10/2026	Cumberland Councillor's report M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor reported that the Local Government Boundary Commissions final recommendations for the Cumberland Council Wards has been published. The Parish will fall into the Aikton and Thursby Ward. Elections will take place in May 2027 there will be 55 councillors instead of 49 representing the Cumberland Council area. Cllr Johnson also reported that Cumberland Council is looking to restructure the work force and are asking staff to consider voluntary redundancy. There are issues in the Planning department and Refuse collection services.

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	<p>Cllr Johnson was asked to pursue the following actions with Cumberland Council Grass Cutting in the closed Churchyard Sebergham White lines had still not been repainted at the Goose Green junction. An issue with the road surface eroding where the recent works had been carried out on the B5299. Cllr M. Johnson was asked if he could arrange for speed monitoring strips to be implemented at Welton and Sebergham as Cllr E Wilson had previously raised this with the Police.</p>								
11/2026	<p>Planning (a) Applications received FUL/2026/0047 - Land at Bridge Bell Farm adj to Thwaites Farm, Welton Proposal: New Slurry Lagoon HOU/2026/0052 - The Old Barn, Welton, Wigton, CA5 7ES Proposal: Replace sun room and alterations to create dormer and first floor flat roof extension FUL/2026/0046 - Land at Bridge Bell Farm adj Thwaites Farm, Welton Proposal: Agricultural building HOU/2026/0056 - Purdey Cottage, Welton, CA5 7HW Proposal: Extension of living area to rear of proposed dwelling LBC/2026/0026 - Lonning Foot, Sebergham CA5 7HP Proposal: Renovation and refurbishment of Lonning Foot, including installation of new windows to match existing new internal doors and 2No Fuel stoves. Installation of external antenna for domestic internet connection, replacement rain water pipes and gutters, repairs to existing living room floor and over-boarding with new oak boards. (b) Decisions HOU/2026/0052 - The Old Barn, Welton, Wigton, CA5 7ES Proposal: Replace sun room and alterations to create dormer and first floor flat roof extension. <div style="text-align: right;">GRANTED</div></p>								
12/2026	<p>Highways Cllr P. Pearson reported he had attended the Highways Teams meeting on 20 May and provided a summary to Members. There had been a short presentation on the HIAMS and a guide had been circulated. Cllr M. Hilton reported that some of the railings on the safety barrier on the Bell Bridge road had been removed. Cllr Hilton had reported this to Highways. There is some confusion as to whether the Bell Bridge road is now fully open. Repairs appear to have been completed but signage to say the road is closed is still present.</p>								
13/2026	<p>Donations Members considered granting donations to St James Church, St Mary's Church and Northern Fells Group. RESOLVED that the annual grants of £200 would be awarded to the two churches and £220 would be granted to Northern Fells Group.</p>								
14/2026	<p>Annual Insurance Members considered the renewal invitation from Zurich Insurance at £241.00. (No increase from the previous year. RESOLVED to renew the policy from Zurich.</p>								
15/2026	<p>Financial Matters 15.1 The precept £6,750 had been received on 1 April 2026. 15.2 The following payments were considered and authorised:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Date</th> <th style="text-align: left;">PAYEE</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Budget line</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>27.5.2026</td> <td>CALC</td> <td>Subscription</td> <td>£195.56</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	PAYEE	Budget line	Value	27.5.2026	CALC	Subscription	£195.56
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27.5.2026	Zurich Municipal	Insurance	£241.00
27.5.2026	T. Gear	Internal Audit	£ 85.00
27.5.2026	St James Church	Donation	£200.00
27.5.2026	PCC of Sebergham	Donation	£200.00
27.5.2026	Northern Fells Group	Donation	£220.00
27.5.2026	J. Rae	Salary – Quarter 1	£924.96
27.5.2026	HMRC	PAYE Quarter 1	£231.00

15.3 The cash book for year ending 31st March 2025 was signed by the Chair. Balance at NatWest on 31st March 2026 £3000.64.

15.4 Annual Audit – (i) The internal audit had been carried out with no issues raised, (ii) Annual Governance Statement – The Chairman and RFO were authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement, (iii) Accounting Statement – The Chair was authorised to sign the Accounting Statement, (iv) Certificate of Exemption – The Chair and RFO were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption. (v) Members noted the period of exercise of electors’ rights commences on 3 June and ends on the 14 July. The notice will be displayed on the parish noticeboards and on the website. The requisite documents will also be uploaded to the website.

16/2026 **Date of next meeting** – the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 July 2026

The meeting closed at 9.16 pm.