Holme Low Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall

Present: Cllr. D. Findlay (Chair).
Cllrs. J. Graham & R. Stephenson.
Also present: Wendy Jameson – Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. K. Orchard. Absent: Cllrs. C. Edmunds & M. Orchard.

2. **Declaration of Interest**
None.

3. **Exclusion of Press and Public**
None.

4. **Minutes**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 14 April 2026 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. **Matters Arising**
None.

6. **Public Participation**
There were no requests to speak at the meeting.

7. **Financial Report**
The Clerk provided an up-to-date financial report which showed a balance of £34,999.77 in the Current Account and £305.25 in the Deposit Account on 14 July 2026.

8. **Requests for financial assistance**
A request was received from Wigton Baths Trust. **RESOLVED** that no financial assistance be provided.

9. **Payment of Accounts**
Payments to 14 July 2026 were approved for payment by the Parish Council.

10. **Banking arrangements**
RESOLVED that the existing cheque signatories remain the same.

11. **Correspondence**
    a) Connecting Cumbria Newsletter: April 2026.
    b) CALC: CALC News for March & April 2026.
    c) Clerks & Councils Direct: May 2026.
    d) NALC: Legal Bulletin – May 2026.
    e) Connecting Cumbria Newsletter: May 2026
    f) CALC: Training bulletin.
    g) Connecting Cumbria Newsletter: June 2026.
    h) Cumbria Local Nature Partnership: News – June 2026.
    i) Cumberland Council: Nourish Cumberland Schools Food Programme – June 2026.
    j) Cumbria Police: Neighbourhood Policing Team Update – May 2026.
    k) Cumberland Council Partner Update: Family Help, Prevention & Youth Justice – June 2026.
    l) CALC: Launch of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy Workbook (24 March 2026). The workbook, presentation slides, and supplementary resources are now accessible on the CALC website.
    m) Solway Coast National Landscapes: Query regarding the location of the School Honours Board has been passed to the library services manager to follow up.

n) Solway Coast National Landscapes: Vacancies available for Parish Councillors to join the Joint Advisory Committee. Cllr. Ryan Stephenson's contact details have been passed on.
o) Neighbourhood Policing: Silloth & Aspatria Neighbourhood Policing Pledge Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 8 July 2026 at 6:00 PM via Teams.
p) Cumbria Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner: Announcement that the PFCC Community Fund is open for applications from local organisations, charities, and community groups for projects aimed at tackling and preventing crime and anti-social behaviour.
q) GMB Developments: Update on progress in relation to the cemetery building.
r) Cumberland Council: Aspatria, Silloth, Wigton & Surrounding Area TRO Review. Response sent supporting the proposals within Holme Low Parish.
s) CALC AGM: "Save the Date" notification for 10 October 2026 at Roundthorn, Penrith.
t) CALC Event: Scheduled for Wednesday 20 May at 7:00 PM via Microsoft Teams. The session features Karl Melville (Assistant Director of Highways and Transport at Cumberland Council) regarding 2026-27 priorities and HIAMS defect reporting updates.
u) Local Government Boundary Commission for England: Final recommendations for Cumberland published.
v) Cumberland Council: Health & Wellbeing Conference 2026. First event is to be held on 2 June 2026, from 9.30am to 1.00pm at Workington Leisure Centre and another on 21 July 2026 in the Cathedral Room, Civic Centre, Carlisle.
w) CALC: Copy of the Practitioners' Guide 2026/27 which is applies to AGARs for financial years commencing on or after 1 April 2026.
x) CALC: Copy of MyAccount Guide produced by Cumberland Council explaining how to use the Highways reporting system.
y) CALC & Cumberland Council: Health & Wellbeing Conference 2026 – Carlisle Civic Centre on 21 July – 12:30pm – 4:00pm.
z) Cumberland Highways: Enq Ref: El/303018 – Recently refurbished finger post sign at West Causewayhead Lane is leaning over – Team attended the location and carried out a repair.
aa) CALC: Silloth and Aspatria Neighbourhood Policing Pledge Meeting – Wednesday 8 July 2026 at 6pm via Teams.
bb) Fells & Solway Community Panel: Next panel meeting is on Mon 29 June in Silloth Community Hall.
cc) Cumberland Council: Working with advisers, Jacobs and Oxera on a government-funded Bus Reform Pilot for Cumbria, engaging with residents, businesses, and key stakeholders regarding bus services.
dd) NACTSO: Information regarding a summer campaign for Martyn's Law, including a toolkit with assets, messaging, and guidance for event organisers and businesses.
ee) GMB Developments: Update re: cemetery building. Flooring to be sorted by end of June, so building should be completed by end of July.
ff) Cumbria Highways: Enq Ref: El/189610 & El/196942 – re: verges at bottom of Kingside Hill (reported 9 Feb 2024 & 18 March 2024). Highways team have attended and carried out a repair to the carriageway.
gg) Cumberland Council: Update on the progress of the Cumberland Local Plan which sets out the long-term vision, policies and framework for development and land use across Cumberland. Consultation is scheduled to take place in September 2026.
hh) Silloth Library: School Honours Board has been located and can be collected when the library is open.
ii) Enquiry from a local resident in relation to the ownership and status of the grass verge and pond area at Seaville. Following background information provided by a Member and a review of council records, it was confirmed that the land in question is neither Parish Council land, a designated highway verge, nor registered village green/common land. **RESOLVED:** 1. To note that the land and pond area are privately owned. 2. That as the matter relates to private property, it does not involve the Parish Council and constitutes a civil matter. 3. That the Clerk respond to the resident accordingly to clarify the land status and confirm the Council's position.

12. Planning Applications
None.

13. Cumberland Council Report
No report.

14. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies
Sea Dyke Charity – No meeting.
Hellrigg Community Fund – No meeting.

15. Reports from Councillors
West Causewayhead Lane: The speed of vehicles using the West Causewayhead Lane continues to be a big concern and a serious risk of an accident. It would appear to be local residents and hauliers that are speeding. There is currently a proposed Traffic Regulation Order going through for a 7.5T weight restriction – except for access.
Cllr. Stephenson questioned the proposal for a memorial garden at the layby as you come into Silloth which would tidy the area up. He has volunteers willing to help. The Parish Council do not own the land and also need to complete the cemetery building project.
The grass in the churchyard needs to be cut more often, as it is currently only cut once a year and the grass not raked up which results in the primroses being killed. It is a disgrace to the parish and should be cut at least 3 times a year.

16. Chairman's Announcement
The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

17. Date of next Parish Council meeting
Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 7.30pm in Silloth Community Hall.

Signed…….....….. Date.....……