Hayton and Mealo Parish Council

A meeting of the Hayton and Mealo Parish Council was held in Prospect Village Hall, Prospect, Aspatria on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Messrs., D. Hillary, J. Pye, Y. Lockwood, G. McArthur, D. Gilhespy, and R. Murray

Also, Present: T. Gear (Clerk), and four residents of the parish

Apologies: None

Councillor D. Hillary in the Chair.

1/2026 MEMBERS APOLOGIES
None.

2/2026 ELECTION OF CHAIR
On the proposal of Y. Lockwood and seconded by J. Pye it was agreed the D. Hillary would be chair until the elections in May.

3/2026 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS
None

4/2026 DISPENSATIONS
None

5/2026 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
There were no items on the agenda which required the press and public to be excluded.

6/2026 MINUTES
On the proposal of J. Pye and seconded by Y. Lockwood, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

7/2025 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
The following items were raised by the residents:-

i) A neighbour dispute involving the erection of fences on the registered. Village Green .
ii) Litter and condition of the highways in the parish.

8/2026 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence have been received since the last meeting and circulated to members for their information: -.

Various Cumberland Council Newsletters.
Useful Charity Commission Resources
CALC News/ September October
Family Hub – What's On – December
Family Help, Partnerships & Youth Justice – December Update
Cumberland Go
CALC Letter and Report attached.
Exciting Training Opportunities for CALC Members – Jan to July 2026
Protect Where We Play – request for support.
Equality and diversity training
Age-Friendly Towns and Parishes
Hyperfast GB Community Newsletter – Winter 2025
Anti-bullying
United Utilities priorities service register.
Consultation on the North Pennines Management Plan and the draft plan
CALC AGM 2025 notes and Guest Speaker presentation slides
Cumberland Council - Have your say on our budget proposals for next year.
Fells and Solway Community Panel/Keswick & Solway winter support leaflet
Book onto Centre For Ageing Better Webinar
Procurement Thresholds FSCS and Tax January 2026

9/2026 CLERKS REPORT

The clerk gave a brief report on matters that had arisen since the last meeting including: -

i) A letter and email had been received regarding a neighbour dispute which had been circulated.
ii) Damage had been caused to the village green by exercising horses and a letter had been sent to the person responsible.

10/2026 CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

There were no apologies or report from the Cumberland Councillor

11/2026 PLANNING MATTERS

a) Applications for consultation

None

b) Decisions

None

c) Appeals

None

(d) Any other planning related correspondence.

None

12/2026 ACCOUNTS

(i) Balances at: -

14.1.26	Current Account	£649.61
14.1.26	Deposit Account	£1809.60

(ii) The following accounts were approved for payment: -

T Gear	Clerks Account (Nov./Dec.)	£366.05
HMRC	Income Tax (Nov./Dec.)	£72.38

13/2026 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

There were no highways matters to be discussed.

14/2026 BANK MANDATE

Following the resignation of V. Sonnabend it was agreed that she should be removed as a signatory on the Cumberland Building Society Accounts and that she be replaced by D. Gilhespy.

15/2026 VACANCIES

The meeting was advised of a late application for co-option which will be considered at the next meeting.

16/2026 GRASS CUTTING 2026

A quote had been received from the contractor for this year's grass cutting which showed an increase of about £5 per cut. All agreed to appoint the same contractor for the forthcoming season.

17/2026 CLIMATE CHANGE

There was no new information on this topic.

18/2026 NEWSLETTER

With the resignation of the editor that a newsletter will be produced when considered necessary to convey information to the residents

19/2026 ASSERTION10 – DIGITAL & DATA COMPLIANCE

The clerk advised the Council's website now was compliant with the accessibility requirements (WCAG 2.2 AA) and Assertion 10. It was agreed that Councillor's names and Council email addresses would be available on the website.

20/2026 DATES OF MEETINGS 2026/27

The draft schedule of meeting dates for 2026/27 was agreed.

21/2026 OPENREACH FIBRE BROADBAND/FIBRUS

Openreach have now abandoned their plans to site poles on the Village Green. The clerk was advised of two polls that had been erected by Fibrus without the consent of the council. The clerk was asked to pursue.

22/2026 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Following the council's decision that there was no need for a review the clerk was approached by Prospect and Allerby Parish Council with a view to joining together. It was agreed not to pursue this any further.

23/2026 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS – MAY 2027
The clerk gave a resume of a letter from the Senior Manager – Electoral Services in which she advised that if there was an election in the parish in 2027 there would be a charge to the council at the rate of £3 per elector.

24/2026 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING
Vacancies

25/2026 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7.30pm** at Prospect Village Hall, Prospect

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed…….
Chair