PENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 20th January 2025

7pm

Parish Rooms

Minutes

Attendees	Mrs Bell (Clerk) Mr Corbett Mrs Slater	Mr Stretch Mr Squires Mrs Thompson (Chair)	Cllr Cooper Fibrus 5 Members of the Public

	DISCUSSION	**ACTIONS**	**OWNER**	**DUE**
25-01/1 Apologies	• Mrs Athersmith • Mrs Corbett • Cllr Brereton			
25-02/2 Declarations of Councillors Interests	• None			
25-01/3 Exclusion of Press and Public	• None			
25-01/4 Vacancies	• There were no vacancies noted and full membership observed.			
25-01/5 Previous Minutes dated 16/12/24 and Matters Arising	• Minutes signed as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.			
25-01/GP	• Representatives of Fibrus gave a short presentation on the Fibre Network Construction Plan for Pennington Parish and gave those in attendance the opportunity to participate by question and comment.			
25-01/6 Public Participation by Question and Comment	• A representative of Birkrigg Park provided an update on the responses received from WAF regarding the flooding near the estate.			

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	• A representative of Birkrigg Park informed council that there are some 30 areas of the wall around the estate that are loose/ damaged. Photos to be provided. • A representative of Birkrigg Park informed council that one defib is now installed and fully functioning however, there the location of the second remains in dispute. • Council were asked for assistance in tackling the increase in dog fouling around the parish. • A representative of the CLP Group informed council that the group will be arranging to meet again following the Christmas period and will feedback when they have updates. • A member of the public raised concerns over a planning application offering information on how it may affect neighbouring properties. • A member of the public addressed concerns regarding a planning application that council had previously objected to and that have been asked to re-consult on.	. • LB to forward comments to Cllr MB and Cllr BC and PCSO HM	• LB	• Ongoing
25-01/7 District Councillors/ Elected Members Reports	• Cllr Cooper provided updates on the 20mph scheme • Cllr Cooper provided updates parking around Moorgarth and Fox Street. • Cllr Cooper provided updates on waste collections. • Cllr Brereton provided via email information that he has awarded his remaining £500 locality budget to Duddon Mountain Rescue Team.			
25-01/8 Swarthmoor/ High Carley	• Telephone Box Library to be moved to next meeting • EV charge points to be moved to the next meeting.			
25-01/9 Pennington/ Loppergarth	• Biodiversity toolkit to be moved to the next meeting			
25-01/10 Sunnyside/ Parish Rooms	• Painting of the downstairs of the Parish Rooms has been completed. The upstairs is very damp and not suitable for painting. • Official thanks to be sent to HMP Haverigg for their work	• YA to advise	• YA/ LB	• • • Ongoing

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	• Woodworm issues to be moved to next meeting	• LB to investigate.	• LB	• Ongoing
25-01/11 Planning Matters	• 2024/2105/FPA – siting of a self-contained residential lodge in the rear garden at Ewbank, Main Road, Swarthmoor, LA12 0RX. • 2024/2320/FPA – Installation of a rock ramp style fish passes. This will be a 2/3 width pass on the downstream weir. The weir acts as barrier to migration as they are not passable for small fish and eels. The pass will allow for the migration of the European Eel a global Red List endangered species and UK priority species. The existing structures will not be removed, instead rock from a local quarry will be used to create a ramp with resting pools for migratory species, easing migration at upstream Weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL • 2024/2321/FPA – Installation of a rock ramp style fish pass. This will be a full width pass on the upstream weir. The weir acts as barrier to migration as they are not passable for small fish and eels. The pass will allow for the migration of the European Eel a global Red List endangered species and UK priority species. The existing structures will not be removed, instead rock from a local quarry will be used to create a ramp with resting pools for migratory species, easing migration at downstream weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL • 2025/0014/FPA - Erection of building over existing open sheep handling pens at Castle Hill Farm • 2024/230/FPA change of use to indoor sports, recreation and fitness facility and provision of medical or health services use class (E(d) and (e)) – at Methodist Church on Goad Street • 2025/0053/PAPP Prior notification for the erection of agricultural building for storage of equipment and feed at Gale Moor, Horace Farm	• LB to responds as per appendix 1.	• LB	• ASAP

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	• It was resolved to make the following response as detailed in appendix 1.			
25-01/12 Financial Matters	**Financial Matters** **Balance as at 08/11/2024** **Payments** To resolve to note the following payments from Bank Statements 09/11/2024 – 10/12/2024 BPRA Defib grant Salary backpay SSE Streetlighting RBL Poppy wreath Salary and WFH 1 and 1 Ionos Website **Total Bank Statement Expenditure** **Receipts** To resolve to note the following receipts from Bank Statements 09/11/2024 – 10/12/2024 Sunnyside Rent **Total Bank Statement Receipts** **Bank Statement Balance at 10/12/2024** Cashbook Payments SLCC Membership SLCC Internal Audit Course CALC New Chair Training Painting Supplies Painting Supplies AJG Insurance	**£34,363.35** £850.00 £231.15 £63.99 £20.00 £759.63 £10.80 **£1,935.57** £470.00 **£470.00** **£32,897.78** £148.00 £144.00 £30.00 £165.00 £51.18 £1,763.82		

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	Total Cashbook Payments	**£2,302.00**		
	Anticipated Payments			
	Salary and WFH	£759.63		
	Waterplus Allotments	£23.39		
	1 and 1 Ionos	£10.80		
	SSE Streetlights	£63.99		
	Calc Training	£130.00		
	Total Anticipated Payments	**£987.81**		
	Cashbook Receipts			
	Sunnyside Rent	£470.00		
	Total Cashbook Receipts	**£470.00**		
	Anticipated Receipts			
	Sunnyside Rent	£470.00		
	Total Anticipated Receipts	**£470.00**		
	Total Payments	**£5,225.38**		
	Total Receipts	**£1,410.00**		
	Running Balance	**£30,547.97**		
	Reserves			
	Buildings Maintenance	£15,781.49		
	Bus Shelters Maintenance	£1,813.73		
	Election Fees	£3,000.00		
	Playground Maintenance	£2,418.80		
	Car Parks	£400.00		
	Footpaths	£400.00		
	Allotments	£400.00		
	CLP	£250.00		
	Grants	£225.00		
	General Reserves	£5,729.80		

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	Daily Running Reserves **Total** <u>To resolve to consider/approve the following payments:</u>	£129.15 **<u>£30,547.97</u>**		
25-01/13 Finance – Internal Auditor	• To move to next meeting			
25-01/14 Finance – BPRA Refund of Grant Monies	• Council were informed that the MP has made an offer to provide retrospective funding towards the installation of the defibs. • Council have been asked to provide reference numbers for some grants funds to be refunded. • It was resolved that the BPRA should, instead of returning the funds to the Parish Council, hold them in reserve for the ongoing maintenance of the defibrillators.			
25-01/15 .GOV Domains	• To move to the next meetings			
25-01/16 Policies	• It was resolved to re-adopt the following policies: - Appraisal Policy - Recruitment Policy - Sickness/ Absence Policy			
25-01/17 Items for future agenda	• Working group for Road Safety • Outcome of the Speed Report • EV Charge Points			
25-01/18 Date of Next Meeting	Due to unavailability of the Clerk, the next ordinary meeting was agreed for 10th February 2025 – 7pm in the Parish Rooms.			

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Appendix 1

PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – Ewbank, Main Road, Swarthmoor, LA12 0RX - 2024/2105/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2024/2105/FPA

Development: Siting of a self-contained residential lodge in the rear garden

Location: Ewbank, Main Road, Swarthmoor, LA12 0RX.

Was discussed and it was resolved to **OBJECT** to this application on the grounds of factually incorrect information presented in the application and the failure of the planning authority to follow due process.

Our objections are based on the following issues, which we believe contravene the policies set out in the Local Plan Development Management Policies (Adopted Version, 28 March 2019).

1. Policy DM1 – General Requirements for all Development
Loss of Privacy and Overshadowing:
The proximity of the proposed development to neighbouring properties, combined with the access arrangements, will result in a direct line of sight into the open-plan living space of adjacent homes. This significantly undermines the amenity of neighbouring residents by reducing their privacy. Furthermore, the plans do not demonstrate sufficient spatial separation distances between the existing and proposed buildings to ensure that acceptable levels of privacy and daylight are maintained. This failure to adhere to appropriate distance guidelines constitutes a breach of Policy DM1.

Additionally, the plans do not sufficiently address the provision and retention of adequate private, public, and shared spaces or landscaping. The lack of these essential considerations will result in a substandard living environment for both existing and future residents.

2. Policy DM2 – Achieving Sustainable High-Quality Design
Scale and Appearance of the Development:
The planning application fails to specify the full scale of the proposed development, including the inclusion of the veranda and its height. The lack of detailed information makes it difficult to assess the true scale of the development. We believe that the overall size and appearance of the proposed structure will be out of character with the surrounding area and will have a negative visual impact on the local community. This is in direct contravention of Policy DM2, which requires that developments should be sympathetic to the character and context of the surrounding area.

3. Policy DM6 – Flood Risk Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems
Inadequate Infrastructure and Drainage Concerns:
The development is not supported by sufficient infrastructure to meet the needs it may generate. Neighbouring properties rely on a septic tank system, and there is no clear indication as to whether the existing non-mains foul drainage system will be utilized or if a package treatment plant will be introduced. This lack of clarity raises significant concerns about the additional pressures on existing services.

Furthermore, the applicant's agent incorrectly states that the existing septic tank is located more than 7 meters from a habitable property. In fact, the tank is situated much closer, which contradicts the guidance and regulations governing its placement. Additionally, the applicant's agent has failed to identify soakaways associated with neighbouring properties, which are located closer than the 15-meter distance stated. This lack

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of consideration for the proximity of soakaways and septic tanks could lead to serious drainage issues for both the new development and neighbouring properties.

Conclusion:
Based on the above points, the Parish Council believes that the proposed development fails to meet the necessary requirements set out in the Local Plan Development Management Policies - coupled with factually incorrect information provided in the application, and failure to follow due process, we believe that this application is not appropriate for approval and respectfully urge the planning authority to reject this application.

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PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – METHODIST CHURCH, GOAD STREET, SWARTHMOOR, LA12 0JA – 2024/2303/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2024/2303/FPA

Development: Change of use from Church [use class F1] to use for indoor sport, recreation and fitness and the provision of medical or health services [use class E [D] and [E]]

Location: Methodist Church, Goad Street, Swarthmoor, LA12 0JA

Was discussed and it was resolved, taking into account the additional information provided that the Parish Council withdraws the objection on it's previous response to the material objection of "Noise".

Previous objections based on material considerations of "Traffic, Parking and Highway Safety" were addressed and providing that the mitigating measures that have been put forward are adhered to, the Council will have no reason to object on this basis.

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PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – Upstream Weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL - 2024/2320/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2024/2320/FPA

Development: Installation of a rock ramp style fish passes. This will be a 2/3 width pass on the downstream weir. The weir acts as barrier to migration as they are not passable for small fish and eels. The pass will allow for the migration of the European Eel a global Red List endangered species and UK priority species. The existing structures will not be removed, instead rock from a local quarry will be used to create a ramp with resting pools for migratory species, easing migration

Location: Upstream Weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL

Was discussed and it was resolved to **SUPPORT** the application.

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PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – Downstream Weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL - 2024/2321/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2024/2321/FPA

Development: Installation of a rock ramp style fish passes. This will be a 2/3 width pass on the downstream weir. The weir acts as barrier to migration as they are not passable for small fish and eels. The pass will allow for the migration of the European Eel a global Red List endangered species and UK priority species. The existing structures will not be removed, instead rock from a local quarry will be used to create a ramp with resting pools for migratory species, easing migration

Location: Downstream Weir Pennington Beck LA12 7NL

Was discussed and it was resolved to **SUPPORT** the application.

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PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – Erection of building over existing open sheep handling pens at Castle Hill Farm - 2025/0014/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2025/0014/FPA

Development: Erection of building over existing open sheep handling pens.

Location: Castle Hill Farm

Was discussed and it was resolved to **SUPPORT** the application.

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PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – Prior notification for the erection of agricultural building for storage of equipment and feed at Gale Moor, Horace Farm - 2025/0053/PAPP

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 planning application:

No: 2025/0053/PAPP

Development: Prior notification for the erection of agricultural building for storage of equipment and feed.

Location: Gale Moor, Horace Farm

Was discussed and the council has no comment to make.

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