

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

**Chairman/Mayor:**

Cllr. Tricia Thomas

**Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:**

Cllr. Ann Walmsley

**Town Clerk:**

Mrs. C. Benbow



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V.A.T. Reg.No: 164 8707 80

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Victoria Hall,  
on Monday 12 December 2022 commencing at 7.00 pm.**

**Present:**

Cllr. T. Thomas – **Chair**

Cllr. A. Walmsley, Cllr. R. Handley, Cllr. E. Walmsley, Cllr. J. Mason.

Mrs. C. Benbow – Town Clerk

**In attendance:**

3 members of the public.

**Minute  
Ref:**

**Agenda No:**

**C22/120 Apologies for Absence**

**1**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Logan and Greenway who were absent due to other commitments and Cllr. Bailey who was absent due to illness.

**RESOLVED**

That apologies from Cllrs. Logan and Greenway due to other commitments and Cllr. Bailey due to illness were approved.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C22/121 Public Participation: Public Have Your Say

2

- Resident 1** Made representation to members regarding Item 7, Planning Application SL/2022/1088, Land opposite Low Fell Farm, speaking to object to the application.
- Resident 2** Made representation to members regarding:
1. **Draft Minutes November 2022 (C22/105)** – County Council report on the works planned to alleviate flooding on Windermere Road. The meeting was informed that the source of the flooding on Windermere Road is the outfall from the Ornamental Pond. The planned pumping scheme is not going to be effective to prevent flooding and may worsen it.
  2. **Item 15 Bailey Lane crossing** – opining that the Town Council should vote on the matter of whether the crossing should be open or closed and that the majority decision would represent the whole town.
- Council Response** The Chairman responded that the matter was on the agenda to discuss and referenced the resolution made in August 2017 (C17/81). The County Council were told that ‘there are strong opinions on this matter on both sides of the debate. The Town Council wishes to ensure that all members of the community are consulted and given the opportunity to express their views.’ The Town Council requested that the County Council re-opens the level crossing, which is a public right of way, and informs Network Rail that if they wish to close the crossing, a formal application is made under the appropriate law and the public are given their correct and legal levels of involvement.
- The Chairman suggested that the resident send comments about the pumping scheme directly to the Environment Agency.

C22/122 Reports

3

### District Council Report

District Councillors Fiona Hanlon and Robin Ashcroft and District and Shadow Unitary Councillor Peter Endsor sent apologies.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

## County Council Report

County Councillor Bill Wearing sent apologies.

## Shadow Unitary Council Report

Shadow Unitary Councillor Jenny Boak sent apologies.

## Mayor's Report

Mayor Cllr. Tricia Thomas reported that she had attended the opening of the Christmas Tree Festival at St Pauls Church and the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony at the Ornamental Gardens. She congratulated the Christmas Tree Committee and thanked them for organising such a successful and well-attended event.

<b>C22/123</b>	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>	<b>4</b>
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<b>RESOLVED</b>	That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 14 November 2022 were accepted as a true record.
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<b>C22/124</b>	<b>Declarations of Interests and Dispensations</b>	<b>5</b>
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<b>NOTED</b>	There were no requests received for dispensations or declarations of interest.
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<b>C22/125</b>	<b>Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item</b>	<b>6</b>
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<b>RESOLVED</b>	That item 18, Staffing Committee recommendations, should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2, as the item involved discussion of an individual staff member.
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**1. Members considered the following full or outline planning permission/reserved matters/discharge of conditions/listed building/change of use/advertising consent or appeal:**

- a. SL/2022/0930 Skali, 11 Cat Tree Road  
Application for a Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed) for the conversion of existing garage into kitchen, construction of a front porch & associated landscaping between the garage & porch  
LDC Proposed

**RESOLVED  
NO OBJECTION**

- b. SL/2022/1013 Guides Farm, Cart Lane  
Discharge of conditions 9 (Tree Protection Plan) & 15 (Construction Environmental Method Plan) attached to planning permission SL/2015/0238  
Discharge Conditions

*This item was not considered as SLDC had already determined it.*

- c. SL/2022/1014 Land adjacent to High Beeches Beech Road  
The proposed development of a 1.5 storey, two-bedroom dwelling house set onto a brownfield plot. (Resubmission of planning application SL/2019/0513)  
FULL PLANNING

*This item was not considered as there were no details on the SLDC website.*

- d. SL/2022/1041 2 Blackthorn Gardens  
New front porch  
FULL PLANNING

**RESOLVED  
OBJECTION**

Grange Town Council OBJECTS to the application on the following grounds:  
The proposed development is not in keeping with the neighbouring properties and is out of character with the Conservation Area.

- e. SL/2022/1050 13 Graythwaite Court, Fernhill Road  
Replace timber windows with UPVC  
FULL PLANNING

**RESOLVED  
NO OBJECTION**

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

- f. SL/2022/1074 50 Priory Lane  
Construction of single storey extensions to east and west and two-storey extension to south, construction of dormer window to east, widening existing gateway and enlargement of parking space to west  
FULL PLANNING

**RESOLVED  
OBJECTION**

Grange Town Council OBJECTS to the application on the following grounds:  
This proposal would represent over-development of the site, would appear unbalanced and not in keeping with the attached property.

- g. SL/2022/1069 Grange-Over-Sands Lido, The Promenade  
Discharge of conditions 8 (Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)), 10 (flood resistance and resilience measures) & 11 (foul and surface water drainage strategy) attached to planning permission SL/2019/0803  
DISCHARGE CONDITIONS

**RESOLVED  
NO OBJECTION**

- h. SL/2022/1097 Grange Lido  
Discharge of Conditions 9 (Architectural Salvage Scheme) and 13 (Environmental Net Gain) attached to planning permission SL/2019/0803  
DISCHARGE CONDITIONS

**RESOLVED  
NO OBJECTION**

- i. SL/2022/1088 Land opposite Low Fell Farm  
Outline application (all Matters Reserved) for Residential Development up to 8 dwellings  
OUTLINE PLANNING

**RESOLVED  
OBJECTION**

Grange Town Council OBJECTS and asks Cllrs. Hanlon and Ashcroft to call in the application so that it is considered by the Planning Committee, not a delegated decision made by officers.

The objection is made on the following grounds:

1. **Highways and Access** – access is inadequate and is onto a single-track road.
2. **Affordable Housing** – the proposal is only for a section of the site, for only 8 market houses, which means the developer does not have to provide affordable housing. They are using about a third of the whole allocation area, which has a

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

guide figure of 46 dwellings. This is unfair and unacceptable; the minimum number should be 9 or more dwellings, which is still less than one third. 9 or more dwellings would mean they must provide 35% as affordable, which is SLDC policy and Neighbourhood Plan policy.

3. **Inappropriate provision** – the area needs more smaller dwellings, not big houses. The Neighbourhood Plan evidences the need for one/two bed bungalows and houses for the elderly and first-time buyers. This is also SLDC policy as they have adopted the Neighbourhood Plan. The local housing need is not being met by this application.
4. **Drainage** – the application has inadequate sewage and wastewater plans. It wants to discharge surface storm water into the combined sewers. This is not acceptable to United Utilities or to residents. Local sewers are currently already inadequate.

### 2. Decisions - Members noted that the following decisions had been made since the last Full Council meeting:

- a. SL/2022/0862 The Shieling, Eden Park Road Non-Material Amendment – LDC Existing - Grant
- b. SL/2022/0964 Land south of Allithwaite Road Kents Bank Non-Material Amendment – Grant
- c. SL/2022/0906 20 Carter Road Kents Bank LDC Proposed Refuse
- d. SL/2022/0855 Harwood, Kilmidyke Road Retrospective Full Retrospective – Grant with Conditions
- e. SL/2018/0144 Former Graythwaite Manor Hotel Full Planning Grant with Conditions
- f. SL/2022/0689 Lambert Manor Kirkhead Road Full Planning Grant with Conditions
- g. SL/2022/0918 Rostherne Charney Road Full Planning Grant with Conditions
- h. SL/2022/0690 Lambert Manor, Kirkhead Road Listed Building Listed Building - Grant with Conditions

### 3. Delegated Authority - Members noted that the following items were responded to under delegated authority as the consultation deadline fell between meetings:

- a. SL/2022/0996 Lakeland Optical, Main Street  
Replacement of two upper floor windows with UPVC  
Delegated response sent: **NO OBJECTION**

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

## 4. Notice of Appeal – Members to note that an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate) in relation to the following item:

SL/2021/0281 Fellbank, Great Heads Road - Change of use & conversion of garage to holiday let accommodation - TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER S78 AGAINST REFUSAL OF A HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATION. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate) against the decision of South Lakeland District Council to refuse to grant planning permission. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

### C22/127 Finance - Monthly Payments

8

#### a. Verification of Expenditure

##### NOTED

That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified invoices received and payments made since the last full council meeting prior to the council meeting and could verify their authenticity.

#### b. Verification of Accounts Reconciliation

##### NOTED

That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation had taken place.

#### c. Approval of Payments

##### RESOLVED

That the payments of the accounts and wages for this finance period as recorded in the payments list were approved as below.

#### d. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments

##### RESOLVED

That Cllrs. Thomas and Mason would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.

#### e. Identification of Councillors to complete online authorisation of payments

##### RESOLVED

That Cllrs. A. Walmsley and Greenway would complete online authorisation of payments for the next payment period.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

## GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

### Payments for Approval

December 2022

#### Accounts for Payment

£

#### Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit

#### Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque

**Total Bank Account No. 1**

£            -

#### Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits

235 Lloyds Bank Plc - Card Nov 2022 - Monthly fee	3.00	
235a Main Core - 20m blue twin audio cable for Chamber	18.70	
235b Xtuga - Microphone system for Town Council meetings	258.65	
235c Amazon - AAA batteries	19.31	
235d Pebble Eleven - 20m male to male audio cable	9.99	
235e Garden Store - 4ft White Birch Christmas Tree	33.94	
235f Shanghaifuji - Laminator	54.00	397.59
236 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall		574.00
237 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3 / Council office		155.00
238 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4		87.00
239 Npower - Elec V Hall 01/09-30/09/22		452.80
240 Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/09-30/09/22		48.26
241 Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/09-30/09/22		39.94
242 Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/09-30/09/22 (Recoverable)		9.57
243 Npower - Elec V Hall 01/10-31/10/22		491.90
244 Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/10-31/10/22		59.70
245 Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/10-31/10/22		35.34
246 Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/10-31/10/22 (Recoverable)		10.41
247 Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/10-01/11/22		1,113.31
248 Sage - Support 01/12-31/12/22		92.40
249 Waterplus - V Hall 28/10-28/11/22		109.59

#### Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Bank Payments

253 Lancasters - Wire and path cleaner		34.85
254 Treble 3 - Events calendar 17/12/22-17/12/23	105.60	
254a Treble 3 - Website hosting to 14/01/24	144.00	249.60
255 Westmorland Fire - Intruder alarm call out		228.58
256 SLDC - Water supply Prom PC - Feb 22 - Oct 22		270.30
257 PPL PRS Ltd - Performing Rights to 05/10/22 (recoverable)		563.96
258 Royal British Legion - 2 x wreaths		40.00
259 Grange Now - Christmas box advert		36.00
260 Healthmatic - PC cleaning 01/12-31/12/22		1,500.00
261 J Airey - Internal audit for 1st half year 01/04/22-30/09/22		220.00
262 WB Electrical - Solar light to rear steps & dressing room emergency light		445.90
263 Lengthsman - To 30/11/22		594.00
264 C Benbow - Civic Remembrance Day & Xmas fair refreshments		86.84
265 SLDC - Premises Licence V Hall 2022-23		180.00
<b>Total Bank Account No. 2</b>		<u>£    8,126.84</u>

**Total Accounts**

£    8,126.84



# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Page 2

## Salaries (incl. backdated pay award), PAYE & N.I. (Bank Account No. 2)

<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>£ 6,749.71</b>
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 8	3,337.32
LG Pension Scheme Month 8 - Employer payment	3,161.19
	<b>£ 13,248.22</b>
<b>Total Bank Account No. 2</b>	<b>£ 21,375.06</b>
<b>Total all payments for approval</b>	<b>£ 21,375.06</b>

## Accounts paid in previous month

### Bank Account No. 1

#### Direct Debits

#### Cheques

### Bank Account No. 2

#### Direct Debits

250 Plusnet - Tel & Broadband - Rental to 08/12/22 Calls to 08/11/22	39.60
251 Waterplus - Church Hill PC 07/10-07/11/22	49.28
252 Waterplus - Orn Gdns PC 07/10-07/11/22	63.69

#### Direct Bank Payments

<b>Total Accounts paid in previous month</b>	<b>£ 152.57</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£ 21,527.63</b>

## Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 30/11/22	191,232.67
Bank Account No. 2 As at 30/11/22	152,654.83

Transfer to Petty Cash account to replenish float -

Signed (Chairman) .....

Dated.....

a. **Internal Audit**

Members noted the interim half-year Internal Audit report to 30 Sept 2022 following the Internal Audit on 24 November 2022. There were no recommendations. The Internal Auditor confirmed that the Council finances are operated in compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

**RESOLVED**

That the interim half-year Internal Audit report to 30 Sept 2022 following the Internal Audit on 24 November 2022 was approved.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

b. **Grange Town Council Aims and Objectives 2022/23**

Members considered the draft Aims and Objectives amended following review at the previous meeting.

**RESOLVED**

That the Aims and Objectives 2022/23 as amended were approved to include investigating sustainable planting for the Ornamental Gardens wall tops.

c. **Draft Budget and Precept 2023/24**

Members considered the draft Budget and Precept and Budget Report 2023/24.

d. **Civility and Respect – Early Day Motion**

Dr Julian Lewis, MP for New Forest East, has tabled a NEW early day motion (EDM) calling on the Government to re-visit its response to the Committee on Standards in Public Life report on local government ethical standards, including the introduction of tougher sanctions to deal with poor behaviour in local councils.

To view the EDM: <https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/60320>

Members considered contacting Tim Farron MP to encourage him to back this motion and have it discussed in parliament.

**RESOLVED**

That the Council write to Tim Farron MP to encourage him to back this motion and have it discussed in parliament.

e. **Casual Vacancy**

Members noted that there was a casual vacancy on the Town Council; anyone interested was invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or visit: [www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk)

f. **Elections**

Members noted that elections were scheduled for the Town Council on Thursday 5 May 2023. The nomination process usually starts in mid to late March. More information on standing for election is available from the Electoral Commission: [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

There were no consultations.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

C22/130

Updates from Members

11

Members received the following updates from Councillors on works in progress and meetings and events attended, including:

- a. Cllr. Thomas – Furness Line Community Rail Partnership – the new timetable started 12 December and will include 6-car trains to Manchester airport.
- b. Cllr. Thomas – Councillor Surgery – this took place on Saturday 10 December at the Victoria Hall with District and Shadow Unitary Councillors Peter Endsor and Jenny Boak. It was useful as three groups of residents attended; all the problems were for other authorities.

C22/131

Promenade and Lido Refurbishment – Update from District Council

12

Members noted that no update had been received on the District Council's refurbishment of the Promenade and Lido.

## RESOLVED

That the Town Council write to the District Council Leader, Cllr. Jonathan Brook, and Portfolio holder Cllr. Robin Ashcroft raising the following points:

The Town Councillors are angry and disappointed as the Town Council has not been consulted or engaged with.

Town Councillors are constantly asked by the public what is happening at the Prom and Lido and when the works will start. A meeting with officers has been requested to discuss details of the planned works. As this has not been forthcoming, the Town Council requests answers specifically to the following:

1. **Play Area** - the current play area on the Prom has a swing specifically designed for use by children who have disabilities. The Town Council was supposed to have been involved in the design of the new playground. Is the new play area being designed to be accessible to children with disabilities?
2. **Context Panels** – are the large context panel installations still part of the plan? These were not popular when the plans were presented to the community.
3. **Benches** – will the existing benches on the Prom be replaced or refurbished?
4. **Power** - a power supply to the kiosk at the Recreation Ground as part of this work has been promised; the Town Council requests confirmation that this work is included in the schedule.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

5. **Prom Art** - will Prom Art be able to run during works and are they being kept informed of progress?
6. **Businesses** – there are 3 businesses on the Prom - 2 cafés and the Crazy Golf/Putting Recreation Area. Will these businesses be told when work will take place, and will they be compensated in the event of business interruption?

### C22/132 Victoria Hall

13

#### Cost-of-Living Working Party

This was appointed in October 2022 to investigate energy-saving measures for the Victoria Hall.

Members noted that Cllrs. Greenway and Ann Walmsley undertook an energy audit of the building on 24 November and received an update.

Cllr. A. Walmsley presented a list of jobs that could be done to mitigate draughts and it was agreed that the loading bay and fire escape doors were priorities.

The meeting was adjourned to receive information from the Hall and Services Manager on investigations into secondary glazing and that the Fire Risk Assessment on 18 January by Argent Ltd may influence decisions about fire doors.

The next meeting of the Working Party is Wednesday 19 January 2023, 7pm.

### C22/133 Westmorland and Furness Unitary Authority

14

Members noted that Westmorland and Furness Council Leader, Sam Plum, and Chief Executive, Jonathan Brook, gave Parish and Town Councils in Westmorland and Furness a virtual update on Local Government Reform on 16 November 2022 at 7pm.

Cllrs. Thomas, Greenway, and the Town Clerk took part.

### C22/134 Bailey Lane Level Crossing

15

At the previous meeting, it was resolved to write to the County Council Countryside Access Officer to request an update regarding the re-opening of the crossing further to the finding of the Inquiry (C22/96).

Members noted response received by email 17 November 2022:

(DC&R is Development Control and Regulation Committee):

*On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 Network Rail informed me that they were in the process of compiling a 1980 HAS118A application to extinguish the railway crossing, which will address*

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

*the points raised by the Inspector in her order decision and explain why she was incorrect in her suggestions and demonstrating that collective mitigations to reduce residual risk will not make the crossing safe for public use.*

*We have now received an application and I am seeking legal advice on how the County Council should proceed. Options are that Officers decline to process the application or a report is submitted to CCC's DC&R Committee with a recommendation to either make an order or to reject the application.*

*Therefore I am at present unable to give a time frame for when the crossing will be reinstated.*

The Town Council further noted that the County Council had received a request to extinguish the public footpath that passes over the railway line at Bailey Lane and requested views on the proposal for inclusion in a report that will be presented to County Councillors for a decision on whether to proceed with this project. Deadline 2 January 2023.

### RESOLVED

That Grange Town Council would respond to the County Council that the application should be rejected. The Inspector decided that the crossing should re-open and that report should be acted on.

This means that Network Rail need to reinstate the crossing.

It would be a waste of public money to consider further applications from Network Rail to close the crossing. A clear, legal decision has been made by a government-appointed Inspector and this decision should be respected and acted on.

### C22/135 Civic Matters – Remembrance

16

The Remembrance Parade took place on Sunday 13 November. This is insured by the Town Council.

Members noted that the Police will no longer provide road closures for Remembrance Parades. From now on, the Town Council needs to organise and pay for these.

### C22/136 Public Path Diversion

17

#### **Cumbria County Council Public Path Diversion and Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2022**

Members noted public path diversion at Spring Bank which came into effect on 10 November 2022.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

**C22/137 Part 2**

**6**

## **RESOLVED**

That the meeting move to private session and the public and press asked to leave.

**C22/138 Staffing Matters**

**18**

Members noted draft minutes from Staffing Committee meeting held Thursday 1 December 2022 and considered recommendations.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Staffing Committee recommendation from the meeting held Thursday 1 December that the Town Clerk be awarded one incremental point beyond current pay-scale from 1 January 2023 was approved.

**C22/139 Next Meeting**

**19**

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be held:

Monday 9 January 2023, 7.00pm Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

**Signed:**

**Dated:**

**Chair, Grange-over-Sands Town Council**