

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2026 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT –

Councillor Anne Jackson (Chairman and Mayor)
Councillor Chris Stapley
Councillor Shane McCarthy
Councillor Mary Huntington
Councillor David Ferriby
Councillor Allan Dawes
Councillor Paul Shone
Councillor Monique Speksnyder
Councillor Sandra Hodson
Councillor John Crouch
Councillor John Hamblin
Councillor Chris Scott

Clerk: Emma Ireton

FC/120/2026 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Mary Clark

FC/121/2026 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

To agree to the Full Council minutes of the 11th February 2026 – **AGREED**
Cllrs Scott and Jackson abstained from approving minutes as they were not in attendance.

FC/122/2026 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES – APPENDIX 1

None

FC/123/2026 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Hodson items 7 and 9
Cllr Dawes item 9

FC/124/2026 EXCLUSIONS OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public were excluded from Item 14 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

FC/125/2026 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive any representations from members of the public – Members of the public are invited to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes each. The maximum total time for public participation will be 10 minutes. At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council Members unless invited to do so by the Chairman.

6.1 Public Participation

Several residents attended to raise concerns regarding planning application FUL/2026/0011, highlighting several issues they wished to be addressed prior to the application progressing.

In addition, concerns were raised in relation to flooding, with residents highlighting the potential for the proposed development to exacerbate existing issues within Wigton, particularly in the areas of Burnside and Station Road.

The Chair proposed that the order of the agenda be varied, with Item 9. taken before Item 6.2 This was agreed by Members.

9. Planning Applications

Members discussed planning application FUL/2026/0011, with Cllr Hodson providing additional information in support of the concerns raised by residents.

Cllr Ferriby proposed that the office write to the planning department of Cumberland Council outlining the issues raised. This was seconded by Cllr McCarthy.

RESOLVED that the office compile a letter incorporating the concerns raised and submit this to the planning department of Cumberland Council, requesting an extension to the consultation period to allow these matters to be fully considered. The letter will also request that the application be determined by Committee rather than under delegated officer powers.

6.2 Cumberland Authority Report

Councillor Lynch was in attendance and provided the following report:

It was noted that neither Cllr Lynch nor the Town Council had received notification that the planning application had gone live. It was acknowledged that such notifications are usually issued to both parties.

In relation to the Aldi application, the consultation period has been extended to allow further assessment of traffic-related issues.

The Government White Paper on SEND and school reforms has been published and is available to review online.

The Cumberland Council budget increase has been confirmed at 4.99%.

A Highways meeting has been scheduled for the week commencing 16th March 2026.

FC/126/2026 Financial Matters

7.1 To receive and authorise Payments and Bank Reconciliation for February 2026

Members received the payment lists and monthly reconciliations to review prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED

Payments and reconciliation for February 2026 be approved (unanimously)

Wigton Town Council and Wigton Cemetery Payments

Wigton Town Council											05 March 2026 (2025-2026)
PAYMENTS LIST											
Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
730	Subscriptions	17/02/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Adobe	S	13.87	2.77	16.64
707	Grave Digging	17/02/2026		WB/C Current	Beattie	Invoice	Tivoli	S	588.00	117.60	705.60
743	Electricity	17/02/2026		WB/C Current		Suppliers	E.on	L	939.66	46.98	986.64
744	Electricity	17/02/2026		WB/C Current		Suppliers	E.on	L			
708	Cumberland Management Fees	17/02/2026		WB/C Current	Q3 Fees	Invoice	Cumberland Council	S	1,561.00	312.20	1,873.20
714	Machinery Maintenance	17/02/2026		Town Council Main	Tractor service	Invoice	Lloyd Ltd	S	860.72	172.15	1,032.87
731	Park Maintenance	18/02/2026		Town Council Main	Signage	Invoice	Parakeet Print	X	46.00		46.00
732	Equipment/Materials	18/02/2026		Town Council Main	Rock salt - Thornhill	Invoice	Travis Perkins	S	35.70	7.14	42.84
733	Equipment/Materials	18/02/2026		Town Council Main	Washers	Invoice	Travis Perkins	S	1.76	0.35	2.11
734	Equipment/Materials	18/02/2026		Town Council Main	Nails	Invoice	Travis Perkins	S	3.53	0.71	4.24
713	Christmas Lights Costs	20/02/2026		Town Council Main	Install and take do	Invoice	Blachere Illumination	S	2,831.50	566.30	3,397.80
735	Subscriptions	22/02/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	GANVA	S	10.82	2.17	12.99
736	Depot Running Costs - not rent	24/02/2026		Town Council Main	Depot Power	Suppliers	Total Energies	L	147.48	7.37	154.85
693	Park Maintenance	24/02/2026		Town Council Main	Bark	Invoice	Delston Aggregates	S	283.20	56.64	339.84
737	Barton Lays Running costs/Ino	24/02/2026		Town Council Main	BL Power	Suppliers	Total Energies	L	130.19	6.51	136.70
738	Pension	24/02/2026		Town Council Main	Pensions	Wages	Cumbria Local Government	E	5,639.27		5,639.27
739	PAYE	25/02/2026		Town Council Main	PAYE	PAYE	HMRC - PAYE	E	5,181.46		5,181.46
740	Allotments Running Costs	26/02/2026		Town Council Main	Allotment water	Suppliers	Waterplus	S	106.31	21.26	127.57
719	Park Maintenance	03/03/2026		Town Council Main	Bark	Invoice	Delston Aggregates	S	141.60	28.32	169.92
720	Christmas Event	03/03/2026		Town Council Main	Christmas Fee	Invoice	Wigton Choral Society	X	400.00		400.00
752	Park Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Laversdale Timber	S	206.26	41.25	247.51
753	Park Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Laversdale Timber	S	28.24	5.65	33.89
762	Equipment/Materials	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoices	Saundersons	S	48.75	9.75	58.50
757	skip hire	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Aspatia Skip Hire	X	960.00		960.00
721	Christmas Event	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Christmas fee	Invoice	Wigton Youth Station	X	350.00		350.00
715	Grave Digging	13/03/2026		WB/C Current	Nixon	Invoices	Tivoli Group Limited	S	588.00	117.60	705.60
766	Insurance ALL	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Renewal	Invoice	Zurich Insurance	S	10,491.20	2,098.24	12,589.44
751	Internet, phones and mobiles	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	System IT	S	9.00	1.80	10.80
755	Printing	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Infinity Print Solutions	S	8.08	1.62	9.70
699	Building Repair and Maintenance	13/03/2026		WB/C Current		Invoice	Saundersons	S			
765	Building Repair and Maintenance	13/03/2026		WB/C Current		Invoice	Saundersons	S	38.58	7.72	46.30
756	clerk	13/03/2026		WB/C Current		Invoice	Julia Webster	X	266.76		266.76
750	Room Hire	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Room hire	Invoice	NADT	X	20.00		20.00

Wigton Town Council											05 March 2026 (2025-2026)
PAYMENTS LIST											
Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
718	Vehicle Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Exhaust pressure s	Invoice	Richard Miller	S	218.33	43.67	262.00
749	Machinery Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Chainsaw service	Invoice	TM Plant Services	X	365.00		365.00
758	Machinery Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	servicing	Invoice	Rickerby Limited	S	355.40	71.08	426.48
759	Machinery Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Servicing	Invoice	Rickerby Limited	S	1,025.77	205.16	1,230.93
760	Machinery Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Lloyd Ltd	S	309.02	61.81	370.83
761	Machinery Maintenance	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Lloyd Ltd	S	409.95	81.99	491.94
764	Rent of Market Hall INCL public	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Tom Armstrong (Depot)	X	1,250.00		1,250.00
763	Rent Depot	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	Mike Armstrong Depot	X	1,250.00		1,250.00
716	Machinery Hire	13/03/2026		Town Council Main	Chipper hire	Invoice	A W Blake LTD	S	145.00	29.00	174.00
754	Fuel	13/03/2026		Town Council Main		Invoice	W Ferguson Limited	L	83.34	4.17	87.51
Total									37,348.75	4,128.98	41,477.73

7.2 To consider and approve the purchase of a Maxus tipper van from the 2026/2027 budget

Members considered the purchase of a Maxus tipper van at a cost of £22,000 plus VAT, together with the installation of an 11ft 3" tipping body with alloy sides at a cost of £4,500 plus VAT.

It was noted that the current Ford tipper is in poor condition, with an ongoing EPC fault which has not been resolved despite assessment by two local garages. In addition, the vehicle has age-related corrosion which is not considered economical to repair. A local garage, R Miller, has offered £1,500 for the vehicle.

Cllr Ferriby proposed that the Council proceed with the purchase of the Maxus tipper van and accept the offer of £1,500 for the existing Ford tipper. This was seconded by Cllr Crouch.

RESOLVED that the Council approve the purchase of a Maxus tipper van at a cost of £22,000 plus VAT, together with the installation of an 11ft 3" tipping body with alloy sides at a cost of £4,500 plus VAT, and that the existing Ford tipper be sold for £1,500.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED.

7.3 Members are asked to consider the purchase of an AutoSpeedWatch device.

Members considered the purchase of an AutoSpeedWatch device. Information had been circulated prior to the meeting outlining how the device operates.

It was noted that the device can be deployed in areas of concern, such as Southend into the town centre, where speeding has been identified as an issue, particularly during evenings and weekends. The device links to Cumbria Police systems and records vehicles exceeding the speed limit. Warning letters are issued by the Police, and the data collected may be used to inform targeted enforcement by the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Members noted that the cost of one device is £779, which includes a 12-month data plan. Following the initial period, an annual data plan cost of £179 would apply.

Members discussed potential locations for deployment and whether more than one device may be required. Permission would also be required from the Cumberland Council to place the devices on lamp posts.

RESOLVED that further information be obtained in relation to installation and ongoing maintenance costs prior to a decision being made. The office will investigate and report back to a future meeting.

FC/127/2026 To consider taking part in the Great Cumbrian Litter Pick Event

Members considered correspondence from Friends of the Lake District regarding the Great Cumbrian Litter Pick event scheduled for 27th and 28th March.

RESOLVED that the Council does not participate in this event due to insufficient time for preparation, and instead will organise its own litter pick event, to be progressed by the Events Committee.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED.

FC/128/2026 Town Mayor Engagements

MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS 15th JAN - 11th MAR 2026

Date	Event
Saturday 31 st January	p.m. Invited to Wigton Baths to judge 'Design a Duck' competition. p.m. Attended Baroque Cabaret Show at C M Church.
Tuesday 3 rd February	p.m. Attended the Fells & Solway C Panel resilience event, in W Market Hall.
Saturday 28 th February	p.m. Attended Mayor of Workington's Civic Dinner, with Cllr Hodson.
	Wigton Town Council. Attended most sub-committee meetings.
CORRESPONDENCE	Wigton resident's query & concern re: street lighting in Town. Invitation to NADT evening event at <u>Dovenby Hall</u> .

Anne C Jackson 11th March 2026

FC/129/2026 Clerk's Report

The clerk noted she would be on annual leave from Friday 13th March to Monday 16th March.

FC/130/2026 Member Reports

Cllr Scott – Attended Town Plan meeting and WAERG meeting.

Cllr Crouch – Attended the Borderlands meeting.

Cllr Speksnyder – It was noted that a Borderlands meeting is due to take place; however, Cllr Speksnyder advised that they would be unable to attend. It was agreed that the Chairman be consulted to confirm whether attendance by the Clerk and/or Assistant Clerk would satisfy quoracy requirements.

Cllr Ferriby – Reminded members that a meeting date for the Town Plan was required. Members agreed on the 1st April with time to be confirmed nearer the time.

Cllr Hodson – Attending the WAERG AGM. Also attended the Civic Dinner for the Mayor of Workington with Cllr Jackson.

Future agenda items:

Litter Pick
Town Plan Update
Annual Town meeting

Meeting Closed: 20:33

Next meeting 11 March 2026

Action	Responsibility	Completion Date	Complete	Comments
Arrange for an annual review of buildings and assets at the park bowling club	EI	Asap		
Devise a maintenance schedule for TC owned buildings and land	EI/SC	Ongoing		
Develop plan for park toilets opening	EI/SC	Asap		
Revise Park Bowling Club agreement	EI/SC and councillors	End Feb		
Organise litter pick	EI/SC and councillors	End April		
Research Autospeedwatch devices	EI/SC	ASAP		