GILCRUX PARISH COUNCIL

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A Meeting of Gilcrux Parish Council was held at the Gilcrux Village Hall, Gilcrux at 6.30pm on Wednesday 17th September 2025.

Present: Councillor's D. Taylor (Chair), T. Murphy, C. Fisher, J. Eve, and J. Sugden.

Also, Present: Trevor Gear (Clerk) and M. Harris (Cumberland Councillor).

Apologies: None

109/2025 Members Apologies
Apologies were received from C. Thorpe (personal) and D. Lake (Work).

110/2025 15 Minute Parishioners Open Forum
No residents were present, but the following items were raised on their behalf.

i) There is to be a fund-raising music festival on the green in aid of repairs to the church.
ii) The verges on the Gilcrux to Greengill road are being damaged by HGV's and agricultural vehicles.

111/2025 Declarations of Interest
None

112/2025 Dispensations
None

113/2025 Confirmation of minutes
On the proposal of T. Murphy and seconded by C. Fisher
RESOLVED – that the Chair sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th July 2025.

114/2025 Exclusion of Press and Public
There were no items which required the exclusion of the press and public.

115/2025 Advisory Funding Group. (CCF).

T. Murphy advised that there was nothing to report apart from there are four bids to be considered at the panel meeting next Wednesday.

117/2025 Correspondence received since last Parish Council Meeting.

The following items of correspondence have been received since the last meeting and circulated to members for their information: -.
Various Cumberland Council Newsletters.
Connecting Cumbria Newsletter – July and August 2025
Flood Resilience Survey for Parish & Town Councils (Deadline 29 August)
Town and Parish Councils' Update Devolution
Celebrate Your Leaders – NALC Star Councillor of the Year Nominations Now Open
Invitatiuon: Introduction to Age- friendly Communities Webinar – 10th September
Cumberland Local Plan Briefing
Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy Newsletter – Summer (2)
Carbon Literacy Action Day 2025 is on the horizon.
Invitation: Presentation by Alex Scott, Cumbria's Lord Lieutenant – 8 September
Grants available for community projects on electrical safety.
NWS Wintering Bird Surveys Along West Cumbria Coastline
ACT Update September.
New reporting system for environmental issues
Lakes to Sea network event invite
CALC Annual General Meeting 4th October 2025 - Agenda

118/2025 Clerks Report

The clerk provided a verbal report on matters he had dealt with since the last meeting which included the following: -

i) A reminder had been received from The Pension Regulator for re-enrolment.
ii) The Gilcrux defibrillator requires some new electrodes. The council will meet the costs.
iii) He had been contacted by one of the properties housing the Sure Signal equipment to say that Vodafone had left the equipment turned off. The clerk had complained to Vodafone and was initially told that the equipment was redundant and should be removed by the householder. Eventually a contractor for Vodafone avised that the other two premises were working well and they would take it up with Vodafone.

119/2025 Cumberland Councillor's report

M. Harris (Cumberland Councillor) had prepared a written report that had been circulated to members (copy attached).

120/2025 Financial update and cheque authorities

(i) The Clerk confirmed that after payment of the accounts the cheque account stands at **£5186.06** and deposit account at **£5029.00.**

(ii)The following paid accounts were to be ratified, and the outstanding accounts were authorised to be paid: -

Mike Dowling Cont. Ltd	Grass cutting (July)	£541.80
The Shinning Tree	Playpark Maintenance	£96.00
T Gear	Clerks Account (July/Aug.)	£448.91
HRMC	Income tax (July/Aug.)	£94.50
The Shinning Tree	Maintenance (Aug./Sept.)	£360.00
Gilcrux Village Hall	Hall Rental (Sept.)	£16.00
Mike Dowling Cont. Ltd	Grass cutting (Aug.)	£541.80
ROSPA Play Safety	Annual Inspection	£110.40

RESOLVED – that the payment of the accounts since the last meeting be ratified and those outstanding be paid.

121/2025 Planning Applications

i) **Consultation**

None

ii) Decisions

None

iii) Appeals

None

vi) **Any other planning related correspondence**

Cumberland Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation had been circulated.

122/2025 Highway Matters

Members received updates on the following highways matters and received new matters affecting highways in the parish: -

Entrance signs to Gilcrux – Ongoing clerk to chase Dykelands

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123/2025 http://beforeweleave.co.uk/

D. Taylor addressed the meeting and informed members that the group had been busy planning an exhibition.

124/2025 Update on St Mary's Church – Funding and work.

T. Murphy gave a verbal report on the progress including the future vision for the church as a place of worship and heritage centre. She said that there was a need for a construction survey at a cost of £2000.00 before grant applications can be submitted.

125/2025 Footpath near Fish Farm

No progress to report.

126/2025 Footbridge – The Gyhll

No progress to report.

127/2025 Grit Bins
Members were reminded to check the levels of the grit bins before winter.

128/2025 Vacancy
There remains one vacancy, and the relevant information and Eligibility Forms have been sent to a resident.

129/2025 Noticeboards
Two noticeboards (Gilcrux and Bullgill) are in poor condition and need replacement. The clerk to arrange replacements.

130/2025 Clerks National Pay Award 2025/26
The clerk advised of the 2025/26 National Pay Award for clerks.

131/2025 Councillor Conduct: Respect, Social Media, and Refresher Training
Cumberland Council had circulated information, guidance, and good practice together with slides which had been circulated to all members. No questions were raised.

132/2025 Climate Emergency
Information on the Citizens Assembly for Cumbria: learning from European experiences: September 10th, 2025, online from 6pm to 7pm had been circulated.

133/2025 Gilcrux Community Exchange
T. Murphy advised that the grant application had been prepared and submitted to Charity Shop and Lakes to Sea, the project is known as the Gilcrux Community Exchange and will be for home-grown produce and books.

134/2025 Funding Request – Citizens Advice Allerdale
A request for funding had been received from Citizens Advice Allerdale which was noted.

135/2025 Digital & Data Compliance
Attention was drawn to the requirement for all councillors to have a dedicated e-mail address for council correspondence and that D. Taylor was in the process of circulating those addresses to councillors.

136/2025 Annual Play Park Inspection
The report had been circulated. The principal areas of concern were weeds and uneven bark surfaces. The clerk to contact the maintenance contractor to have this remedied.

137/2025 Matters for Next Meeting.
‘’Before we Leave.’
St Mary’s Church – Funding and Restoration Work
Vacancy
Footbridge – The Gyhll

Footpath near the Fish Farm
Grit Bins
Noticeboard in Gilcrux

138/2025 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 19th November. 2025, at 6.30pm** at Gilcrux Village Hall, Gilcrux

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

……. Chair

Date …….....