

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH
JANUARY 2026 COMMENCING 07.00PM
IN THE METHODIST HALL, MILLOM

PRESENT: Cllr R Williamson in the Chair, Cllr S Faulkner (Mayor), Cllr B Crellin, Cllr J Brown, Cllr J Kellett, Cllr A McDonald, Cllr B Kelly MTC and Cumberland Cllr, Cllr D Billing, Cumberland Cllr A Pratt, Cath Jopson (Clerk) Gillian Hoyle RFO/Assistant Clerk. One member of the public was in attendance

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chair asked for two minutes silence in remembrance of ex Cllr/Mayor Frank McPhillips.

133/25: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Liebhart and Amos-Milburn

134/25: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

Nothing to exclude.

135/25: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The chair gave a short report on his work/duties during the month of November. Report attached to the minutes.

136/25: MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A detailed report was given by the mayor regarding civic duties that had been carried out during the month. This summary of the months works is attached to the minutes.

137/25: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No Declarations of interest were received.

138/25: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 26th NOVEMBER 2025 AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD:

Cllr Faulkner proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2025 be signed as a true and correct record, this was seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed.

139/25: ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The clerk informed the meeting that all actions had been completed.

140/25: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

The member who was in attendance asked about the footpath that runs from church walk near to the railway line as it appears to be flooded a lot and wondered if it could be raised to enable people to still use it. It was also asked if the broken signage on the old library building was going to be restored and also if the car park at the back of the old library building would be opened back up for parking. Another concern that the resident brought to council was the uncertainty of the Heritage and Arts Centre. The chair said that the council took on board all of the concerns raised and proposed that a letter be written in regard to the library building signage/parking and the Heritage and Arts Centre. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to relevant bodies.**

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141/25: ACCOUNTS/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner to approve the accounts for payment and note the bank reconciliation, this was seconded by Cllr Kelly and this was unanimously agreed. **Action: RFO to pay outstanding invoices etc.**

142/25: SALVATION ARMY BUILDING:

Following the recent workshop to discuss the purchase of the Salvation Army Building the chair asked the council to vote for whether to proceed. A show of hands was unanimous in rejecting the purchase. **Action: Clerk to inform solicitor of council's decision.**

143/25: CUMBERLAND & COUNCILLOR UPDATES/WORKSHOPS:

Cllr Williamson raised his concern in regard to the Queen's Park development and where it is up to at present. Cllr Pratt informed the meeting that he had spoken to Home Group representative Rosie Edge who had stated that before submitting plans Home Group had to apply for funding to build. She had informed Cllr Pratt that before the project was agreed it would go out for public consultation. Cllr Williamson proposed that MTC needed to speak prior to the public consultation and currently the site was deemed a hazard.

Cllr Kelly informed the council that Cumberland had appointed two representatives to try and deal with the dog fouling issue. He also informed the meeting that Network Rail had put in place an agreement for Highways to install traffic lights on the Palmers Lane/Haverigg Road railway bridge.

Cllr Pratt gave a short summary of the work that he had been working on for the area. He did, however, stress the importance of anyone with issues especially with the highways to log onto the Cumberland Website and report. Statistics are being used based on the number of complaints/issues raised. He informed the meeting that there would be two open days for the public to look at the two proposals for the market square, the first one Tuesday 3rd February 4 – 8pm and the second one 10th February 1.00 – 4.00pm.

144/25: CLERK'S UPDATE/INFORMATION:

The clerk informed the meeting that she was saddened to have had received a resignation letter from Eve Chatterton. All necessary protocol had been followed, and the vacancy had been advertised.

Costings for the Haverigg shore road traffic calming was in the process and, hopefully be carried out as soon as possible with traffic signs.

145/25: POLICIES/DOCUMENTS TO ADOPT/REVIEW:

The following policies were brought to council for review as follows:

- Risk Assessment for Lone Working Policy for Office only – It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner, seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed that this policy be adopted.
- Reserves Policy – It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed that this policy be adopted.
- Environmental & Sustainability Policy – It was proposed by Cllr Billing, seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed that this policy be adopted.
- Health and Safety Policy – It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner, seconded by Cllr Billing and agreed that this policy be adopted

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- Risk Register & Risk Assessment Policies – It was proposed by Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr McDonald that following the amendment the change the wording Copeland Council to Cumberland Council it be signed and adopted, this was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to make alteration and then it be signed.**
- Equality and Diversity Policy – It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner, seconded by Cllr Billing that this policy be signed and adopted and agreed.
- How to Deal with Urgent Planning Applications – It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner and seconded by Cllr Billing to sign and adopt this policy, all agreed.

146/25: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

A letter had been received from the Millom and Around the Combe CIC with concerns about the services that are currently being depleted from the Millom area, especially the CAB face-to-face appointments. Cllr Billing proposed that a letter to support all concerns raised in the email to be sent, this was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed.

The clerk informed the meeting that a letter had been received from a resident regarding the proposed Iron Line Project and the planning proposal for the planned traffic order (TRO) for the Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT). Cllr Faulkner proposed that a reply should be sent acknowledging their concerns with a copy to Cumberland Authority who are dealing with the Iron Line. **Action: Clerk to write letter to resident**

Correspondence had been received in regard to the Millom Striders Run the Edge on 31st May 2026 asking if the town council had any objections. Cllr Faulkner proposed that the council support this event, this was seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write letter of support**

The clerk informed the council that she had received a letter regarding safety concerns of the village-style changing facilities that are to be placed within the new leisure centre. Cllr Faulkner proposed that a letter be sent to the correspondent noting their concerns and pass it on to the members of the Town Deal for their information. This was seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Town Deal Board with correspondence received.**

147/25: PLANNING:

The following planning applications had been received for council's comments prior to the meeting and had been discussed via email due to time constraints:

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- 4/25/2392/0F1 – Removal of the existing single storey garage roof covering the construction of a first-floor side extension, new front porch, and mono-pitch roof canopy to front elevation with brick pillar – 17 Seathwaite Close Millom
- 4/25/2403/0F1 – Change of use of land to domestic garden, the demolition of existing outbuildings and the construction of a general purpose/storage building and workshop – Land to the northwest of Poolside, Haverigg
- 4/25/2404/0A1 – Application for consent to install 4 x fascia signs and 7 x dibond signs – Tesco Stores, Lancashire Road, Millom
- 4/25/2415/0F1 – Extension and new pitched roof covering to existing single industrial building with new external cladding and internal alterations to provide No 3 units – Unit B6, Haverigg Industrial Estate, Haverigg

The council had no objections in principle to any of the above applications.

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- **4/25/2198/0F1 – Re-Consultation on Additional/Amended Information – Erection of Visitor Centre with Café/Shop (Iron Line) – Land at Hodbarrow Nature Reserve** - The council had no objections in principle to the additional amended information regarding the Visitor Centre.
- **4/25/2344/0F1 – Proposed new access road for Maintenance Vehicles and Disabled Parking and improvements to pedestrian and cycle routes from Salthouse Road to the Community Leisure Centre – Millom School, Salthouse Road** – The council had no objections in principle to this application.

Action: Clerk to write to planning authorities with council's comments.

148/25: ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO NOTE FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

None to be noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 08.50pm

Signed: Chair Dated: 25th February 2026

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ACTIONS:

- 140/25:** Clerk to write to relevant bodies
- 141/25:** RFO to pay outstanding invoices etc
- 145/25:** Clerk to amend Risk Register and Risk Assessment policies and get signed once carried out.
- 146/25:** Clerk to write letter to resident
Clerk to write letter of support
Clerk to write letter to Town Deal Board
- 147/25:** Clerk to write to Planning Authority with council's comments