Draft Minutes of the Assembly of Kentmere Parish Meeting held in The Kentmere Institute at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 10th November 2025

1. Attendance: Peter Lansberry (Chairman), Richard Allen, Peter Archer, Jess Emms, Francesca Cummings, Louise Frith-Powell, Margaret Harrison, Sheila and Steve Hirst, Christine Hevey, Iain and Sandra Johnston, Carol Lansberry, Ian McIvor, Jo Racle, Robert and Rosamund Ridley, Chris Sanderson and Jim Stilling.(19)
2. Apologies for absence were received from Roger Dewhurst, Richard Morey, Annaliese Rigby and Jim Sharp.
3. Declarations of interest: None
4. Minutes of the meeting on 6th May. A draft had been circulated. There were no amendments and their acceptance was agreed by all. There were no matters arising from those minutes.

Minutes of the special meeting on 27th May. Again a draft had been circulated and after correction of typing errors there were accepted by all present.

5. Matters arising from these minutes: Chris Sanderson raised the following concern. "The Chairman's failure to reply to correspondence, and presentation at the Development Control Committee meeting of 2nd July". There was significant discussion including Col. Sanderson's elaboration of his concerns and responses from other attendees including Richard Allen and Steve Hirst. The majority of the comments were in support of the Chairman's actions. After some time Richard Allen proposed a resolution expressing confidence in the Chairman. This was put to a vote which was supported by all of the assembly with the exception of one vote against by one attendee and one abstention. Christine Hevey recommended that future planning matters should not be discussed at Parish Meeting but that all residents should be circulated with the information and encouraged to make their own submissions to the planning authority. There was also a suggestion that the Standing Orders should be revisited and amended or clarified if necessary. The chairman will attend to this.

6. People of Kentmere: Changes included the imminent departure of Robert and Clare Courtier who are moving to Staveley and welcome was expressed to Jan Perkins who will be moving into Old Forge Cottage and Gareth and Stevie Raven and family who have moved into School Cottage.

7. Finance:

   Budget for 2026. Details for a proposed budget for the coming year had been circulated before the meeting. The Chairman explained changes which apply this coming year which included Data Protection regulations and Liability Insurance. There was general discussion about the latter and the need for insurance as the parish doesn't own anything. There was concern about a possible liability with regard to snow clearance. The Chairman will look further into this and circulate his findings. The Chairman asked for confirmation of the budget item for 'balsam bashing'. This was agreed. The Chairman proposed acceptance of the draft budget for next year and this was agreed by all present.

Risk assessment: The Chairman explained this process and it was agreed.

Acceptance of theses matters was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Iain Johnston and carried.

8. Planning: information had been received regarding a planning application for the barn to the west pf Kentmere Hall. Parishionners had been informed and were encouraged to submit their comments to the authority if they had any observations.
9. Parish Reports
   Broadband. Roger Dewhurst in his absence had sent a report which explained that all properties with he exception of Scales and Hartrigg are now covered in the extended contract but there is, as yet, no date for the work on the western side of the valley.

   Highways: The Chairman explained that there is a total lack of communication with the Council. There is clear lack of maintenance work to repair potholes, sweep the road, clear drains, etc.

   Kentmere Institute: The Assembly was reminded that the Institute is now 100 years old and when it was first opened there was something on every night and the place had a full-time caretaker. The trustees are grateful for the efforts of Sheila Hirst in arranging a film club and the regular visits by a theatre group. Jo Racle was thanks for her efforts in arranging events and Louise Frith Powell for her new venture of "Rag Rug Making'. As the Institute's year end is so close to this meeting, it has been decided to delay the Annual general Meeting until May

Date of next meeting - Thursday 14th May