**Askham and Helton Parish Council**

**Meeting:** Annual Parish Meeting **Date:** Thursday, 30th May 2024

**Venue:** Askham and District Community Centre

**Present:** Laura Harker (LH), Chris Whittaker (CW), Malcolm Holt (MH), Mary Westgarth (MW), Sophie Riches (SR)

**Apologies:** Gary Calland (GC), John Banks (JB), Neil Hughes W&FC (NH)

**In Attendance:** Sandie Watson (Clerk/RFO) (SW)

**Members of Public:** 2

**Minutes**

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| **Item** | **Key Points/decisions** | **Action** |
| 1/APM/300524/1  Introduction and Welcome | Laura Harker opened the meeting. |  |
| 2/APM/300524/2  Minutes | The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2023 were circulated and accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman. |  |
| 3/APM/300524/3  Chairman’s Report | Laura Harker gave a report of the work of the Council in 2023/24. She thanked the Councillors and Clerk for their support and hard work throughout the year. |  |
| 4/APM/300524/4  Accounts of Parish Council for 2022/23 | The Clerk provided a summary and report of the finances for 2023/24. The Precept was £9,500.00. Total income £10,323.10. Total expenditure £9557.61. Balance at the end of the financial year £3,445.54. |  |
| 5/APM/300524/5  Public Participation | A question was raised if the local occupancy restriction on planning application 7/2024/3022 would be removed. The Council had no objection to the application. The Lake District National Park Authority granted the removal.  A question was asked why the bridleway at Helton was closed. The closure was due to the redecking of the bridge.  The google pin drop for Lake District National Park is still directing the general public to Askham Fell. |  |
| 6/APM/300524/6  Nature Restoration Projects in Askham | A presentation was received from Cumbria Connect. Cumbria Connect is a new partnership working to restore nature across 42,000 hectares of eastern Cumbria. They are working with farmers, landowners, and local communities to create a bright future for wildlife and people. Further information is available from connectfornature.org.uk Consultations and future landscape workshops will be taking place in the area and will be advertised. |  |

**Meeting closed 8.12pm**