# **Workington Town Council**

Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington, CA14 2RS

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Email: office@workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk Website: www.workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk



Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting of Workington Town Council, held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 at 6.30pm in the Workington Town Council Offices, Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington, CA14 2RS.

Cllr Michael Heaslip (Chair)	Present	Cllr Bernadette Jones (Vice Chair)	Present
Cllr Mary Bainbridge	Absent	Cllr John Mills	Present
Cllr Beth Dixon	Present	Cllr Billy Miskelly	Present
Cllr Sue Martin	Present	Cllr Patricia Poole	Present
Cllr Sean Melton	Absent*	Cllr Mike Rollo	Absent*

Substitutes in attendance: Cllr Allan Hodgson for Cllr Mike Rollo and Cllr David Farrar for Cllr Sean Melton. Also in attendance: Chief Officer/RFO and 1 member of the public.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Miskelly to his first environment committee meeting since his election in February 2025.

**E25.1 Absences:** Absences notified prior to the meeting were noted from Cllr Sean Melton and Cllr Mike Rollo.

**E25.2 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Billy Miskelly declared an interest in agenda item 12, as an allotment holder at Siddick.

E25.3 Exclusion of Press and Public: None

E25.4 Public Participation: None.

#### E25.5 Minutes of the previous meeting

**Resolved:** Committee approved the minutes from 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and affirmed them a true record.

E25.6 Public Questions: None

E25.7 Questions and Statements from Members: None.

E25.8 Motions on Notice: None.

#### E25.9 Budget 2025-2026

Committee noted the budget monitoring report for information.

#### **E25.10 Environmental Activities**

Committee noted the report for information.

#### E25.11 Streetscene

#### a) Town Hall Defibrillator

**Resolved:** Committee approved a cost of up to £670 for the installation of an outdoor defibrillator to be located at the Town Hall from the Streetscene budget line.

Resolved: To send a link of all defibrillator locations in Workington to committee.

**Resolved:** To establish Cumberland Council owned defibrillators in Workington that may require attention and contact Cumberland Council to discuss.

- **b) Defibrillator at Barepot** Committee noted that this would be installed shortly, and a press release would be issued once complete.
- c) Workington Gateway Pocket Park the Chair advised that a meeting was attended by himself, Chair of F & GP and the Chief Officer with Cumberland Council on 15<sup>th</sup> May, but no further information was available and what was discussed the Council was already aware of. Updates will be brought to future meetings if appropriate.
- **d) Police Update** Cllr John Mills gave an update on the Neighbourhood Policing Pledge meeting that he attended on 6<sup>th</sup> May as a representative for Workington North. It was discussed that there were no reports or updates from the Police and those who attended were asked to give feedback on what the Police can do / help with. Committee discussed that Councillors previously received reports from the Police with useful statistics and data and it would be beneficial to receive this again as well as the Inspector attending Full Council meetings.

**Resolved:** CO to inform CALC of feedback following the meeting and to request the CO be informed of when future meetings will be held.

Cllr Miskelly and the member of public left the meeting.

#### E25.12 Allotments

#### a) Mountain View Allotments

**Resolved:** Officers to action the following:

- o Inform Cumberland Council that the Council wishes to retain the seven plots being used as allotments and hand the rest of the land back to Cumberland Council from Oct 2025.
- Give notice to tenants on land not viable as allotments that no new tenancy agreements will be issued and from Oct 2025, they need to contact Cumberland Council for any issues/concerns.

#### b) Water Provision

**Resolved:** To purchase IBCs for Stoneleigh and Siddick allotment sites up to the value of £4,700 from the Allotments budget line. Once complete, remove taps / access to mains water.

#### c) Allotment plot measurements

**Resolved:** To give notice to tenants that the Council is carrying out a re-measuring exercise of all allotment plots and this will be reflected in their next tenancy agreement in Oct 2025 some prices may decrease, but some may increase.

**Resolved:** To provide committee with a full overview and recommendation of price per square metre per allotment site at the September committee meeting.

Cllr Miskelly and the member of public returned to the meeting.

#### E25.13 Cumberland Council's License to Grow

Committee noted the report for information.

**Resolved:** Officers to feedback committee's support for the initiative.

#### **E25.14 Estate Management**

Committee noted the update on The Ranch for information.

#### **E25.15** Estate Development

#### a) Cast Iron lampposts

**Resolved:** To investigate the lampposts being used in the park as finger sign posts and hanging baskets.

#### b) Activity markings

**Resolved:** To purchase activity markings for up to £2,000 from the Estate development budget line to be located in appropriate places around the paths in Vulcan Park.

#### c) Accessible picnic tables

**Resolved:** To purchase two accessible picnic tables with wheelchair access from Solway Recycling for up to £1,700 from the Estate development budget line.

**Resolved:** To send proposed locations of picnic benches within Vulcan Park to committee for consideration.

#### d) Feenans Community Garden

**Resolved:** To enter into an agreement with Victoria Infants and Victoria Junior School to tend to two of the beds at Feenans Community Garden.

Committee agreed to Barnados taking over the other two beds in September when they are able.

#### **E25.16 Workington Nature Partnership**

Committee noted the report for information.

The Chair advised that the Council is still waiting for a meeting with Cumberland Council planning officers to discuss the issues of silt getting into the rivers/becks following new housing developments in or around the town.

The meeting ended at 7.36pm.



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Item No.
From: Cllr Stephen Stoddart	7a
Title: Questions	

#### Questions from Cllr Stephen Stoddart:

1.

I would like to propose that the Council considers removing the large goal posts on the football pitch in Vulcan Park and replace with junior goal posts.

I would also like to propose that a small football pitch is marked out, approx.. 30m wide by 60 metres long, which is ideal as a small football pitch for the under 10s.

This works very well at Moorclose Park.

The large goal posts could be relocated elsewhere.

2.

I would like to propose that the Council considers planting a tree on Northside Road, where Lucy Sands' body was found.

A discussion was had with Stephen Baldwin, who is the filmmaker of the recent Lucy Sands film, and it was suggested planting a tree in memory of Lucy where her body was found on Northside Road, approximately 80 - 100 meters from the old Navies Bridge. Stephen Baldwin has the exact location.

Previously, a tree was planted in her name, but this was taken down in the early 60's. If this is possible, please could an official tree planting ceremony also be considered.



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Item No.
From: Cllr Allan Hodgson	8a
Title: Motion	

## Motion from Cllr Allan Hodgson:

#### NOTICE OF MOTION

I would like to propose that the Council considers exploring and costing the following developments with regards to the tennis courts in Vulcan Park.

- Covering for one of the courts, to allow for all weather playing
- Flood lights to light the courts, to allow for extended hours of play and for during the winter months.

I propose that, with agreement by committee, Officers investigate the viability and cost implications for both and bring a report to a future meeting.

This will allow the Council to include in future budget setting should the options be agreeable to Council.

		Current Year 2025/26							
		Agreed	Brought	Budget		Total	Actual YTD	Committed	Balance at
		Budget	Forward	Revisions	Virement	Budget	Spend as at	Expenditure	01-Jul-25
							01-Jul-25		
120	Environment								
4700	Street Displays	26,000	0	0	0	26,000	8,382	0	17,618
4705	Environmental Activities	3,000	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	3,000
4710	Green Grants	3,000	0	0	0	3,000	1,608	0	1,392
4810	Streetscene	10,000	0	0	0	10,000	(59)	924	9,135
4830	Vulcan Park	19,000	0	0	0	19,000	2,756	7,981	8,263
4840	Play Areas	45,000	0	0	0	45,000	845	0	44,155
4850	Allotments	24,700	0	0	0	24,700	994	11,784	11,922
4860	Estate Management	10,000	0	0	0	10,000	2,101	3,203	4,696
4870	Estate Development	201,000	0	0	0	201,000	112,475	5,718	82,807
4730	Nature Partnership	25,500	0	0	0	25,500	0	23,500	2,000
		367,200	0	0	0	367,200	129,102	53,111	184,987

# Committed Expenditure Listing for 2025/26

Order									
Number	Month	Order Date	Supplier Name	Description	Code	Centre	Net Amount	Invoiced	Balance
2255	1	18-Nov	Thomas Armstrong (Construction) Ltd	Chainsaw Repairs	4860	120	250.00		250.00
2303	1	26-Nov	Tivoli Group Limited	Soapery - Remove and dispose of footbridge	4850	120	766.80		766.80
2317	1	21-Jan	S J McGuckin Ltd	Cable for VP Lights	4830	120	1,140.00	450.00	690.00
2345	1	31-Mar	JR Bennett	Rotary Club Flower Bed	4830	120	500.00	461.00	39.00
2347	1	09-Apr	NBB	2 x Picnic Benches & fixing kits	4870	120	930.00	883.50	46.50
2348	1	16-Apr	MKM BS Workington	Allotment Fencing	4850	120	47.20		47.20
2349	1	22-Apr	B and Q	Paint for Bowling Bower	4860	120	70.00	46.66	23.34
2351	1	22-Apr	MKM BS Workington	Materials for VP Picnic Benches	4870	120	500.00	216.40	283.60
2353	1	28-Apr	B and Q	Assorted Seeds	4860	120	48.14		48.14
2354	1	29-Apr	Kompan Scotland Ltd	Accessibility Swing & Communication Panel	4870	120	1,917.71		1,917.71
2383	1	01-Apr	Npower Ltd	Street Lighting at Frostoms 25/26	4810	120	254.48		254.48
2384	1	01-Apr	Business Stream	Water - Green Hub 25/26	4830	120	49.43	46.41	3.02
2385	1	01-Apr	Business Stream	Water - Vulcan Park 25/26	4830	120	322.32	100.30	222.02
2386	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - VP Bowling Bower	4830	120	270.00	68.85	201.15
2387	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Vulcan Park Trade Waste Collection 25/26	4830	120	2,704.00		2,704.00
2388	1	01-Apr	Npower Ltd	Vulcan Park Café & Lights 25/26	4830	120	1,920.67	260.31	1,660.36
2389	1	01-Apr	Card Saver Limited	Allotment Virtual Terminal Fees 25/26	4850	120	142.40	21.90	120.50
2390	1	01-Apr	Clover (First Data Europe Limited)	Allotment Virtual Terminal Fees 25/26	4850	120	599.88	101.60	498.28
2391	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Annie Pit 25/26	4850	120	1,522.52	388.24	1,134.28
2392	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Cranbourne Street 25/26	4850	120	804.32	205.09	599.23
2393	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Salterbeck 25/26	4850	120	479.84	122.36	357.48
2394	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Siddick 25/26	4850	120	541.80	138.16	403.64
2395	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Soapery 25/26	4850	120	844.20	215.27	628.93
2396	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Pest Control - Stoneleigh 25/26	4850	120	729.76	186.08	543.68
2397	1	01-Apr	Water Plus	Water - Annie Pit Allotments 25/26	4850	120	1,462.46		1,462.46
2398	1	01-Apr	Water Plus	Water - Cranbourne Street Allotments 25/26	4850	120	18.49		18.49
2399	1	01-Apr	Water Plus	Water - Park Lane Allotments 25/26	4850	120	72.35	3.48	68.87
2400	1	01-Apr	Water Plus	Water - Siddick Allotments 25/26	4850	120	271.26		271.26
2401	1	01-Apr	Water Plus	Water - Stoneleigh Allotments 25/26	4850	120	181.08	17.97	163.11
2402	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Play Area Inspections 25/26	4860	120	1,418.33		1,418.33
2403	1	01-Apr	FuelGenie Business Account	Fuel for Estates Team Machinery 25/26	4860	120	1,345.00	276.43	1,068.57
2405	1	09-Apr	Vulcan Park Bowling Club	Materials for Planters	4860	120	1,000.00	605.57	394.43
2410	2	29-May	NBB Outdoors	2 x Wheelchair Accessible Picnic Benches	4870	120	1,470.00		1,470.00
n/a	1	01-Apr	Cumberland Council	Workington Nature Partnership Officer Salary Contrib	4730	120	23,500.00		23,500.00
n/a	1	01-Apr	Npower Ltd	Vulcan Park Queen's Hut 23/24	4830	120	675.00		675.00
n/a	1	01-Apr	Npower Ltd	Vulcan Park Queen's Hut 24/25	4830	120	812.22		812.22

# Committed Expenditure Listing for 2025/26

Order									
Number	Month	Order Date	Supplier Name	Description	Code	Centre	Net Amount	Invoiced	Balance
n/a	1	01-Apr	Npower Ltd	Vulcan Park Queen's Hut 25/26	4830	120	974.66		974.66
n/a	2	22-May	Project	Acivity Markings in Vulcan Park	4870	120	2,000.00		2,000.00
n/a	2	22-May	Project	Town Hall Defibrilator	4810	120	670.00		670.00
n/a	2	22-May	Project	IBCs for Siddick & Stoneleigh	4850	120	4,700.00		4,700.00



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Item No.
From: Chief Officer/RFO	11
Title: Streetscene	

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION

- a) To note the report and map re locations of defibrillators in town
- b) To consider investigating a miner's memorial in the town and/or as part of the Workington Gateway project.

#### 2. DETAIL

- a) NWAS have confirmed that all defibs in Workington now have a guardian looking after them. Please see map (separate document) for locations of all defibs listed as being accessible 24/7 across Workington. Defibs where the Council are the guardians are shown in red.
- b) There have been many requests from the community for a miner's memorial in town throughout the years and you may remember the Town Council tried to get funding for the repair of Jane Pit and a memorial on site. Sadly, this was unsuccessful.

There is the anchor at Northside roundabout for mariners; and the rolling mill at Clay Flatts roundabout for steel workers. But nothing for miners.

It was suggested that Jane Pit be that memorial. The Town Council arranged an archaeological survey of the site, which threw up some useful information. There was a proposal to provide some display boards and visitor information around the Jane Pit site. The problem was that the survey works also showed that the pit structures were in dangerous condition, so encouraging visitors was not a good idea until that was fixed. Some work was done but the then owner, Allerdale Council, was not inclined to do any more than the bare minimum and did not pursue the idea of a

"public" site. It has now passed to Cumberland Council, but we don't yet know how it might figure in their plans, if it all.

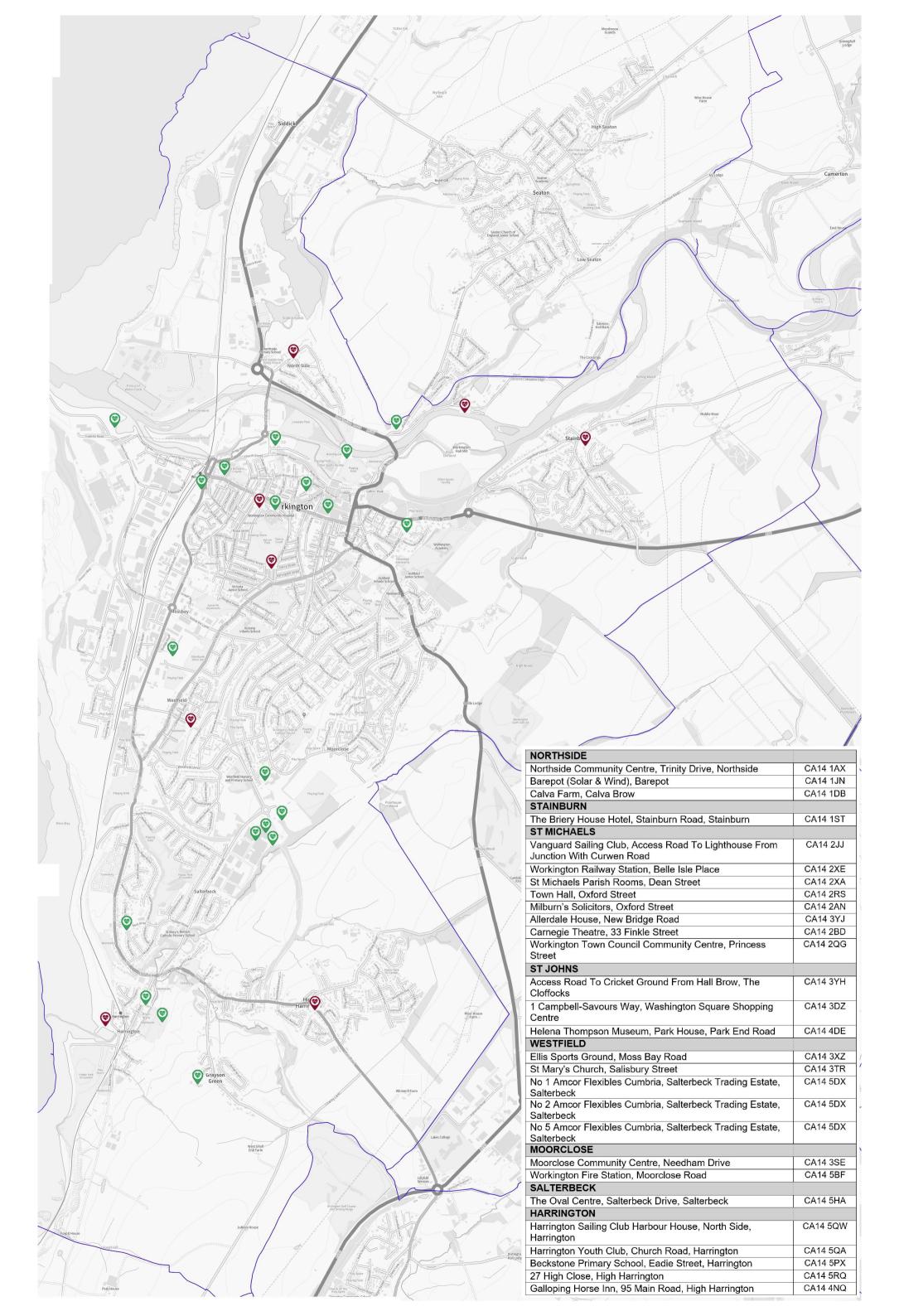
The West Cumberland Miners Heritage Group have since come up with an alternative idea: to locate a pit wheel as the memorial at a visible site in Workington. A pit wheel may be available on lease to them, but they would have to fund its transport and installation.

The Ramsay Brow / Washington St junction has been suggested as a location, but it may not be the only feasible or the best site. We do not know whether a pit wheel can be included in the plans for that junction: that would be a matter for Highways (both Highways England and Cumberland Highways). Other sites may be feasible, but no assessment of any site has yet been done.

Does the Committee still wish to pursue the concept of a public memorial to miners; without prejudice? If so, then there could be discussions with all interested parties and a report back to Committee.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATION

b) Unknown at present



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# WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL DEFIBRILLATOR POLICY

#### **Introduction**

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is an essential part of the chain of survival during the response to sudden cardiac arrest, restoring a normal heart rhythm. Having public access to AEDs within the community, in case of an emergency, can be lifesaving. Ease of access to AEDs within the town will give members of the community a safe, effective and prompt tool in the vital delivery of potential lifesaving treatment.

The aims of the defibrillator policy are to provide guidance with decision making when considering installation of AEDs, either by the Council or via applications made for funding to the Council from external organisations.

#### **Location Considerations**

The location of an AED is essential. When installing an AED in the community, it is important to consider the following:

- The AED needs to be clearly visible and easily recognisable, including having enough light so people can see the device's cabinet in the dark.
- There is a clear need for the AED in the area, such as being in a busy location or where there are no other AEDs within 500m.
- Authorisation from the property owner has been given to site the AED in the location.
- There is an accessible power supply for the AED / AED cabinet, unless there is the option of a solar/wind powered AED.
- The device can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by all members of the community.

#### Responsibility

It is important that an AED is installed safely and maintained to enable the best chance of it functioning optimally when required. An organisation or community group installing an AED has the overall responsibility for the AED, becoming the AED's "guardian". This includes:

- Before installing the AED, checking the location desired. Check if consent from the premises owner or landlord is needed. Any AED installed on property not owned by the Council must have a completed Defibrillator Agreement on file, signed by the landowner/manager and the Chief Officer.
- Registering the AED with the NHS via the national defibrillator network, <u>The</u> Circuit.
- Checking the AED regularly to establish that it is in good working order and that the defibrillator pads are in date. AED sites should have at least one guardian but preferably two. The guardian(s) where possible should check the site and log their checks on <u>The Circuit</u>.
- Ensuring maintenance costs of the AED are covered, including new pads
  when they go out of date or they have been used. Maintenance should be in
  accordance with the recommended guidelines and any manufacturer's
  instructions.
- Ensuring insurance for AED is obtained to protect against vandalism.
- Noting that the Council will only be the guardian of AEDs that are installed by or adopted by the Council. AEDs installed by organisations supported by grant funding from the Council are solely the responsibility of that organisation.

## **Grant funding**

Applications for grant funding towards the installation of an AED will be submitted to the Council's Environment Committee for review.

Councillors should consider the following when making any decisions on authorising grant funding for AEDs.

- Is the proposed site for installation more than 500m from an existing AED?
   When considering proximity, site finder websites should not be the only source of information used, as local knowledge could possibly identify other accessible AEDs that are not registered.
- Is the proposed site accessible to the public at all times?
- Is it a site that would have high footfall or is in a heavily populated area and so would increase likelihood of need?
- Is the applicant willing to take full responsibility for regular checks (weekly and annually), ongoing maintenance, cover electrical costs, registration and update to the site finder websites and financial responsibility should the AED and associated casing be vandalised?

If the answer to any of the above is "no", a request for funding should be denied.

If the answer is "yes" to all, funding or part funding is available within the Committee's budgets and the Committee agrees by resolution, then a grant may be awarded in line with the application received.

Once awarded, the recipient organisation must complete a defibrillator grant agreement (Appendix A) in addition to the standard conditions of funding agreement.

# **APPENDIX A**

# **Defibrillator Grant Funding Award Agreement**

Name of responsible group or organisation
Please provide a contact telephone number or email address
Location of the defibrillator
Do you have the permission of the property owner to install the defibrillator (if applicable)?
Who will be the named guardian(s) of the AED?
Please provide a contact telephone number or email address
Please sign below to confirm that you will:
Register the AED with the NHS via the national defibrillator network, The Circuit.
<ul> <li>Ensure that it is checked regularly, to establish that it is in good working order, the required power supply is live and that the defibrillator pads are in date. AED sites should have at least one guardian but preferably two, who are responsible for checking the site, and logging their checks on The Circuit.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Cover maintenance costs of the AED, including supplying new pads when they go out of date or they have been used. Maintenance should be in accordance with the recommended guidelines and any manufacturer's instructions.</li> </ul>
SIGNATURE AND DATE



# Workington Town Council Meeting – Police Update

25<sup>th</sup> June 2025



### Introduction





Steve Waddell Inspector



Leesa Edwards Sergeant

# **Workington North**



Luke McKenna Community Beat Officer (CBO)

# **Workington Central**



Catherine Higson Community Beat Officer



Jill Robertson
Community Beat Officer



Dan Snell PCSO

# **Workington South**



Callum Lofthouse Community Beat Officer

Recruitment is ongoing to fill vacancies for PCSOs throughout Cumbria and we expect these new recruits arriving in their areas later on this year

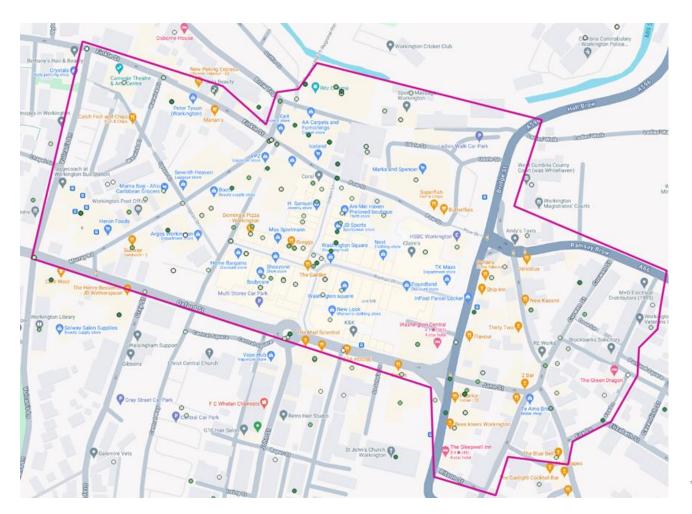


www.cumbria.police.uk "your area"
@AllerdalePolice – Facebook and X "Twitter"

# **Operation Enhance**



- Home Office have agreed to continue to fund this operation for another year 2025-2026
- Workington Town Centre remains a hot spot for this year's patrols
- Dedicated Police Officers/PCSO's will be patrolling Hotspots on a random schedule based
- Temporal Analysis conducted shows that peak times for Workington ASB is between 16:00-22:00hrs







# Data - 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 24- 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 25

OffenceGroup	Crimes	Same Period Last Year	Difference	% Change
<ul> <li>Arson and Criminal Damage</li> </ul>	570	734	-164	-22.3%
Arson	21	35	-14	-40.0%
	549	699	-150	-21.5%
■ Burglary	174	241	-67	-27.8%
<ul> <li>Burglary Business and Community</li> </ul>	66	103	-37	-35.9%
⊞ Burglary Residential	0	0	0	0.0%
⊕ Residential Burglary of a Home	71	106	-35	-33.0%
Residential Burglary of     Unconnected Building	37	32	5	15.6%
□ Robbery	13	16	-3	-18.8%
⊕ Robbery of business property	2	3	-1	-33.3%
⊕ Robbery of personal property	11	13	-2	-15.4%
☐ Theft offences	723	951	-228	-24.0%
⊞ Bicycle Theft	24	26	-2	-7.7%
Other Theft	335	466	-131	-28.1%
Shoplifting	348	445	-97	-21.8%
	16	14	2	14.3%
	134	203	-69	-34.0%
Aggravated Vehicle Taking	11	20	-9	-45.0%
	21	37	-16	-43.2%
⊞ Theft From Vehicle	50	83	-33	-39.8%
Theft Or Unauthorised Taking Of Motor Vehicle	52	63	-11	-17.5%
Total	1614	2145	-531	-24.8%





# Data - 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 24 – 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 25

DistrictName	ASB Recorded	YTD	PYTD	% Change
☐ Allerdale	125	28	33	-15.2%
Allerdale Rural	16	6	7	-14.3%
Maryport	31	7	4	<b>↑</b> 75.0%
Workington	78	15	22	-31.8%
Total	125	28	33	-15.2%



# **Priorities**



You said	We Did
Ongoing and persistent Drug related and youth related Anti-social Behaviour in Workington Town Centre	On 22nd May 2025 stop searched 4 youths appearing to cause damage to the old Poundstretcher building on Murray Road, Workington. A crime remains under investigation for this offence.
During the month of May, conducted school talks in Northside and St Patricks School, Workington around ASB and Hate Crime	On 3rd May 2025 arrested and charged prolific offender Christopher McKenzie with common assault and a public order offence. NPT applied for a Criminal Behaviour Order in order to address his behaviour and were successful. This has been publicised on Allerdale NPT social media posts.
Following reports of drug related ASB from residents in the Harcourt/Milburn Street area of Workington, engagement with local residents and the Parish Councillor conducted a street safe and continue to conduct high visibility patrols in the area.	Working in partnership with Allerdale Local Focus Hub conducted a survey in relation to The Line, Workington for feedback since the project concluded. The majority of responses were expressing appreciation of the area and its improvements. Some responses highlighted issues in relation to off road bikes, damage, litter and ASB/Drugs all of which the local policing team are aware of and addressing.

You Said	We did
Shoplifting and offences in Workington Town Centre	Charged and remanded a 17 year old youth with x3 shoplifting offences, Arson with intent and Taking a Vehicle without consent. The youth appeared in court the following day, 12th May and was remanded in youth detention until 30th May 2025.
Arrested a male on two occasions for offences of theft by shoplifting and common assault on incidents which occurred in Greggs, Murray Road, Workington in April and May 2025. This male remains on police bail with conditions and an update will be provided following a review of the investigation.	Arrested and charged prolific offender Alan Kendrick with theft offences and a breach of Criminal behaviour order.  Arrested prolific shoplifter Deri Hendren for theft from Tesco's, Workington on 18th May 2025.

Further Priorities and "You said, we did" is available on our website www.cumbria.police.uk/area/your-area





ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item		
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	ltem No.		
From: Chief Officer	12		
Title: Vulcan Park			

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION

- To consider approval of costs for a tree survey in Vulcan Park.
- Officers recommend option 1

#### 2. DETAIL

The last tree survey was carried out in 2023, so is due.

#### Option 1: Full Inventory Survey – £1,650

A comprehensive assessment where all trees within the park will be:

Surveyed, mapped, and identified
Assessed for risk of harm and condition
Provided with detailed work recommendations (e.g. pruning/removal)
Ideal for full asset management or long-term planning.

Option 2: Risk & Condition-Based Survey – £1,200 A more targeted survey where:

All trees are visually assessed
Only trees requiring work due to risk/condition are mapped and identified
Low-risk trees requiring no work will not be mapped
Additional Details

Risk assessments will follow the QTRA (Quantified Tree Risk Assessment) system, in line with Health and Safety Executive guidance (more at <a href="https://www.qtra.co.uk">www.qtra.co.uk</a>)

Recommendations will be prioritised to aid budgeting and scheduling Statutory clearance over roads, structures, and utilities will be noted where applicable

Note: All Estates team staff members have carried out tree inspection survey training so carry out required checks on trees on other areas of Council land and hire a contractor for maintenance where needed.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

£1,650 from Vulcan Park budget line



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item		
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Item No.		
From: Finance Officer / Estates Team Leader	13		
Title: Play Areas			

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION

- In September 2024, committee discussed play area maintenance and equipment and flooring that has less than 3 years life span left.
- Committee to consider proposing to Full Council that this work be carried out and the budget be approved.
- £35,000 was noted in the Play Area budget line to cover these costs and any additional maintenance required throughout the year.

#### 2. DETAIL

After a review of the Life Expectancy report for Workington Town Council Play Areas provided by our contracted inspectors it was decided that replacement costs for any items with a life expectancy of 3 years or under should be sourced.

The below table has updated costs on for committee to consider approving.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Total cost to replace all items identified would be £29,589 from the Play Area budget line.

# TABLE A PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT IDENTIFIED FOR REPLACEMENT

Site ID	Site Name	Item Type	Item Name	Manufacturer	Surface	Life Expectancy	Estimated Cost
PLAY A	REA EQUIPMENT ON	NLY					
33898	Vulcan Park	Activity Equipment	Play panel maze	Wicksteed Playgrounds	n/a	1-3 years	£360 plus delivery (est. £80)
33898	Vulcan Park	Activity Equipment	Play Panel	Wicksteed Playgrounds	n/a	1-3 years	£530 plus delivery (est. £80)
33898	Vulcan Park	Activity Equipment	Timber Log Walk	Playdale	Grass	1-3 years	£260 plus delivery (est. £75)
33898	Vulcan Park	Activity Equipment	Sand & Gravel (Log Walk)	MKM	n/a	n/a	£70 est.
PLAY A	REA SURFACING ON	NLY					
33901	Harrington Marina	Swings	1 Bay 2 Seat (Flat)	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Wet Pour	1-2 years	£2,265 for new, £1,750 to remove old
33932	Newlands Lane	Swings	2 Bay Swing	Play & Leisure Ltd	Grass Matrix Tiles	1 year	Use existing stock
33931	Siddick	Activity Equipment	Multi Play (Junior)	S M P (Playgrounds Ltd)	Wet Pour	1-2 years	Use existing stock
33931	Siddick	Swings	1 Bay 2 Seat (Flat)	Play & Leisure Ltd	Grass Matrix Tiles	1-3 years	Use existing stock
33921	The Oval Centre	Swings	2 Bay 2 Cradle 1 Basket	Play & Leisure Ltd	Grass Matrix Tiles	1-2 years	Use existing stock
	Cusack Crescent	Swings	Flat Swings	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Wet Pour	1 year	Total area of 200m²
	Cusack Crescent	Swings	Basket Swing - Type 1	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Wet Pour	1 year	Removal and disposal of current
	Cusack Crescent	Spinner	Spinner	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Wet pour	1 year	flooring and full installation of new
	Cusack Crescent	Multi Play junior		Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Wet Pour	1 year	flooring £24,119
						TOTAL	£29,589

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# WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENTS POLICY

#### Purpose of the policy

This allotment policy has been developed for the provision of allotment plots provided by Workington Town Council.

The overall objective of this policy is to increase the ability and opportunity for people to cultivate allotment plots in Workington. The policy seeks, through its targets and initiatives, to optimise the use of allotments for existing and potential plot holders, identify needs and meet demand. All initiatives contained in this document are considered in the context of other Town Council strategies, policies and objectives.

This document provides a framework allowing tenants to develop and manage their allotments in partnership with Workington Town Council.

#### Introduction

The provision of allotments by local authorities is a statutory duty. An allotment is defined as land "not exceeding 40 poles in extent which is wholly or mainly cultivated by the occupier in the production of vegetable or fruit crops for consumption by himself or his family" (section 22(1), Allotments Act 1922).

Workington Town Council will continue to provide and promote allotments not only because of this statutory requirement but because allotment gardening can make a valuable contribution to the town's sustainability by providing physical & mental health, social, economic and environmental benefits.

These can be summarised as

- · Healthy recreational activity
- Social contact and as a contribution to community spirit
- Low cost fresh food production for the family
- Promotion of healthy affordable diets
- · Better partnership working

Allotments are a valuable green sustainable open space within the urban environment, as well as being highly beneficial to any wildlife in the area.

#### Target areas of the policy

- Ensuring sufficient allotments
- Promoting allotment gardening
- Maintaining adequate resources

#### **Ensuring Sufficient Allotments**

It is the policy of the Town Council to continue to meet its obligation to provide allotments in Workington, for residents within the parish of Workington.

It is an aspiration of the Council to be able to provide allotment sites across the town so that no-one need be more than a 15 minute walk to a site from their home.

#### **Promoting Allotment Gardening**

It is the Council's policy to promote allotment gardening by ensuring all vacant plots are filled as soon as possible.

The Council holds regular meetings with allotment tenants and interested parties to listen to their concerns and suggestions, acting upon them where possible to make improvements to the allotment sites.

#### **Maintaining Adequate Resources**

At present the rental income from the sites does not cover maintenance costs, with any development costs having to be met by the Council. The salary of the Estate Team Leader and Finance & Administration Officer's time spent on allotment administration is met by the Council's staffing budget and not from rental income. The Council needs to balance the benefits of the allotments provision against the cost to the residents of Workington via the council tax precept.

The level of rents and plot deposits are considered annually by the Council's Environment Committee and any changes are introduced in time for agreement renewals on 1<sup>st</sup> November each year. It is the policy of the Council to charge a rental for plots based on the area of each plot in square metres.

Tenants may also be charged for water usage if there is running water available on the allotment site. The Council recovers the cost of water charges only and does not make any profit from these charges.

It is the Council's policy to offer a discount of 50% off the base plot rent (not including water) to tenants of state pension age.

The Council policy is to make each vacated plot sufficiently attractive for letting, which could at one extreme include the use of contractors to clear a plot, at the other, it could include offer of a rent free period to compensate the new tenants for having to clear the plot.

#### **Current Provision**

#### The Sites

Workington Town Council currently operates 7 statutory allotment sites and 4 temporary allotment site (listed below), comprised of 279 plots of varying sizes.

#### Statutory Sites

- Annie Pit
- Cranbourne Street
- Park Lane
- Rose Hill
- Siddick
- Soapery
- Wesley Street

#### **Temporary Sites**

- Mountain View
- Salterbeck (including raised beds)
- Stoneleigh
- Wastwater Avenue (including raised beds)

The Council also owns two self-managed allotment sites at Newlands Lane and Feenans.

The Council is open to other of its sites becoming self-managed. In order to begin the process of self-management the following criteria must be met by the applying organisation:

- be an established society or association made up of existing tenants of the allotment site
- have a constitution which defines its aims, objectives and operational procedures.
- be able to provide a copy of its latest annual accounts and/or most recent bank statement.
- have a bank account operated by a minimum of at least two joint signatories.

Upon receipt of a written proposal and supporting documentation Council officers will review the proposal and contact the applicant to discuss it. Once an application has been deemed valid it will be submitted to the Council's Environment Committee for consideration.

#### **Site Access**

The Council is responsible for maintaining clear access to the allotment sites, allowing tenants access to their plots.

#### Management

The allotment sites are the responsibility of the Environment Committee, managed on behalf of the Council by the Estates Team Leader and the Finance & Administration Officer overseen by the Proper Officer. They deal with the day to day administration of the allotments, including:

- Collecting and administering rents / deposits
- Administering tenancies
- Letting plots and new tenancy agreements
- Enquiries from prospective tenants including site visits

- Inspecting individual plots on a regular basis
- Resolving disputes and dealing with complaints
- Arranging day to day maintenance of the site
- Managing alterations and improvement works

#### **Eligibility**

Plots on the Council's allotment sites are only available to people who have a permanent residential address within the boundary of the civil parish of Workington.

Only one tenancy will be allocated per household (that is, a person or persons occupying the same housing unit with its own front door).

#### **Application**

Anyone eligible may make an application to be added to the waiting list for a plot on an allotment site by completing the online form on the Council's website or by submitting a completed paper form to the Council offices.

Waiting lists are sorted and vacancies filled on a strict "first come, first served" basis, with two exceptions.

- Service and ex-service personal, who are given priority on the lists over all other applicants for any site upon submission of a valid application.
- Residents whose home does not incorporate a garden or shared garden area large
  enough to allow children to play and to grow flowers / vegetables, who are given
  priority on the lists over applicants with access to a residential garden area over 250
  metres squared for any site upon submission of a valid application.

Once an applicant is contacted regarding a vacancy, the Estates Team Leader will arrange a site visit. If the plot is suitable for the applicant and they wish to take up the tenancy, a provisional agreement is signed and submitted to the council.

#### Tenancy

The allotment plot is intended to be for the use of the tenant named in the tenancy agreement. Allowances are made for friends or family members assisting the tenant but this should not be used as a way to circumvent any of the terms of the agreement (e.g. not residing in the civil parish of Workington, claiming the pensioner discount).

The tenancy agreement allows for a named person to be added as a secondary tenant for any allotment plot. If a person has been named as a secondary tenant for three or more consecutive years and is from the same household as the main tenant they may automatically take over the tenancy should the tenancy end for any reason, but this may only happen once per tenancy.

The tenancy agreement is reviewed and revised by the Council's Environment Committee as needed and agreed by the Council. This explains the rules which plot holders are expected to follow and what can and cannot be done on the sites (an extract of the agreement showing key points can be found in Appendix A of this policy), along with details of site management and contact details.

An allotment handbook is available for new plot holders, providing information on some of the key terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement, useful practical horticultural information and important safety advice.

#### **APPENDIX A**

#### **CONDITIONS OF TENANCY**

During the tenancy, the tenant shall:

- a) keep the Allotment Garden clean and in a good state of fertility and cultivation;
- b) not cause a nuisance or annoyance to the owners or occupiers of land adjoining the Allotment Garden;
- c) not keep livestock or poultry in the Allotment Garden other than reasonable numbers of hens or rabbits which shall not be kept for a business or a trade;
- d) not bring to or keep animals in the Allotment Garden except those referred to in (c) above without first obtaining the Council's written consent;
- e) not assign the tenancy nor sub-let or part with the possession of any part of the Allotment Garden;
- f) except for buildings or structures which are reasonably necessary for the keeping of hens and rabbits referred to in (c) above and which may be subject to the tenant first obtaining planning permission, the tenant shall not erect a shed, greenhouse or other building or structure on the Allotment Garden without first obtaining the Council's written consent and if appropriate planning permission;
- g) not fence the Allotment Garden without first obtaining the Council's written consent:
- h) maintain and keep in repair the fences and gates forming part of the Allotment Garden;
- i) trim and keep in decent order all hedges forming part of the Allotment Garden;
- j) not plant any tree, shrub, hedge or bush without first obtaining the Council's written permission;
- k) not cut, lop or fell any tree growing on the Allotment Garden without first obtaining the Council's written consent and if appropriate planning permission;
- be responsible for ensuring that any person present in the Allotment Garden with or without the tenant's permission does not suffer personal injury or damage to his property;
- m) permit an inspection of the Allotment Garden at all reasonable times by the Council's employees or agents;
- n) not obstruct or permit the obstruction of any of the paths or roads which provide a means of access to and from the Allotment Garden or the Allotment Garden of another tenant.
- o) ensure all dogs brought to the allotment site are kept on a lead and under control at all times. Any fouling must be removed immediately. Dogs must not be left unattended at any time.
- p) supervise any visiting children under the age of 16 and not allow them to wander onto any adjoining allotment or cause nuisance or damage.



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda		
Meeting date: Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Item No.		
From: Chief Officer/RFO	15		
Title: Estate Development			

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION

- a. Green Hub committee to note the update for information and decide what action they wish Officers to take.
- b. Picnic benches committee to note the location of the new disabled access benches in Vulcan Park.
- c. Tennis Courts committee to note the report and note costs for Tennis Coaching.
- d. Land acquisitions committee to note the update for information

#### 2. DETAIL

#### a. Green Hub

Sadly, another funding application has been rejected for work to be carried out at the Green Hub. This is now 4 applications that have been rejected. Little or no feedback has been given as to why.

- National Lottery Community fund (rejected) advised did not fit funding objectives
- Hadfield Trust Applied (rejected) do not fund town councils
- CAfS Applied (rejected) no reason given
- Sellafield applied (rejected) no reason given

Officers have been in touch with Cumbria CVS who have provided some other funding sources that the Council can try and this will be done as soon as possible.

It may help for Committee to consider match funding part of the costs, which were quoted in October 2024 and should really be revised.

Officers can bring a report to a future meeting should committee wish.

#### Original breakdown of costs obtained in Oct 2024:

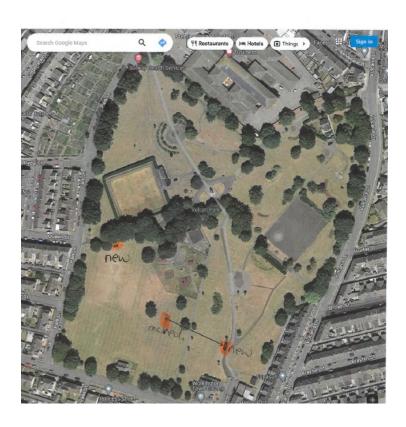
- Strip out existing shutters, windows and external doors. Replace windows and external doors throughout £10,100.00
- Strip out and replace kitchen £4,000.00
- Strip out and replace bathroom £1,650.00
- Lift existing flooring and relay new non-slip vinyl flooring £6,000.00
- Rewire building inc. electric heating £7,500.00
- Install Loft insulation £1,850.00
- Decoration (internal & external) £7,500.00
- Contingency of 10% on the project £3,860.00

Total = £42,460.00 exc. VAT.

#### b. Location of new disabled access picnic benches

The Estates Team Leader is suggesting that one of the current picnic benches be moved further towards the play area and one of the new benches be put in its place as well as along the path from Park Lane (bottom end) entrance as one of the current benches is rotten.

#### Location map below:



#### c. Tennis Courts

Since they officially opened, there has been 108 bookings and 10 annual memberships purchased. The Cumbria Tennis Coach also had 14 people attending the free park tennis session on 28 June, which is a great result. Estimated = £337 income from 8<sup>th</sup> June to 30th June.

The Council's marketing agency has posts scheduled to advertise the courts and will also carry out some target marketing.

Cumbria Tennis are keen for a discussion on schools coaching and an ongoing programme of activities to suit all ages and abilities.

As part of the Council's funding agreement, we must provide free park tennis on Saturday's morning, which a Cumbria Tennis Coach carries out for us.

Committee to note that the below are estimated costs to the end of March 2025 for the coaching on a Saturday morning. They don't take place every week as they are dependent on coach availability.

Approx. 36 sessions at £40 per hour = £1,440.

There would be additional costs for other coaching sessions and it would be ideal to have an annual coaching programme.

- d. As previously discussed Officers are working on details and arranging a meeting with the relevant owners to discuss acquisition of the following areas: This resolution sits with the F & GP committee with regards to acquiring the land/building, if possible, and will revert back to the Environment committee for maintenance and development considerations.
  - Bankfield mansion gardens
  - Banklands cemetery
  - Garnet crescent
  - Moorclose Park
  - Mountain view allotments
  - Northside play area
  - Salterbeck allotments
  - Southfield school playing field
  - Stoneleigh allotments
  - Walker Road playing field & changing rooms

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATION

- a) Unknown at present.
- b) None
- c) £1,440 from Vulcan Park budget line.
- d) Unknown at present.

#### May 2025 Report Workington Nature Partnership

Sessions at Harrington Nature Reserve have included:

Session to remove Hemlock water dropwort (Oenanthe crocata). A highly poisonous plant commonly found near water in the UK. It's known by several names, including "dead man's fingers," and is characterized by its elongated root tubers, hollow stems, and pinnate leaves. The plant is easily confused with other edible plants like cow parsley, water parsnip, and water celery, making it crucial to avoid foraging or consuming it. Hemlock removed from around the pond by cutting back with shears. Site wide litter pick. (7 vols, 35 hours).

Session to remove Hemlock from the wet meadow. (6 vols, 18 hours).

Session to remove flag iris from dipping pond. The dipping pond was nearly empty of water due to the prolonged dry spell, making it an ideal time to dig out flag iris. The iris were transplanted into the wet meadow. Himalayan balsam removal by pulling. Hemlock removal. (7 vols, 35 hours).

Session to trim overhanging branches along top path, to open up the pathway to allow improved access for the public. (5 vols, 15 hours).

Session at Siddick Ponds have included:

Session to open up small wetland areas by the brackish pond. Removal of old stems to clear patches of water. Stems cut and raked and placed to the side to allow insects to return to the water. Thistle removal from path leading from cycle path to brackish pond. Site wide litter pick. (4 vols, 20 hours).

Session to retrieve boat from island from brackish pond. A small catamaran boat had been found on the small island, weighted down with large rocks. Boat removed and stored in the garage incase it is claimed by someone. Will be disposed of if no one comes forward to claim it. Remove thistle and balsam from the small woodland by brackish pond. Site wide litter pick. (4 vols, 20 hours).

Session at the birdhide to strim out paths. Rake off trimmings. Remove balsam. (4 vols, 20 hours).

Session at small woodland by brackish pond to remove balsam. Joined by 15 members of staff from the Rural Payments Agency for a volunteer day who helped pull balsam. Also joined by 11 students from Northside Primary school, Year 5, who enjoyed a nature walk with Raegan and then helped pull balsam. We then had a butterfly tour and litterpick across to Oldside to see the wildflower scrapes, and the small blue butterflies were showing really well. (3 vols, 15 hours, and 15 corporate vols, 75 hours).

Other sessions have included:

Session at Banklands to strim and clear paths, working alongside volunteers from Green Space Angels. (4 vols, 8 hours).

Session to plant wildflower plug plants at the line. (1 vol, 1 hour).

Session with St. Mary's nursery at the Rezza to learn about minibeasts.

Raegan took part in the Climate Fresk training with Westogether through Futureproof Cumbria (formerly CAFS) with Green Space Friends and St Joseph's cohort of Brilliant Cumbria participants. It was fantastic to have such a mixture of ages involved in the workshop and amazing to hear how passionate the students were about the future of Climate Change. Raegan has since organised Steve O'Keefe to attend a Q&A session at the school.

#### June Report 2025 Workington Nature Partnership

Work at Harrington Nature Reserve has included:

Session to strim the grass along the path, and trim hedges along path from Brierydale entrance to second wigloo. Bramble removal from fern bank. 2 volunteers joined as part of National Volunteering week. (8 vols, 40 hours).

Reagan session with nursery students from Derwent Vale Primary for minibeast hunt.

Session to strim and rake paths along top path by factories. Balsam pull. Site wide litter pick. (6 vols, 30 hours).

Session to pull balsam. Remove balsam from spit, and pond area. (6 vols, 30 hours).

Session to pull balsam from meadow area by pond. Check wildflower meadow. Orchid count. (4 vols, 20 hours)>

Work at Siddick Ponds has included:

Session at wildflower meadow at brackish pond to remove thistle. Butterfly survey at train station, Old Steelworks and Shore road. (5 vols, 30 hours).

Session at woodland area behind Iggusund to pull balsam. (7 vols, 35 hours).

Session at Edgars to pull balsam from woodland area by brackish pond. (5 vols, 25 hours).

Session at Mona Meadow to pull balsam. (6 vols, 30 hours).

Other work has included:

Reagan session with students from Derwent Vale Primary to make bee bombs.

Session with Green Space Angels to tidy up flower bed on Newlands Lane. (4 vols, 8 hours).

Session with Green Space Angels and young volunteers, aged 12 to 17, from a church organisation from Lancaster. Remove sycamore seedlings from Mansion Gardens. (15 young volunteers, 15 hours, and 6 vols, 9 hours).

Both attended Basic Tree Inspection at Ambleside.

Both attended Cumberland Council meeting at Wigton.

Work experience Saul joined us for a week work experience. Positive feedback received.