

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 10th June 2025

Draft Minutes

Present: Cllrs Shaun Whyte (Chair), David Denton, Lorna Pringle (from item 101/25/iii), Simon Rushton, George Ternent, John Wilson, Sally Wilson.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk), County Cllr Wendy Pattison.

The Meeting opened at 7pm.

93/25 Apologies

Cllrs Harriett McHugh, Richard Sim.

94/25 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APC meetings of 13th May 2025 (AGM and Monthly Business Meeting) be accepted as true records of the meetings.

95/25 Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

96/25 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

97/25 Planning Matters

Application

25/01766/FUL 49 Letton Lodge, Flat 3 Northumberland Street Alnmouth Northumberland. It was AGREED to make no comment.

98/25 County Council Matters

County Cllr Pattison is the Council Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Tourism. County Cllr Pattison confirmed that the fingerpost for the public footpath opposite the public toilets will be replaced/renewed by NCC.

99/25 Street Lighting for Northumberland Street

It was RESOLVED that APC request that NCC install one of the preferred heritage streetlights on Northumberland Street (to replace a broken modern streetlight) and consult with residents of the village with one light in situ. Funding is under consideration – County Cllr Pattison indicated she might be able to allocate funds from her 'Members Local Improvement Schemes Grant' for the scheme in 2025-26.

Signed Dated 8th July 2025

100/25 Old School Gallery

The contents of the draft application for the Old School Gallery to become an Asset of Community Value was AGREED and will be sent to NCC.

101/25 APC Benches

- i) A deadline of 31st May was given to the two maintainers of three benches in the village. All benches are now undergoing repair and renovation.
- ii) The agreed Memorial Bench request signed documentation for the site opposite the Whittling House has been received which completes the APPROVAL process.
- iii) It was AGREED to write to the enquirer about a bench installed on the Wynd in 2006/2007 to propose that APC renovate and keep it maintained to the end of its useful life and to notify the Burgage Holders.
- iv) A request for a Memorial Bench for Mr & Mrs Sinton was APPROVED and the signed agreement received.
- v) Clerk to write to P Broom to confirm that he power wash benches, picnic tables and playpark equipment.

102/25 Small Boathouse

Update on pointing works and reglazing works – Cllrs Whyte and Denton will meet with the contractor before the next meeting.

103/25 Large Boathouse

Update on pointing costs of large boathouse - Cllrs Whyte and Denton will meet with the contractor before the next meeting. ACR is considering a suggested 50% contribution towards the repointing costs. APC has confirmed this can be repaid to APC over a two year period.

104/25 Northumbria Police Report & Antisocial Behaviour in Alnmouth

- i) Cllr Whyte has been in contact with Northumbria Police concerning the recent anti-social behaviour and requested a presence on three dates in the week beginning 16th June that coincided with exams finishing.
- ii) One group of young people left a substantial amount of litter and broken glass on the dunes (14 black bin bags full). A second group were handed bin bags at the beginning of their evening and filled the bags and left the area tidy.
- iii) There have been three incidents of Criminal damage to the public toilets. NCC are willing to pay a member of the public £10 per day to open and close the toilets 365 days of the year.

105/25 Bonfire Night

The Insurers require that any Bonfires be dowsed with water at the end of an event. This could be carried out by an external contractor who has offered their services. APC will decide at the next meeting whether to limit the event to Fireworks only or to have a Bonfire as well.

106/25 Finance

- a. APC APPROVED the invoices and expenses claimed below:

Date	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
11/06/2025	Encrypted Hard Drive	Amazon	48.32	9.67	57.98
11/06/2025	Annual Sub fee	NALC	180.03		180.03
11/06/2025	Annual audit fee	N Acctants	550.00	110.00	660.00
11/06/2025	Bi-Annual Service	N Garden Machinery	299.99	60.01	360.00
11/06/2025	Annual Insurance	Gallaghers	1,370.82		1,370.82
11/06/2025	Quiz Prizes	D Eccleston	35.14		35.14
25/05/2025	5 x Lever Arch Files	Viking Direct	13.42	2.68	16.10
25/05/2025	Printer Ink (SW)	Viking Direct	35.38	7.08	42.46
11/06/2025	Postage	Deb Still	4.30		4.30
10/06/2025	Scribe Accounting Software	Starboard Systems Ltd	31.00	6.20	37.20
11/06/2025	Clerk's Mileage	Deb Still	4.50		4.50
11/06/2025	Clerk's HWA	Deb Still	26.00		26.00
11/06/2025	Website & Email	IONOS Cloud Ltd	15.00	3.00	18.00
11/06/2025	Monthly Newsletter	PPD Group	226.00		226.00
11/06/2025	HHall Monthly Meeting Hire	Hindmarsh Hall	27.00		27.00
11/06/2025	Scribe Accounting Software	Starboard Systems Ltd	31.00	6.20	37.20
30/06/2025	Clerk's Salary (DS)	Deb Still	503.10		503.10
11/06/2025	Petrol for Mower	G Ternent	37.73		37.73

- b. The monthly finance reports for April and May were RECEIVED.
c. The Burgage Holders have awarded a grant of £1100 to APC for the Wynd/War Memorial Planting.
d. It was AGREED that P Broom be requested to pressure wash the Playpark equipment.
e. It was RESOLVED to waive any contribution from AA towards the extra two pages in the Newsletter for June (extra pages cost £113).
f. The Clerk has set up Scribe and is using it for reports and the VAT return was completed in May 2025 (submitted 5 days late).

107/25 Reports from Working Groups

a. Christmas Lights

All lights have now been taken down.

b. Village Maintenance

Cllrs McHugh, Pringle and S Wilson are considering replacements for the Bike Rocker in Peases Park

Cllr McHugh is making enquiries about grass mowing and strimming of Lovers Walk, War Memorial and Dr Joy's Garden.

Bridge Viewing Area - tidy up to be arranged.

The Parish Noticeboard needs replacing. Cllr Whyte to contact the Bettess family to seek their views for this potential use of the bequest.

Signed Dated 8th July 2025

- c. **Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch**
Cllr Whyte to make further enquiries.

- d. **Climate Change**
No update

108/25 Correspondence

- i) AGREED that APC write to the organiser of the private party on Burgage Holder managed land with general comments. APC has no powers or duties in relation to the event.
- ii) Request from Hipsburn Primary School for a grant towards playground equipment – they have been informed that APC makes decisions on grant applications at their meeting in March 2026 and they can apply after 1st January using the form on the APC website.

109/25 Confidential Matters

A motion to exclude the public was RESOLVED due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. The contract of employment for the new Clerk was AGREED. The confidential minute relating to the removal of historic banking signatories was AGREED.

Information

Cllr Whyte informed the meeting that a filming company are considering Alnmouth for locations.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: 7pm 8th July 2025, The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, NE66 2RS.

Future Meeting Dates: 12th August 2025, 9th September 2025, 14th October 2025, 11th November 2025, 9th December 2025, 13th January 2026, 10th February 2026, 10th March 2026.

Signed Dated 8th July 2025