

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, Alnmouth
Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 11th April 2023 – 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs Susanne Gair (Chair), David Denton, Ian Armstrong, Shelley Straughan, George Ternent, Simon Walford.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk) County Cllr Martin Swinbank and 1 member of the public.

The Meeting opened at 7.15 pm.

47/23	Apologies Cllrs Simon Rushton, Josie McDonough, Anne van't Hoff & County Cllr Gordon Castle.
48/23	Minutes of the Meeting of 14th March 2023 It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Ternent and seconded by Cllr Denton).
49/23	Declarations of Interest Cllr Walford declared a pecuniary or other interest in respect of item 51/23 a) i) due to his wife being the treasurer of St John the Baptist Church.
50/23	Public Participation A member of the public raised the following issues in relation to High Buston: i) the speed limit on the A1068 between Lesbury and Warkworth has been reduced to 50mph. The speed limit along the road to and through High Buston remains at 60mph. The next road to the South of High Buston off the A1068 leading past Shortridge Hall has a speed limit of 40mph. A brief discussion ensued and it was agreed that the Council would request that the speed limit be reduced on the High Buston Road to 40mph and 30mph through the hamlet and will consider adding the request to the submission for the annual APC Local Transport Plan (LTP) priorities in July 2023. ii) Parking at the junction of the road to High Buston and the A1068 is continuing in spite of the parking space for 4-5 cars a couple of hundred yards to the West that has been cleared and tidied. The Clerk to confirm if parking at the junction can be prohibited/constrained and/or whether it is already in the LTP for a previous year.
51/23	Planning Matters a) Planning Applications i) 23/01008/FUL - Church Of St John The Baptist , Northumberland Street, Alnmouth. Provision of a new metal storage shed to the rear of the church along the north boundary. It was AGREED to make a NEUTRAL comment (proposed Cllr Denton, seconded Cllr Armstrong). ii) 23/01011/LBC 31 Northumberland Street Alnmouth Alnwick Northumberland NE66 2RA Listed Building Consent for various matters. It was AGREED to make a NEUTRAL comment (proposed Cllr Straughan, seconded Cllr Ternent). b) Update on Planning Decisions i) 22/01899/FUL St Valery 27 Northumberland Street Alnmouth Northumberland, NE66 2RA - Enlarge existing opening to rear yard and new timber gates. To NOTE that NCC has GRANTED the application.

	ii) 22/04782/FUL Change of use from one dwelling (C3) to one dwelling (C3) (Rosedale Chalet) and one holiday let (sui generis) (Rosedale Lodge) by sealing connecting door. Location Rosedale Lodge, Foxton Road, Alnmouth, NE66 3NQ. To NOTE that NCC has not yet made a decision. iii) 21/03496/FUL Westlea Bed and Breakfast 29 Riverside Road Alnmouth NE66 2SD. Proposed new detached dwelling. To NOTE that NCC has not yet made a decision. iv) 23/00732/FUL The Schooner Hotel 8 Northumberland Street Alnmouth Northumberland NE66 2RS. To NOTE that NCC has not yet made a decision. c) Other updates or applications received since drafting the agenda (for information only) A complaint was received in writing by a member of the public about the NCC decision on 53/23 b) i) and the complainant was directed to address their concerns to NCC.
52/23	Electric Vehicle Charging Points & Climate Change The four charging points on Marine Road became operational just before Easter. One local businessperson reported they are now considering purchasing an electric car; visitors have commented that they could charge their cars while visiting Alnmouth and the cafes; and a local taxi firm has been seen taking advantage of the charging points. Negative comments, aside from the loss of parking spaces for non-electric cars, have been about the difficulty finding the 3rd party app on their phones. APC has fed this back to NCC. NCC monitor useage remotely and have been satisfied with useage so far. Alnmouth Golf Club (Foxton) is interested in installing EV charging points in their car park that they would make available to members of the public. Cllr Armstrong will contact them. Cllr Armstrong attended NCC's Climate Change Event on 30th March and asked to be involved in County Cllr Swinbank's planned meeting with officers about the Shepherd's Hill improvement scheme and its potential for EV charging points. Cllr Armstrong will also be exploring ways of encouraging younger members of our community to become involved with Climate Change initiatives and will report back to the next meeting. Alnmouth Station is being viewed as a "critical transport hub" for climate change initiatives. APC will reach out to local parish councils and Aln Valley Railway to explore options. County Cllr Swinbank will make enquiries of the Climate Change team at NCC.
53/23	County Council Matters The following was reported by County Cllr Swinbank: i) Barclays Bank in Alnwick is closing on July 7th. It is uncertain what options people needing face to face banking will have in the future. ii) He is continuing to discuss with officers possible improvements to the traffic calming measure near Hipsburn Primary School. iii) He is due to meet with officers about the Shepherd's Hill study to look at options for parking and EV charging points. Councillors commented on how untidy the verge looks when it is regularly chewed up by vehicles parking on it. iv) He met with Ian Robson of the AONB about the flooding on the Sustrans cycle route near the roundabout at Hipsburn – it can be knee deep at times and better

	signage is needed. Cllr Ternent raised the point that the cycle track would be better if it joined the road nearer the Hipsburn roundabout. County Cllr Swinbank will raise the issue. v) Free tickets are available for a big screen Coronation Event on 6th May at Alnwick Castle. vi) Northumberland has been given £4million by central government for pothole repairs and this will no doubt be spent quite quickly so members of the public are advised to promptly report potholes on the NCC website.
54/23	Policies & Procedures The review of Standing Orders was deferred.
55/23	Finance a) It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the following payments be approved (proposed Cllr Armstrong; seconded Cllr Straughan):

Payee	Reason	Total Gross	Fund	PAID or TO BE PAID
Deb Still	Clerk's Salary 1st to 30th April 2023 (net of tax, NI)	£ 381.10	APC	30.4.23
Deb Still	Clerk's expenses (email, website, accts software, mileage)	£ 78.50	APC	16.4.23
PPD	INV 18171 for April Newsletter	£ 113.00	APC	16.4.23
HMRC	PAYE for last Quarter of 22-23	£ 170.40	APC	16.4.23
Alnmouth Gdnr	Invoice No 30 of 30.3.23 for Dr Joy's Garden	£ 64.00	Dr Joy's	16.4.23
Glasdon	Bin to replace broken one near bridge in village (incl VAT and installation by NCC) up to	£ 650.00	APC	16.4.23
George Ternent	Petrol for the mower for grass cutting	£ 26.27	APC	16.4.23
Lloyds	Service and repairs to mower	£ 703.67	APC	16.4.23

	The sum of circa £650 was agreed for replacing the bin near the bridge. However, the council agreed that they would like bins without four openings at the top (and to possibly include a flap) in order to reduce littering caused by seagulls and wind. The Clerk will also look at a replacement for the broken dog waste bin near the Lifeboat Houses. b) The finance report for April 2023 was RECEIVED. Cllr Denton declared a pecuniary or other interest in the Hindmarsh Hall decision. It was AGREED that a s.137 grant in the sum of £54.45 be made to the Hindmarsh Hall (proposed Cllr Armstrong, seconded Cllr Ternent). c) It was AGREED that APC had one creditor (HMRC for PAYE for the last quarter of the previous financial year in the sum of £170.40) and a debtor (HMRC for an unspecified sum of VAT reclaim). d) The Asset Register for 23-24 was further REVIEWED. Amendments will be made and recirculated for the next meeting. e) The insurance renewal was deferred as it has not yet been received. APC is in the 2nd year of a 3 year fixed renewal period.
56/23	King's Coronation Celebrations Alnmouth WI have not finalised their plans as yet. The Church are planning a special service on the Sunday with a crown making activity for children.
57/23	Request for a new Memorial Bench A request from a member of the public has been received and it was AGREED in principle but APC does not have any sites for benches. It was AGREED to write to the Burgage Holders to see if they have any suitable locations.

58/23	Reports from Working Groups a) Christmas Lights. There will be a fund raising quiz on 19th May. b) Village Maintenance Cllr Gair reported the damaged kerb/uncut verge on Riverside Road and has a meeting arranged with a Highways officer tomorrow to discuss resolution. Cllr Gair has spoken to NCC about additional street cleaning/clearing vegetation in the summer months and they have said they will send someone out. Cllr Denton is sourcing new matting for the playground. The entrance gate needs a new spring. One of the ropes on the netting on the slide needs attention. The tree survey has been carried out and will be sent to the Clerk. c) Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch There will be a quiz on the first Thursday of each month to raise funds and the Christmas Lunch will now take place on 14th January 2024. e) Alnmouth Arts Festival There will be some free and some costed events that will be booked via Eventbrite and there will be some tickets available at reduced prices for residents including for evening events. There will also be events outside of the main AAF weekend for instance a sand artist will work on a planned design on the beach in July 2023 where members of the public and participate in the build. Planning is progressing very well and the committee is very excited about the new expanded offer this year.
59/23	Correspondence Thank you emails and letters have been received from all the recipients of the s.137 grants.
60/23	Any Other Business for Information Only
	The Meeting closed at 8.45pm. Date & Time of Next Meeting: 9th May 2023 (and Annual General Meeting) in the large meeting room, Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street. Upcoming Meeting Dates 13th June 2023 11th July 2023 8th August 2023 12th September 2023 10th October 2023 14th November 2023 12th December 2023 9th January 2024 13th February 2024 12th March 2024