

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, Alnmouth
Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 14th February 2023 – 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Susanne Gair (Chair), Ian Armstrong, David Denton, Josie McDonough, Simon Rushton, George Ternent, Simon Walford.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk) County Cllr Martin Swinbank and 2 members of the public. Keith Hopper and Nick Johnston attended from NCC for item 17/23.

The Meeting opened at 7pm.

13/23 Apologies	Cllrs Anne van't Hoff, Shelley Straughan and County Cllr Castle.
14/23 Minutes of the Meeting of 13th December.	It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Rushton and seconded by Cllr Walford).
15/23 Declarations of Interest	None.
16/23 Public Participation	A member of the public attended and expressed concern about EV charging points taking away parking places for non-electric vehicles in the village and also about the visual impact of the charging points. The resident needs to park on Marine Road and has no garage or driveway. The resident stayed for the discussion and attended the inspection of the proposed sites for the charging points.
17/23 Electric Vehicle Charging Points	Two Northumberland County Council Officers attended and gave the background to NCC's roll out of EV charging points. NCC has a target to be at net zero for carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and from 2030 new internal combustion engine vehicles will be banned from sale. NCC are working to future proof the County as around 20% of residents in Northumberland have no driveways. Choosing a location for either 1 or 2 twin chargers (ie for 2 or 4 charging points) for Alnmouth has been challenging due to the parking issues, grid capacity, narrowness of footpaths (to allow pedestrians past), proximity to the existing electricity network and proximity to homes without driveways (a funding requirement). The EV charging points would each have a parking bay restricted to electric vehicles only. NCC confirmed that the EV charging points would be triple phase 11 kw fast chargers that would fully charge a vehicle in around 3-4 hours. No 'ultra-fast' models are available. NCC recommended not imposing a 4 hour maximum stay on the bays although that could be reconsidered if evidence of abuse was apparent. The options for APC were to have 4 adjacent bays in Marine Road (with 2 EV pillars and one green box); or split the 4 bays between 2 sites (a green electrical box would be needed at each site); or have only 1 EV pillar with 2 EV points. The only two sites identified that might meet the requirements were Marine Road (a potential 4 spaces) and a site near Alnmouth Ex-Servicemen's Club (a potential 2 spaces). NCC was of the view that the pavement near the ex-Servicemen's club would probably need to be widened to allow installation. Councillors and members of the public left the meeting to inspect the site in Marine Road and consider the visual impact (an EV pillar and green electrical box were brought by NCC).

	The Council AGREED that the 2 twin EV charging pillars and the green box should be sited in Marine Road in the 4 bays situated from the first bay as vehicles drive South past the Golf Club.
18/23 Planning Matters	a) Planning Applications and to consider any applications received since drafting the agenda (for information only). i) 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. The Council considered this application and agreed to OBJECT as it was contrary to the Alnmouth Neighbourhood Plan Policy 1 and it was also felt that the application did not adequately or accurately address the division of the property. ii) 21/03496/FUL Proposed new detached dwelling. Westlea Bed And Breakfast 29 Riverside Road, Alnmouth, NE66 2SD. Recently submitted documents were considered and the Council agreed to reiterate its OBJECT stance and a member of the planning working group may apply to speak at the North Northumberland Area Council on the 23rd February at which this application will be determined. b) Update on Planning Decisions Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) on approved application 21/01327/FUL (Proposed 1.5-storey, 3-bed dwelling) in order to build a more sustainable dwelling that sits better within the steeply sloping, wooded setting. Location: Land South Of Lint Close Cottages, Foxton Road, Alnmouth. APC NOTED that the application has been Granted. c) Other updates or applications received since drafting the agenda. 22/02939/FUL Summerhouse including chimney to west elevation (retrospective). Additional documents have been submitted by the applicant and the application has been referred to the Chief Planning Officer for a decision by the Chair. The Council agreed to reiterate its concerns over the accuracy of the documents and reiterate the OBJECT decision.
19/23 County Council Matters	i) To receive any updates/report from County Council Representatives. County Cllr Swinbank reported that NCC will need to find savings of £17 million in the next financial year.
20/23	Northumberland Town, Parish & Community Council Charter The revised Charter was NOTED.
21/23	North East Devolution Consultation The consultation deadline of 23rd March 2023 was NOTED. APC will not be making a response.

22/23 Finance	a) It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the following payments be approved:
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Payee	Reason	Total Gross	Fund	PAID or TO BE PAID
Deb Still	Clerk's Salary 1st to 28th February 2023 (net of tax, NI)	£341.70	APC	28.2.23
Deb Still	Clerk's expenses (email, website, accts software, mileage)	£ 83.00	APC	15.2.23
PPD	INV for February Newsletter	£ 113.00	APC	15.2.23
HHall	Invoice 17.12.22 for hire of Hindmarsh Hall 13.12.23	£ 20.00	APC	15.2.23
HHall	Invoice 29.1.23 for hire of Hindmarsh Hall 10.1.23	£ 20.00	APC	15.2.23
	Retrospective Approvals & To NOTE Amended Payments			
Oliver Lambert	Inv 372 of 8.12.22 for Xmas Lights	£177.46	Xmas L	13.1.23
HMRC	Additional payment owing for Month 9	£66.75	APC	13.1.23

	b) The finance report for February 2023 was RECEIVED. c) The finalised budget for 23-24 was NOTED with a forecast spend of £20,100. d) A transfer of funds in the sum of £35,000.00 from the APC Current Account to the APC Savings Account was AGREED and APPROVED (proposed by Cllr Armstrong and seconded by Cllr Walford). e) First consideration of the Asset Register for 23-24 APC NOTED the draft. Cllrs will check the siting of the benches. The Christmas Lights Working Group will check the number of lights for the register. f) APC NOTED the very generous donation of £440 received from the collection at the funeral of Marjorie Mountain. The Chair has thanked the family and will keep them informed of how the money is spent to benefit the community in memory of Marjorie.
23/23	Policies & Procedures It was AGREED to ADOPT the Reserves Policy (proposed by Cllr Walford and seconded by Cllr Denton).
24/23	Grant Applications Received for s.137 LGA 1972 monies It was NOTED that four applications have been received. They will be circulated to all Councillors for decisions at the next meeting.
25/23 Reports from Working Groups	a) Christmas Lights. The working group has sent the Risk Assessment to the Clerk and it will be updated for 2023. b) Village Maintenance A resident with the necessary expertise will carry out the tree inspection in Pease's Park and draft a written report for APC. Cllr Denton will treat the rotten timber and consider egg box matting for the worn ground. Cllrs Gair and van't Hoff are waiting for a response from NCC about more frequent street cleaning for 2023. It was AGREED that a Vote of Thanks would be sent to NCC for the recent excellent clearing of the path towards Foxton. c) Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch No update.

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	e) Alnmouth Arts Festival All the artists have been signed up and exhibitor fees are being received. The Friary has agreed to host various artists, musicians and a possible dramatic piece over the weekend. The paddock, gardens and refectory will be open to the public.
26/23 Training	It was agreed that the Planning Training from Rob Murfin was very useful and he has been thanked. When the new Enforcement Strategy has been adopted training may be available for that and the Council will be keen to attend.
27/23 Annual Parish Assembly Meeting	No speakers or special arrangements. It will be held immediately before the April meeting.
28/23 Wedding at Pease's Park	Request to hold a wedding party at Pease's Park in 2024 APC has received a request from a member of the public to hold a wedding party in a marquee in the summer of 2024. It was NOTED that the couple have a local connection and AGREED they could hold their wedding in the Park provided it was not on a Bank Holiday weekend and that a donation of at least £350 be made to the Community Fund for the benefit of the village. The Wedding Party will be subject to a list of conditions with which the organisers and attendees will need to comply.
29/23 AONB	It was AGREED to defer consideration of AONB's Climate Change Policies and adaptations to a future meeting.
30/23 Any Other Business for Information	None
	The Meeting closed at 9.05pm. Date & Time of Next Meeting: 14th March 2023 at 7.00pm in the large meeting room, Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street. Upcoming Meeting Dates 11th April 2023 (and Annual Parish Assembly Meeting) 9th May 2023 (and Annual General Meeting) 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