

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting

The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, Alnmouth Tuesday 9th January
2024 – 7pm

Present: Cllrs Susanne Gair (Chair), David Denton, Josie McDonough, Simon Rushton, Shelley Straughan, Simon Walford.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk), County Cllrs Gordon Castle & Martin Swinbank, one member of the public.

The Meeting opened at 7pm.

1/24 Apologies

Cllrs Ian Armstrong and George Ternent.

2/24 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of 12th December 2023 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3/24 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

4/24 Public Participation

None.

5/24 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications/Appeals

21/03496/FUL Proposed new detached dwelling. Westlea Bed And Breakfast
29 Riverside Road Alnmouth NE66 2SD. NCC refused the application which was appealed by the Applicant to the Planning Inspectorate on 21st December 2023.

It was AGREED to object to the appeal due to the adverse impact upon Alnmouth Conservation Area and the impact upon the privacy and amenity of the residents of Garden Terrace and no 28 Riverside Road.

Signed Dated 13th February 2024

b) Update on Planning Decisions (for information only)

23/04050/FUL 4 High Buston Main Street High Buston Northumberland NE66 3QH. Timber framed lean-to extension.
Permission Granted by NCC.

c) Planning Enforcement

23/00908/NONMAT Non Material Amendment - (consistent type/size of 4 front elevation roof lights; amendment to 2nd floor glazed roof to front elevation) on approved application 19/04744/FUL 6 Riverside Road Alnmouth. NCC decided that this was not a Non-Material Amendment and have requested a VARYCO application from the applicant.

d) Other updates or applications received since drafting the agenda (for information only)

None.

6/24 County Council Matters

County Cllr Swinbank confirmed that he has pledged £1000 from his Councillor small schemes fund to support Alnmouth Parish Council with Winter opening of the Alnmouth Public Toilets this financial year. He has further agreed to pledge £2000 for the financial year 24-25. Both Cllr Swinbank and APC has requested that NCC review its policy and fully fund winter opening of public toilets in Alnmouth and around the county. APC to send out a Press Release.

The car park at High Buston is due to be completed in the financial year 2024-25.

7/24 Training

It was AGREED for the Clerk to attend the NALC training on Internal Controls on 17th January 2024 at a cost of £30.

8/24 Church Hill - Repairs to Sea Wall

It was AGREED that the Clerk write to Northumberland Estates and to Northumberland Coast National Landscape (formerly AONB) for an update on the repairs to Church Hill in light of the recent unsuccessful funding bid which included the repairs.

9/24 AONB/National Landscapes Conservation Area Character Appraisals

It was AGREED that the Clerk would submit the written comments circulated in advance of the meeting.

10/24 Warkworth's Neighbourhood Development Plan

It was AGREED to submit the comments to Warkworth PC (circulated in advance of the meeting).

11/24 Finance

a. It was **RESOLVED** that the following payments be approved:

APC					
Date	Payee	Description	Amount (incl VAT)	VAT	
02 Jan 2024	Xero UK Ltd	Inv-17744971 2.1.24	36.00	6.00	
03 Jan 2024	Dr Joy's Savings Account	Transfer for INV 38 Nov 23	96.00	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	HMRC - PAYE	Month 8 PAYE	5.00	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	Hindmarsh Hall	Inv HH-2023-58 for December meeting	24.00	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	PPD Printgroup Ltd	Inv XX for January Newsletter	113.00	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's Exps HWA and mileage Jan 2024	30.50	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	Deb Still	Clerk Exps Dropbox Pro Aug 23 Inv V9kkybqfnfm5	95.88	15.98	
22 Jan 2024	IONOS	Inv 203039879870 January 2024 (Direct Debit)	16.80	2.80	
31 Jan 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's net salary for Jan 2024	473.00	0.00	
Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch					
10 Jan 2024	Hindmarsh Hall	Balance of Inv 19.8.23 for Hall Hire for 21.1.24	70.00	0.00	
10 Jan 2024	Shelley Straughan	Inv 19.8.23 for Hindmarsh Hall (deposit paid)	50.00	0.00	
Arts Festival					
10 Jan 2024	Hindmarsh Hall	Balance of Inv HH-2023-31 for Hall Hire for 24.2.24	170.00	0.00	
Community Fund					
10 Jan 2024	NCC	Inv 275454 Winter Servicing of Toilets 23-24 part payment	1,000.00	0.00	
Retrospective Approval or amended amounts					
31.12.23	Deb Still	Net Salary for December 23 plus b/d increase to 4/23	660.80		

- b. The finance report for December 2023 was RECEIVED.
- c. The Clerk will submit the first VAT return before the deadline on 7th February. Northumberland Accountants have been engaged to carry out the internal audit for the financial year 2023-24.
- d. It was AGREED to send the letter (circulated in advance) of consultation to two local theatres on APC's proposed VAT exemption on admissions for cultural events (VAT guidance 701/47).
- e. Update on payment for winter servicing of public toilets - this item was dealt with at item 6/24 and 11/24/a.
- f. Spend to end of Q3 of 23-24 was NOTED.
- g. It was RESOLVED to set the budget for 2024-25 (draft circulated in advance). It was NOTED that the precept has not been increased since the financial year 2016 -17 and both costs and the budget have increased. It was RESOLVED to set the precept in the sum of £15,210.00 (a 3.1% increase on the previous year and a monthly increase of £0.13p for a Band D Council Tax Payer).
- h. It was AGREED that the deadline for receipt of grant applications to APC for s.137 Local Government Act 1972 monies will be 23rd February 2024. Details are on the website and will also be in the February Village Newsletter.

Signed Dated 13th February 2024

12/24 Reports from Working Groups

a. Christmas Lights

No updates.

b. Village Maintenance

Cllr Denton is sourcing materials for repairs to the Bus Shelter floor and the Play Park.

The Alnmouth Gardener has decided to no longer look after Dr Joy's Garden. The Council will look at other options.

c. Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

Any volunteers can still contact Cllr Straughan.

d. Arts Festival

The first event of the year is the Arts Festival Winterside Event on 24th February 2024 at the Hindmarsh Hall.

e. Climate Change

No updates.

13/24 Any Other Business for Information

It was NOTED that there have been two break ins at the Boathouses with damage to the Large Boathouse and items stolen from both. It has been reported to the insurers. Security measures are being taken.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: - 13th February 2024 at 7pm, The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, NE66 2RS.

Future Meeting Dates

12th March 2024; 9th April 2024 (and Annual Parish Meeting); 14th May 2024 (and Annual General Meeting); 11th June 2024; 9th July 2024; 13th August 2024; 10th September 2024; 8th October 2024; 12th November 2024; 10th December 2024; 14th January 2025; 11th February 2025; 11th March 2025.

Signed Dated 13th February 2024