

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Susanne Gair (Chair), David Denton, Josie McDonough, Richard Sim, George Ternent, Simon Walford, Shaun Whyte, John Wilson.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk), County Cllrs Gordon Castle & Martin Swinbank and 2 Police Officers from Northumbria Police.

The Meeting opened at 7pm.

140/24 Apologies

Cllrs Ian Armstrong & Simon Rushton.

141/24 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APC meeting of 13th August be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

142/24 Declarations of Interest

None Declared.

143/24 Public Participation

Two Police Officers attended and were aware of anti-social behaviour, littering and dune fires over the summer and Northumbria Police had attended some of the incidents. The new Police Inspector for North Northumberland plans to build the local team from the current two officers to six or seven officers.

144/24 Cooption of Richard Sim as new councillor

The Acceptance of Office was RECEIVED.

145/24 National Landscape Interpretation Plan

An initial meeting took place between Cllrs McDonough & Whyte and two members of Northumberland Coast National Landscape (NCNL). A further meeting will take place with members of Dr Joy's volunteer garden team.

146/24 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications

i) 24/02851/FUL & 24/02844/LBC Land West Of 17 Northumberland Street Convert/rebuild collapsed stable building to provide one and half storey 3 bedroom Dwelling.

It was AGREED to make a neutral comment with an observation regretting the loss of the historic references of the mock shed openings while recognising it is now a new build rather than a conversion.

Signed Dated 8th October 2024

b) Update on Planning Decisions

i) 24/2302/LBC The Hindmarsh Hall Northumberland St

Listed Building Consent for proposed installation of polycarbonate screens to Lancet windows to protect windows from wind-driven rain.

NCC Decision: Granted

ii) 24/02142/LBC Aln House 17 Northumberland St

Listed Building Consent for engineering operations for below ground stabilisation following building collapse on site

NCC Decision: Granted

iii) 24/02037/DISCON 31 Northumberland Street

Discharge of Condition 6 (Specification of Double Glazing Units) on approved application 23/01011/LBC

NCC Decision: Refused

iv) 24/01586/AGTRES High Buston Farm Northumberland

Notification of Prior Approval for change of use from agricultural building to create 5 dwellings with associated external private and shared outdoor space.

NCC Decision: Granted

c)Any other planning issues

Lack of enforcement action by Planning Authority

i) 24/00316/LISTED (door) & 23/00732/FUL & PP/P2935/W/23/3323621
(decking) Schooner Hotel

ii) 22/01187/NOAPLN) & 23/00908/NONMAT (withdrawn) 6 Riverside Road

iii) 23/04314/DISCON (Estuary Drive land west of Schooner).

County Cllr Swinbank has written to the NCC Director of Planning concerning these longstanding matters but no response has yet been received.

147/24 Shepherds Hill Parking

A meeting will take place between residents previously consulted by NCC, members of APC and an officer from NCC upstairs in the Hindmarsh Hall at 6 pm on 8th October 2024.

148/24 County Council Matters

i) The Local Area Council Meeting (public meeting) will take place on 26th September at Alnmouth Village Golf Club to discuss Coastal Erosion. Cllr Sim will be attending on behalf of APC.

ii) County Cllr Swinbank will request a portaloo pending the toilet repairs following recent damage.

149/24 NCC Town and Parish Council Autumn Conference 3rd October 2024

The deadline for booking for two delegates is 5pm on Friday 27th September.

150/24 Bonfire Night 5/11/2024

i) The updated Action Plan was NOTED.

Signed Dated 8th October 2024

- ii) The Event Notification and Event Safety Plan for NCC were AGREED.
- iii) The Risk Assessments for Food & Bonfire were AGREED.

151/24 Remembrance Sunday 10/11/2024

- i) It was AGREED that Cllr Rushton will lead on the event.
- ii) The updated Action Plan was NOTED.
- iii) The Event Notification and Road Closure Apps for NCC were AGREED.
- iv) The Risk Assessment was AGREED.

152/24 Volcano Night 21/9/2024

- i) The updated Action Plan was NOTED.
- ii) It was AGREED that ABC can collect donations on behalf of Amble RNLI on the day in sealed buckets.

153/24 Memorial Benches

- i) The Memorial Bench list was REVIEWED and councillors will inform the Clerk of any missing contact details they may have for older benches. Maintenance requirements deferred until the next meeting.
- ii) A first REVIEW of the current Memorial Bench Policy took place. To be finalised at a future meeting.
- ii) APC AGREED that two bench requests for the site outside the church on Northumberland Street could be granted subject to NCC agreeing the site for a new bench and subject to the applicants agreeing to the new bench policy (when finalised and agreed). The Clerk will contact the third applicant about their requirements and suitability of any APC bench sites to meet those requirements.

154/24 Second Homes/Holiday Lets North Northumberland Coastal Region

APC AGREED the contents of the draft letter to send to local MP and NCC.

155/24 Finance

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

APC Fund			Incl VAT	VAT
11 Sep 2024	RBL Poppy Shop	Remembrance Wreaths x 4 (2@£27.50; 2@ £20)	95.00	0.00
11 Sep 2024	Burgage Holders	Contribution to Burgage Holders new strimmer	250.00	0.00
11 Sep 2024	Xero UK Ltd	INV 20606016 - Accounting	36.00	6.00
11 Sep 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's Expenses Sept 24 (incl Dropbox annual)	130.88	15.98
11 Sep 2024	Aln C Rowing	Refund of sum paid in error	125.00	0.00
22 Sep 2024	IONOS	INV 203043875677 website and email	16.80	2.80
30 Sep 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's Salary Sept 2024	489.00	0.00
Christmas Lights				
11 Sep 2024	TLC (Crawley) Ltd	INV CW568211 - 5.9.24	508.46	84.74

- b. It was AGREED a spend for Fireworks of £900 (matched by the generous donation of £900 from the Burgage Holders)
- c. APC RECEIVED the monthly finance report.
- d. APC RECEIVED & NOTED the external auditor's report certifying that APC's Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with proper practices.

Signed Dated 8th October 2024

- e. It was AGREED to appoint Northumberland Accountants as APC's Internal Auditors for 2024-25.
- f. Consideration of the new APC Financial Regulations 2024 was deferred to the next meeting.
- g. Consideration of the Financial Risk Management Register 2024 and review of the effectiveness of the Internal Financial Risk Management Controls were deferred to the next meeting.

156/24 Reports from Working Groups

a. Christmas Lights

Fundraising is going well and work on the lights is underway.

b. Village Maintenance

Cllr Denton is continuing with the repairs and has started using the new inspection template. Cllr Ternent or Denton will organise a report on the trees.

c. Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

It was AGREED that no fundraising need take place as the event will be ticketed. Over and above the lunch itself (which will be ticketed at cost) the only cost will be the hire of the Hall.

d. Climate Change

i) NCC data confirms steady and regular use of the EVCPs.

ii) Cllr Walford has been contacted by a village resident who is informally leading a group aimed to create a Local Community Project to interact with the many agencies involved to explore options for managing coastal erosion along the estuary and beach. They would welcome support from APC and may bring a formal proposal to a future meeting.

157/24 Correspondence

a) Update from police on anti-social behaviour and fires on the dunes – this was reported on at item 143/24.

b) A complaint from a member of the public about the toilets was NOTED and has been forwarded to NCC.

158/24 Confidential Matters

A motion to exclude the public was RESOLVED due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed (quotes and contracts). It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Peter Saunders to carry out works to the Playpark and the Bus Shelter. The quote for works to Dr Joy's Garden was accepted in principle but works will not go ahead until any agreement is reached with NCNL on funding for works.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: 8th October 2024 The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, NE66 2RS.

Future Meeting Dates 12th November 2024; 10th December 2024; 14th January 2025; 11th February 2025; 11th March 2025.

Signed Dated 8th October 2024