

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting of 14th May 2024

Minutes

The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, Alnmouth

Present: Cllrs Susanne Gair, David Denton, Josie McDonough, George Ternent, Simon Walford, John Wilson.

In Attendance: Deb Still (Clerk), County Cllr Martin Swinbank.

AGENDA of Annual General Meeting

The meeting opened at 7pm

64/24 Election of Chair

It was AGREED that Susanne Gair be elected as Chair

65/24 Election of Members of Working Groups and new Working Groups

It was AGREED that the following members be elected to the working groups:

Xmas Lights – Cllr Denton

Village Maintenance – Cllrs Denton & Ternent

Senior Citizens Xmas Lunch – Cllr Straughan

Planning – Cllrs Walford & Whyte

Climate Change – Cllr Armstrong.

66/24 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ian Armstrong, Simon Rushton, Shelley Straughan and County Cllr Gordon Castle.

67/24 Receipt of Declaration of Office for Chair

The Chair's Acceptance of Office was RECEIVED.

68/24 Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest & other Registerable Interests

Councillors are reminded that they are personally responsible for ensuring that these declaration forms are complete and are kept up to date and submitted to the Monitoring Officer at Northumberland County Council. This is a legal requirement.

69/24 Chair's Annual Report 2023-24

The Chair gave her Annual Report (available on the website or from the Clerk)

70/24 Review and Adoption of Alnmouth Parish Council's Standing Orders

The Standing Orders were REVIEWED and ADOPTED.

71/24 Review of Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was REVIEWED and AGREED.

Signed Dated 11th June 2024

ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting of 14th May 2024

Minutes

The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, Alnmouth

The Meeting opened at 7.20pm

72/24 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ian Armstrong, Simon Rushton, Shelley Straughan and County Cllr Gordon Castle.

73/24 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of 11th March 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

74/24 Declarations of Interest

None.

75/24 Public Participation

None

76/24 Cooption of new councillor

- i) It was AGREED to coopt Shaun Whyte to Alnmouth Parish Council.
- ii) Acceptance of Office was deferred.

77/24 AGAR Return & End of Year Accounts 2023-24

- i) The Annual Internal Audit Report was RECEIVED and NOTED and there were no actions arising from the report
- ii) The Annual Governance Statement (AGAR page 4) was APPROVED.
- iii) The Bank Reconciliation and Explanation of Variances for 2023-24 was APPROVED.
- iv) The AGAR Accounting Statement was APPROVED.

78/24 Planning Matters

a) Applications/Appeals

i) 24/01079/FUL Pan Leazes House Northumberland Street Alnmouth

Construction of sunroom extension and external terrace. It was AGREED to make no comment.

ii) 24/01352/TREECA & 24/01353/PRUTPO Wellfield 38 Northumberland Street Alnmouth

Trees in a Conservation Area. It was AGREED to make no comment.

Signed Dated 11th June 2024

iii) 24/01459/FUL 6 High Buston Main Street High Buston

Front extension. It was AGREED to make no comment.

iv) 24/01338/FUL & 24/01333/LBC Aln House 17 Northumberland Street Alnmouth

Rebuild of collapsed wall. It was AGREED to make no comment.

v) 18/04528/OUT Land North Of Alnmouth Station Lesbury Northumberland

Outline planning application for the development of approximately 60 dwellings. It was AGREED to reiterate APC's OBJECTION of December 2022 to this application.

b) Update on Planning Decisions

i) 24/00446/FUL The Grange 20 Northumberland Street Alnmouth

NCC Decision: Permitted

ii) 24/00380/FUL 28 Northumberland Street Alnmouth

NCC Decision: Permitted

iii) 24/00141/VARYCO Red Lion Northumberland Street Alnmouth

NCC Decision: Permitted

iv) 21/03496/FUL Westlea Bed And Breakfast 29 Riverside Road Alnmouth

Planning Inspectorate Decision: Appeal allowed (following refusal by NCC).
Planning permission granted for a new dwelling.

79/24 County Council Matters

a) Public Toilets update

County Cllr Swinbank confirmed that the refurbishment is in the medium term financial planning and should be completed within the current financial year.

b) Other updates

Cycle Racks – being well used and sufficient space allocated.

Shepherds Hill - County Cllrs Swinbank and Castle are arranging a meeting with the officers to which Cllrs Gair and Armstrong will be invited.

80/24 Alnmouth Coastal Erosion/Storm Damage

The Clerk wrote to coastal PCs in the area but those that have replied do not have the same issues. The Burgage Holders and Alnmouth Community Rowing have made some access improvements. Other options are being considered by the Burgage Holders, Golf Club and interested parties.

81/24 Shepherds Hill Parking

This matter was deferred.

82/24 Alnmouth Street Lighting

Signed Dated 11th June 2024

This matter was deferred.

83/24 Volcano Night

The insurers have not yet confirmed whether they will insure the event.

84/24 Fred & Gladys Bettess Fund

Cllrs Gair and McDonough met with the Trustees of the Hindmarsh Hall. Cllr McDonough has been exploring working on the Bettess Collection with archivist students from Newcastle University on making the collection more accessible online to villagers, local schools, interested visitors and the online community. The Trustees confirmed that the Bettess Postcard collection has been sent to Northumberland Archives (NA). The Trustees are continuing to digitize and catalogue the Bettess Archive which will take about 12 months to complete and the Bettess Collection will then also be stored in NA and accessible to members of the public. The Hindmarsh Hall Trustees will keep APC informed about progress and developments with the Bettess Collection.

Until the inventory is complete, it will not be possible to provide access to the Newcastle archivist students. It was therefore AGREED that Cllr McDonough will inform Newcastle University that APC will not be proceeding with the project.

85/24 Finance

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

Account	Payee	Description	Amount (incl VAT)	VAT
06 May 2024	Xero UK Ltd	Xero Accounts Package Direct Debit May 2024	36.00	6.00
15 May 2024	NALC	NALC 005 24-5	152.06	0.00
15 May 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's May 24 Expenses	30.50	0.00
15 May 2024	SLCC	SLCC Membership for Clerk 24-25	112.00	0.00
15 May 2024	Hindmarsh Hall	Inv 2023-114 for April APC	25.00	0.00
15 May 2024	Hindmarsh Hall	Inv 2023-129 for May 2024	25.00	0.00
15 May 2024	Northumberland Accountants	Internal Audit and AGAR	750.00	125.00
15 May 2024	G Ternent	Petrol for the Mower	26.34	0.00
21 May 2024	IONOS	website and email direct debit May 2024	16.80	2.80
31 May 2024	Deb Still	Clerk's Salary May 2024	489.00	0.00

- b. The monthly finance report was RECEIVED.
- c. The accountant agreed that the report on balances in funds at 31st March was accurate.
- d. The insurance quotation was AGREED and it was NOTED there may be a slight change once the Volcano Night issue has been resolved and/or the January 2024 claim has been accurately input by the insurer.

86/24 Reports from Working Groups

a. Christmas Lights

Signed Dated 11th June 2024

A local cleaning firm has offered the use of their Cherry Picker free of charge to the Working Group to install the Christmas Lights.

b. Village Maintenance

Cllr Denton is conducting his survey of the APC benches. The volunteer gardening team is making a start on Dr Joy's garden.

The Burgage Holders have agreed to pay APC a donation for the twice yearly planting on the Wynd.

c. Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

This item was deferred.

d. Climate Change

No update.

87/24 Correspondence

i) It was AGREED that the AAF Committee can use Peases Park for a school Ceilidh Band during the Festival.

ii) Inquiry on website about new paving slabs by the church in Northumberland Street being dislodged. It was NOTED that this is probably caused by heavy lorries driving onto the pavement but deliveries are required and the street is narrow.

iii) The Clerk to write to the Burgage Holders about a possible loan of their strimmer.

88/24 Confidential Matters

No quotations were received for the proposed minor works and the matter was deferred.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: - 11th June 2024) at 7pm, The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, NE66 2RS.

Future Meeting Dates

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 11th June 2024