

# **ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**8<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Cllrs Susanne Gair (Chair), David Denton, Josie McDonough, Simon Rushton (arrived late), Richard Sim, George Ternent, Simon Walford, Shaun Whyte.

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

The Meeting opened at 7pm.

#### **159/24 Apologies**

Cllrs Ian Armstrong & John Wilson.

#### **160/24 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APC meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

#### **161/24 Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

#### **162/24 Public Participation**

None.

#### **163/24 Street Lighting for Northumberland Street**

The Council opted for the more robust of the two as the preferred lantern subject to NCC approval.

#### **164/24 National Landscape Interpretation Plan**

Northumberland Coast National Landscape has produced a draft design for Dr Joy's Garden. It was AGREED that a working group of Cllrs McDonough, Rushton and Whyte (in consultation with the volunteer Lead on the Garden) be authorised to decide and sign off on the final content and design of the new Information Board and layout of the garden itself.

#### **165/24 Boathouses Painting & Annual Inspections**

- i) Cllr Denton AGREED to carry out the Annual Inspection with Alnmouth Community Rowing to inspect the Large Boathouse and report back to the full Council on necessary maintenance works.
- ii) Councillor Denton AGREED to inspect the Small Boathouse and report back to the full Council on necessary maintenance works.

Signed ..... Dated 12th November 2024

iii) Clerk to obtain quotations for agreed works.

## **166/24 Planning Matters**

### **a) Planning Applications**

#### **24/02752/FUL Land South East Of Shepherds House High Buston**

It was AGREED that APC make no comment.

### **b) Update on Planning Decisions**

None.

### **c) Any other planning issues**

#### **Lack of enforcement action by Planning Authority**

NCC has replied to APC stating they are following up on the enforcement matters below. No timescales have been indicated.

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#### **ii) 22/01187/NOAPLN) & 23/00908/NONMAT (withdrawn) 6 Riverside Road**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

## **167/24 Shepherds Hill Parking**

A meeting of the residents of Shepherds Hill, Cllrs Gair & Whyte and two NCC officers took place on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024. NCC confirmed that they would not extend the double yellow lines along the entire length of the North Side of the B1338 (Shepherd's Hill) as requested by the residents. NCC had proposed a scheme that would prevent parking on the verge to which the Shepherds Hill residents objected. NCC are likely to conduct a third consultation and will not proceed with the scheme if the residents maintain their objections.

## **168/24 Coastal Erosion**

Coastal erosion was discussed at the North Northumberland Area Committee and the meeting agreed to form a consultative group. APC AGREED in principle that they would fully support local plans to address the issue and offer any assistance to aid discussion or leverage funding.

## **169/24 Marine Conservation Advice Packages**

There are no proposed changes to the relevant geographical areas and it was AGREED not to submit a response.

## **170/24 County Council Matters**

County Cllr Castle confirmed that there is currently £25 million available nationally to address coastal erosion.

County Cllr Swinbank confirmed that the Lovers Walk improvement works will likely be carried out in the financial year 2025-26.

Signed ..... Dated 12th November 2024

**171/24 Bonfire Night 5/11/2024**

Arrangements are progressing well.

**172/24 Remembrance Sunday 10/11/2024**

Arrangements are progressing well.

**173/24 Volcano Night 21/9/2024**

The first APC Volcano Night with the Alnmouth Boat Club was very successful with the permitted maximum number of teams taking part.

**174/24 Memorial Benches**

Cllr Rushton arrived at the start of this item.

i) APC AGREED on the disposal of two benches, moving one bench to another position and contacting three families in connection with bench maintenance to give them until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 to repair/renovate specific benches.

ii) The amended Bench Policy drafted by Cllr Whyte was deferred to the next meeting.

**175/24 Finance**

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

| <b>APC</b>                                  |                    |                                                        | <b>Gross</b> | <b>VAT</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 07 Oct 2024                                 | Xero UK Ltd        | INV20976586 Oct Direct Debit                           | 39.60        | 6.60       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Hindmarsh Hall     | Inv 2023-202                                           | 25.00        | 0.00       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Hindmarsh Hall     | Inv 2023-201                                           | 16.00        | 0.00       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Deb Still          | Clerk's expenses                                       | 35.00        | 0.00       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | PPD Printgroup Ltd | Inv 20937 Oct                                          | 113.00       | 0.00       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Dynamic Fireworks  | INV 81078 Fireworks 21.9.24                            | 2,160.00     | 360.00     |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Hindmarsh Hall     | HH-2023-185                                            | 25.00        | 0.00       |
| 24 Oct 2024                                 | IONOS              | Inv203044381657 Oct 2024                               | 16.80        | 2.80       |
| 31 Oct 2024                                 | Deb Still          | Clerk's Salary Oct 2024                                | 489.00       | 0.00       |
| <b>Christmas Lights</b>                     |                    |                                                        |              |            |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Hindmarsh Hall     | HH 2023-200                                            | 100.00       | 0.00       |
| 09 Oct 2024                                 | Hindmarsh Hall     | HH-2023-194                                            | 25.00        | 0.00       |
| <b>Payments Agreed by Chair &amp; Clerk</b> |                    |                                                        |              |            |
| 12 Sep 2024                                 | PPD Printgroup Ltd | Inv 206769 31.8.24 for Sept Newsletter (received late) | 113.00       | 0.00       |

- b. APC RECEIVED the monthly finance report.
- c. APC RECEIVED the Spend against Budget Report for Q2.
- d. APC AGREED and ADOPTED the amended APC Financial Regulations 2024 (based on new Model from NALC).
- e. APC AGREED the Financial Risk Management Register 2024 and REVIEWED the effectiveness of the Internal Financial Risk Management Controls.
- f. To consider a payment to Amble RNLI pursuant to s. 137 Local Government Act 1972 (representing net funds from ticket sales for Volcano Night). This item was deferred.

Signed ..... Dated 12th November 2024

## **176/24 Reports from Working Groups**

### **a. Christmas Lights**

The APC White Gardenias fundraising event for the Christmas Lights Fund will be on 14th December at the Hindmarsh Hall. Cllrs Gair and McDonough are leading.

### **b. Village Maintenance**

A Playpark Guardian volunteer has been recruited to carry out fortnightly park inspections to support Cllr Denton's more detailed monthly inspections. Written inspections are retained by the Clerk. Cllr Denton is continuing with the repairs to the Playpark. The Tree Inspection will be arranged by Cllr Denton.

### **c. Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch**

Cllr Gair is leading on this.

### **d. Climate Change**

No update.

## **177/24 Report on gov.uk domain and emails**

This item is deferred to the next meeting.

## **178/24 Correspondence**

a) The Clerk has made two enquiries of Beach Access North East but there has been no response. AGREED to try one more time.

b) Letters have been sent to the Leader of NCC & to the North Northumberland MP about Second Homes/Holiday Lets and their impact on coastal villages such as Alnmouth.

b) A member of the public complained about the wall collapse and erosion at Church Hill and has been directed to the owner, Northumberland Estates.

## **179/24 Confidential Matters**

A motion to exclude the public was RESOLVED due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. A brief discussion took place about the Clerk's hours.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

**Date & Time of Next Meeting:** 12th November 2024, The Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland Street, NE66 2RS.

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

Signed ..... Dated 12th November 2024