ALNMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8th SEPTEMBER 2026
Minutes

Present: Cllrs Shaun Whyte (Chair), George Ternent, John Wilson, Sally Wilson, Lorna Pringle,

In Attendance: Jacqueline Brewster (Clerk), Cty Cllr Wendy Pattison.

The Parish Council Meeting opened at 19:00

113/26 Apologies – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs McHugh, S Rushton and Denton.

114/26 Disclosure of Interest. None to report.

115/26 Public Participation – None.

116/26 RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 11th August were **ACCEPTED** as a true record.

117/26 Finance

a. The invoices and expense claims received prior to, or during the meeting were **APPROVED**.
b. The monthly finance & SumUp reports were **RECEIVED**
c. MAZARS external audit feedback was **RECEIVED**.
d. The expenditure of £515.16 for Xmas Lights expenditure was **APPROVED**.

118/26 Standing Item - County Council Matters

a. Cllr Pattinson Pattison advised that work has started on a new local County Council plan as a result of Government stipulations that NCC have to build 30k new homes in the next few years. NCC therefore have to alter the Local Plan. APC will be getting an email to this effect and may be asked if they can think of areas they feel housing should be built and can put forward recommendations. Parish Council's may be losing local governance control to the Mayor. Planning committees may be withdrawn from October but possibly be retained until May.

- Cllr Pattinson recommends that APC familiarise themselves with Article 4 to better understand its implications if this is removed. Article 4 is a special planning regulation that local authorities use to remove national permitted development rights in a specific area.
- Conflicting information has been received back from contacts at NCC and Groundwork regarding the new bin strategy and what residents can and can't do. It was **AGREED** that the Chair send Cllr Pattison a summary of questions that are important to APC residents.
- Cllr Pattison advised that disabled parking bars in Alnmouth were to receive additional signage to highlight they are for Blue Badge holders only.

119/26 Standing Item - Northumbria Police Report - the police report was **RECEIVED**.

120/26 Standing Item - Reports from Working Groups

a. **Village Maintenance:**
   - **Harbour Wall** – No update received.

- **Public Toilets** – Further work has been undertaken during which time temporary toilets were in situ on the road outside.
- **Village Street Signage** – It was **AGREED** that Cllr Rushton is to write a letter to relevant home-owners regarding the re-siting of road names as a result of the one-way system, which will enable them to be more visible.

121/26 Standing Item – Parish Representation at Meetings. Nothing to report.

122/26 Street Lighting for Northumberland Street - Cllr Rushton confirmed that work on the new streetlights will commence in September.

123/26 Pease's Park Playground – Cllr Whyte advised current fundraising had now reached c£70k. The playground committee had met with a manufacturer and was waiting for the first draft to hone down on recommendations. Another manufacturer would be met with later in the month and the committee would report back. There is a further fundraiser planned in November. The Hullabaloo event on the 5th September raised c£640 from the bucket collection and sale of cowboy hats. Cllr Whyte is to meet with the BH on 29th September to update them on the fundraising.

124/26 Church Hill – Cllr Pringle met with Sara Winlow on 20th August when a drone survey and wall inspection took place. National Landscapes are funding a survey to establish repair works that may need to be undertaken. The intention is to work with Alnmouth Arts Festival to help raise money to promote and elevate Church Hill via some kind of artistic competition. APC could possibly provide prize money in return for free space in the Arts Festival brochure. Local schools/scouts could be approached to come up with a promotional idea. A further meeting is to be held with AAF/APC to firm up the idea. There is also a recommendation to apply to the Burgage Holders for a contribution. Sarah Winslow has created a brochure on Church Hill and this has been forwarded to the BH.

125/26 Planning Matters

a. **Planning Applications -** none to discuss
b. **Planning Decisions -** none to discuss

126/26 Senior Citizens Lunch – The Market Tavern quoted £18/head. The confirmed date is 10th January 2027. Cllr McHugh is to provide the music. A working party needs to be set up to fine tune the details. **RESOLVED**: Clerk to add SCXL Working Party to the October agenda.

127/26 Bonfire night – It was **AGREED** that Cllr S Wilson contact the Market Tavern for circ. 200 hotdogs to be provided. In principle it was **AGREED** that the net expenditure for 2026 fireworks is £2,000.

128/26 New .GOV.UK Website – The Clerk advised that APC's IONOS email account will be closed down on 26th October. **RESOLVED**: All councillors to be using their new.GOV.UK email from the end of September. Instructions on how to set up the new email address will be re-sent to all councillors and the Clerk will be available to help individuals.

129/26 Village First Aid Courses – Cllr Pringle is waiting for costs and availability from Paul Nixon. Cllr S Wilson potentially has a contact doing 1st Aid for the village hall through the Village Hall Consortium at circ. £25/head. Cllr S Wilson to circulate details to the committee.

130/26 Hope and Anchor – Bins. A second letter has been sent to the proprietors with no signs of remedial action being taken. **RESOLVED**: Clerk to escalate with NCC and submit a formal complaint to northernareahighways@northumberland.gov.uk.

131/26 Correspondence

a. Car park enquiries have been forwarded to the Burgage Holders.
b. A private donation to the Pease's Park fund has been received to the sum of £1,000.
c. An enquiry has been received to join the Parish Council. **RESOLVED:** Clerk has forwarded relevant documents to the applicant and circulated applicant's CV to the council members. **RESOLVED** Clerk to add the applicant's co-option to the October agenda.
d. The North East Coast & Rural Solutions meeting is to be held on the 14th September 10-2pm at The Hub, Seahouses. Cllr J Wilson to represent APC.

132/25 Urgent Business

a. To consider larger signs for the new park that NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED. Cllr Pattison advised that the dog warden lady could drop off some signs.
b. The Brazier has fallen at the top of Beacon Hill. This was erected by the Parish Council. **RESOLVED**: Clerk to liaise with the BH to ask for assistance in having the item safely removed and stored in a flat position.

132/26 Items for the next Agenda. None submitted.

Date/Time of Next Meeting: 13th October 2026, 07:00pm, Hindmarsh Hall, Northumberland St. NE66 2RS

Future Meeting Dates: 10th November 2026, 8th December 2026, 12th January 2027, 9th February 2027, 9th March 2027, 13th April 2027, 11th May 2027, 8th June 2027.

Meeting Ended: 20:25