

**Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of Allendale Parish Council
(including minutes of the Planning Sub-Committee)
held on Thursday 4th June 2020 at 7pm**

Present: Cllr Crellin (Chair), Councillors Dunn, Galley, Henderson, Hill, Howard, Lee, Philipson, Quinn, Sandison, Simmonds and White
H Newsome (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence

Cllr Baxter and Co Cllr Horncastle

2) Planning Sub-Committee

Planning applications

20/01390/FUL – High Lea Hall, B6295 Allenheads Main Road Through Village Allenheads

Cllr Simmonds proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Philipson seconding this, as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policy 9: Extensions to Dwellings (bullet points one and two), and this was unanimously carried by the Parish Council.

20/01470/AGRGDO - Land East Of Beaumont Lea, Shilburn Road, Allendale

The Clerk said that the planning officer had confirmed that the current status of the application, that was on the planning portal with a facility for people to register their comments, was that it had not yet been assessed. She would be visiting the site on Friday (5th) to decide if the proposal met the criteria required for permitted development rights. Cllr Crellin proposed that the Council discuss the application at its July meeting should the planning officer decide that full planning consultation was needed, and to request that NCC extend the deadline for comments to beyond the July meeting, and this was agreed. (Cllr Howard declared an interest in the application and abstained from the discussion). In the meantime, Cllr Crellin encouraged the members of the public who objected to the application, and those who had raised their concerns with the parish council, to register those concerns directly with the planning department by posting them on NCC's planning portal. Cllr Lee said that people should register their views independently, as group comments just count as one, and Cllr Crellin said that if they had problems using the portal then they should email their comments directly to NCC's planning department.

20/01066/FUL – Catton Village Hall

Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Dunn seconding this, as it would provide greater ease of access for people to make use of the facilities, and this was unanimously carried by the Parish Council.

3) Declarations of Interest

There were no changes; see APC's website for full list:

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/allendale/documents>

4) Annual Parish Meeting Reports

Cllr Simmonds proposed that the Clerk upload the annual reports to the website:

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/allendale/documents> and this was seconded by Cllr Crellin and unanimously carried by the Parish Council. The Clerk to ensure that authors names were added to the reports.

5) Public participation

There were three members of the general public in attendance.

Carl Chadwick asked how the local community might feel, and if there would be any objection to the conversion of the Crown in Catton to a single-family home. He said that the current owner was selling just

the building, not the business, as a development opportunity, with the potential to get planning permission for the conversion to a family home. Mr Chadwick said that he wanted to gauge local opinion at this stage, and the views of the parish council. Cllr Howard said that he had talked to Co Cllr Horncastle who had understood that the property was being marketed as a public house. The Council informed Mr Chadwick of some of the history of the pub, and how there had been a major outcry from members of the community when a previous publican had tried to get planning permission to convert the pub into a home. However, it was generally acknowledged that whilst no one really wanted to see the pub go it would be at the mercy of market forces, and, that the Council could not guarantee that it would support a change of use and that it would be for Mr Chadwick to decide if he wished to take that risk.

6) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 7th May 2020

Cllr Quinn proposed, and Cllr Galley seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

7) Matters Arising

20/00871/FUL - Land North of Braeside Cottage

Cllr Dunn said that a considerable number of parishioners had approached her about the inappropriate use of the footpath 141 and that she had asked them to contact NCC directly. The Clerk to request that NCC inform the applicant that it was for the owner of the land over which the footpath lies to grant vehicular access along footpath 141, not the County Council.

20/00997/FUL – Glamping Pods 1 – 4, Dryside Farm, Allendale

The Council discussed the development in view of ongoing concern about its scale and impact on the land from both councillors and local residents. Cllr Crellin had reviewed the original plans that showed the pods having a roof with no window, yet roof windows could be seen on the pods from afar. Also, councillors remained concerned about the lighting that could be seen from far away and that were on throughout the night. As the development did not appear to match the original plans the Council agreed that the Clerk email NCC asking them to review the build in terms of the size, materials, screening, lighting, finish and windows. Cllr Crellin to provide a narrative for the Clerk to use.

Allenfields Play Area

Cllr Hill said that he had written to Karbon Homes following on from good advice that he had received from a landscape designer experienced in installing playgrounds concerning the regulations EN1176. He said these regulations set out strict guidance on the design of playground fences and gates including the requirement for two self-closing gates of a design that prevents head, hand and finger injuries. Cllr Philipson said that the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) website may also have helpful guidance on this topic. The Clerk agreed to follow up on Cllrs Hill's correspondence and ask Kath Heard for an update.

Waste Bins

Cllr Lee asked fellow councillors to let him know where waste bins might be needed around the parish, particularly in Allenheads. The Clerk to request that the bin at Mill Cottages is urgently emptied as it had not been emptied for three weeks.

8) County Councillor update

Co Cllr Horncastle had sent his apologies but communicated a couple of messages ahead of the meeting:

Batey Terrace, Catton

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he would ask the Highways Manager, Neil Snowdon to visit the site with a view to reducing the speed limit through Catton to 20 mph and installing a new modern mirror at the junction.

Road surface on the B6295 Catton

Co Cllr Horncastle said that stretch of road in between the two extents recently resurfaced had been programmed to also be resurfaced.

Road from Thornley Gate to Mill Cottages

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he would query the recent patching work on this stretch of road as the Highways Department had previously agreed to re-plane and re-surface the road.

9) Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2019/20

9.1 To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the Internal Auditor

The Internal Auditor Alan Blair had completed the audit procedure and agreed the objectives of internal control were being achieved.

9.2 To approve the Annual Governance Statement

Councillors had received a copy of the governance statement for 2019/2020. Cllr Philipson proposed, seconded by Cllr Howard, and agreed unanimously that the governance statement be accepted.

9.3 To approve the draft annual accounts 2019/2020

Councillors had received a copy of the draft accounts for 2019/2020. Cllr Philipson proposed, seconded by Cllr Howard, and agreed unanimously that the accounts be accepted.

9.4 To approve the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances

Councillors had received a copy of the accounting statement and explanation of variances for 2019/2020. Cllr Philipson proposed, seconded by Cllr Howard, and agreed unanimously that the statement and explanation of variances be accepted.

10) Allendale Market Square

Tree maintenance – Cllr Dunn had met with Matty Robson and agreed to: a) pruning on Arnison Terrace and the Peth and around the base of the lime trees; and b) the provision of a tree report to map out the parish trees in preparation for a tree planting scheme. Cllr Philipson proposed to accept Mr Robson's quotes with Cllr Henderson seconding this and it was agreed that he should get on with the work.

Tree Preservation Orders – The Council agreed to ask Mr Robson to look at the three sycamore trees and one ash tree on Rectory Meadow with a view to considering applying for Tree Preservation Orders.

Village maintenance – Cllr Dunn had met with Malcolm Aitchison who was happy to carry out the usual village maintenance work this summer that could be done safely observing social distancing. The Council agreed a budget of around £400 for the work.

Benches – The Council agreed to postpone putting the four benches back out until it was safe to do so once social distancing rules were eased.

Leaf blower – Cllr Crellin proposed and Cllr Galley seconded that Cllr Philipson go ahead and buy a domestic petrol operated leaf blower for use by Melvin Robinson.

11) Climate Action Allendale

There was no new information to report this month.

12) Correspondence

Joyce Jewitt – The Council acknowledged the further information that Ms Jewitt had provided to support her application to have her uncle's name added to the Lych Gate Memorial at St Cuthbert's Church.

However, it agreed to postpone consideration of the request until the Coronavirus epidemic had passed, when it would be easier to follow the process recommended by the War Memorials Trust. In the meantime, Cllr White to try and find out the intentions of the community in relation to those local people who lost their lives in both World Wars being commemorated on both parish war memorials.

13) Accounts for payment

Cllr Philipson proposed the accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr Lee.

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as at **28th May 2020 - £55,050.67**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balance as at **11th May 2020 - £ 5,234.69**

14) Matters for June 2020 agenda
Allotments

15) Confidential agenda item *(for Council only)*
There was one item.

16) Date of next Parish Council Zoom teleconference
The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **2nd July 2020** at 7pm.
The meeting ended at 9:00 pm.