

Meeting of West Allen Parish Council

Wednesday 23 September 2026 at 19:00- Ninebanks Church & Community Hall

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence

2 Public Questions

3 Minutes of meeting held on 27 May 2026 to be approved.

4 Matters arising from previous meeting:

- Bus – see below
- Any response re new waymarkers for Mohope moor
- Update on Northumbrian Water Feasibility Study
- Resurfacing has been done to Chapel Bank.
- Update on VM02 and whether NCC has managed to get any further.
- Starlink test update
- Update on NPG contacting vulnerable persons during a power cut.
- Allendale Almshouses – Rowland Hull has agreed to be WAPC representative and has been put in touch with them.
- Signs about Dog Fouling now put up
- Graeme Hodgson has been told a mirror will not be put at top of Ouston Bank as Highways Agency says it will cause an obstruction.
- Noticeboard key – still not known who has copy

5 Improve the quality of life and the environment in the local area

- Flooding hotspots identified. NCC have sent a Guide to Roles and Responsibilities for Flooding.
- NCC have sent a guide for the responsibilities for Hedges, Trees & Verges.

6 Working to bring improvements (through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with other parishes and agencies)

- **Bus** – The chair contacted Neil Easton from NCC who is looking into this situation and has offered several solutions.
- **WAPC Resilience**
 - Scenario to be agreed for Starlink trial (run by NCC) – still awaiting date.
 - Mohope Youth Hostel removed as a registered centre and the Emergency Plan has been updated and needs to be agreed before being sent to NCC.
 - Mohope generator stored at Redheugh needs a decision as to what to do with it – response from NCC about storage?

7 Influencing and shaping the long-term development policy for the Parish, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications in the parish

- **Planning:** Applications can be viewed at:
<http://publicaccess.northumberland.gov.uk/online-applications>

Applicant:	Address:	Details:	Application no:
Mr Simon Williams	Bench Mark, Allendale	Conversion of garage to ensuite bedroom & office space.	25/04597/FUL WITHDRAWN
Mr Simon Williams	Bench Mark, Allendale	Conversion of existing garage to office which connects to house	26/01716/FUL APPROVED
Mr Simon Williams	Bench Mark, Allendale	Variation to reflect minor amendments to parking hardstanding	26/03049/VARYCO
Mrs Karen Dakin	Spartywell, Ninebanks	Erect agricultural building	26/03042/FUL

8 Deciding how much to raise through local tax in order to deliver services

- **Financial and Administrative Matters**
 - Bank balance of £3,556.19
 - Amounts paid – HugoFox website build £238.80, Insurance £376.53, NALC £36.73, ICO £52, Hall Hire March £10 and £5.98 monthly for 2 email accounts
 - 2nd Precept payment of £925 for 2026/27 received
 - 2 x Hall Hire for May £20 and Sep £10 to be paid.

9 Correspondence:

- Sport Tynedale requesting donation
- Request from NCC to manage installation of bench for Mrs Jean Baird.
- NCC Northumberland Local Plan Update
- Digital Switchover

10 Update from Cllr Colin Horncastle

11 Any other Business

- Project Keystone
- Tourist Type Map for Area
- New Parish Boundary
- Review
- Training
- Communications

12 Date and times of next meetings – tbc Wednesday 16 or 23 December at 5pm at Ninebanks Church and Community Hall