



# WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | [whittinghampc29@gmail.com](mailto:whittinghampc29@gmail.com) | 07455 004164

## MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of WCA Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st October 2025, 7:00pm at the Whittingham Memorial Institute Hall.

### Present:

**Councillors:** Andrew Whincup (Chairman), Karen Armstrong, David Bateson, Neil Blackshaw, Jamie Bolton, Paul Bradley, Jonathan Clark, Elidh Gardiner, Stuart Gray, Toni Marsden, James Renner, Brian Wood

**Clerk:** In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Armstrong took the minutes

**Members of the Public:** 5

### 98/25 Apologies for absence

All Cllrs attended the meeting

### 99/25 Declaration of interests.

104/25 (a) - Cllr Whincup

It was RESOLVED by unanimous vote to allow Cllr Whincup to remain for the discussion of this item to answer questions.

### 100/25 Public Participation

Members of the public raised concerns about the condition of the footbridge across the river, particularly that it becomes slippery. The Chair confirmed that the bridge is owned by the Waterways Commission and that the Estate had already been notified. A response is awaited.

A resident also thanked the Parish Council for arranging the new benches in the village.

### 101/25 Minutes of the Meeting of 16th September 2025

The approval of these minutes was deferred to November's meeting

### 102/25 Matters Arising

No matters were raised

### 103/25 Communication Received

#### a) Bonfire Concern

This item will be further discussed at November's meeting

### 104/25 Community Matters.

#### a) Path along Riverside

The project is unable to continue. Invoices for work completed to date will be paid and the project is now closed.

#### b) Cast Iron Road Signs

Cllr Gardiner has reached out to neighbouring Parish Councils to enquire about their restoration costs and the process to assist us

Signed as a true record of the meeting \_\_\_\_\_ on Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## **c) Bus Shelter**

Land ownership of the bus shelter site is being confirmed. Cllr Gardiner is progressing grant options to refurbish the shelter

## **d) Benches**

Work has continued, and a new bench to be sited by the riverside is on order.

## **e) Phone Box**

Cllrs confirmed willingness to refurbish the phone box, with the suggestion of using it for community matters, book swaps and local information was suggested.

## **f) Speeding in the Parish**

Cllr Marsden confirmed that the school have met with Highways and a speed survey will be undertaken in the next few months. Some of the 20 mph signs will be replaced and will include flashing signs during school start and end times.

It was suggested that the PC look into their own speed monitoring. This will be investigated.

## **g) Road safety at the A697 junction**

The reply from NCC regarding resident concerns over the junction and the recent fatal accident was read out by the Chair. Cllr Clark agreed to write a letter for the Clerk to forward to NCC regarding this.

## **105/25 Parish Council Administration Matters**

### **a) Neighbourhood Plan**

18 people attended the Neighbourhood plan meeting, and 11 offered to join the steering group. Cllr Bradley will discuss with other Parishes who have recently created a neighbourhood plan for information and advice.

### **b) Community Governance Review**

This was deferred to November's meeting.

## **106/25 Governance Documents**

### **a) Biodiversity Plan**

This item is deferred.

## **107/25 Financial Matters:**

### **a) Transaction Report**

The Transaction Report has been published on the Council's website in accordance with transparency requirements and was circulated at the meeting.

### **b) Bank Reconciliation**

The bank reconciliation to 21 October 2025 was approved.

### **c) Payments for Authorisation**

Wreath Purchase (Clerk to organise)

The Clerk's wages and Working from Home Allowance (£26) were noted as contractually approved and paid in accordance with the Clerk's contract of employment.



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**108/25 Items for Information or Future Agenda**

Christmas Trees and Lights

**109/25 Date of next and future meetings** (all start at 7pm unless stated otherwise)

18 November 2025

No meeting in December 2025

*Signed as a true record of the meeting* \_\_\_\_\_ *on Date* \_\_\_\_\_