

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and Allendale Parish Council Meeting
held at Allendale Village Hall on Thursday 1st November 2018
(including minutes of the Planning Sub-Committee)**

Present: Cllr Crellin (Chair), Councillors Howard, Lee, Philipson, Quinn, Sandison, Simmonds & White
County Councillor Horncastle
H Newsome (Clerk)

Planning applications

18/02145/FUL - High Scotch Hall

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to **no objections** to the application.

18/03651/FUL – 1 Oakey Dene

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to **no objections** to the application.

17/01334/VARYCO – Hopedene, The Dene, Allendale

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he had requested a site visit to this property that is taking place on 12th November 2018. Two members of Allendale Parish Council are also invited. The application is due to be heard at Tynedale Local Area Council (Planning only) on the following day, 13th November 2018, he said. Cllr Crellin would attend both meetings and request the right to speak at the hearing on the advice of Co Cllr Horncastle.

Planning Permission for helipad – In light of Cllr Quinn's concern that the Parish had not been consulted over planning permission for a helipad seen in the Byerhope Valley, the Clerk said that she had raised the matter with representatives of NCC's Planning Department. She confirmed that she was still awaiting a response.

1) Apologies for absence

Councillors Baxter, Dunn, Galley, Henderson and Walter

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lee declared an interest in Allendale Primary School, Arnison Jubilee Almshouses & Health Walks

Cllr Philipson declared an interest in High Forest Community Association, Allenheads Trust & Natural Ability

Cllr Quinn declared an interest in Natural Ability

Cllr Sandison declared an interest in Allendale Film Club

Cllr Simmonds declared an interest in St Cuthbert's Church, North Pennines AONB Partnership Board & Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership Board

Cllr White declared an interest in Allenheads Trust

3) Public Participation

There were five members of the public in attendance. Co Cllr Horncastle responded to a member of the public's ongoing concern that the traffic calming plans for the road near the school are inadequate and that Vehicle Activated Traffic Signs (VATS) and/or speed cameras were a better option. Co Cllr Horncastle reaffirmed that VATS are prohibitively expensive and would have to be paid for and maintained by the Parish Council, and that NCC's policy is to no longer install speed cameras. After a general discussion about the effectiveness of the various traffic calming measures the Council agreed to Cllr Simmonds suggestion to consider how to properly monitor the traffic once *all* the measures are in place.

Cllr Crellin responded to a member of the public's question about how public participation works. He said that the public participation slot is specifically for members of the general public to raise any concerns or issues they have within the parish, and that the public are also welcome to stay and observe the whole meeting. He confirmed, when asked, that he was happy to take questions at other times in the meeting if a member of the public raised their hand and provided the meeting business was not unnecessarily held up.

John Short informed the meeting of a new annual garden competition. Each year Allendale's Gardening Club would decide on the best floral displays presented by local businesses, churches, halls, pubs and shops he said. There will be first, second and third prizes awarded with rewards of £20, £10 and £5 respectively. The Council agreed to help promote the competition through social media when the competition is announced in the New Year.

4) Allendale Orientation Panel

David Coverdale of North Pennines AONB presented plans to install an orientation panel similar in design to those in Allenheads and Whitfield. The panel will be 1.24m wide and .99m high and is being made by Langley Furniture Works. David said that it is proposed that the panel face into the Market Place from a site adjacent to Natural Beauty and opposite the butcher shop. The site had been carefully chosen with consideration to businesses, with a north facing location so it won't fade in the sun he said. The Council unanimously agreed to the siting position of the panel and Cllrs Lee and Sandison agreed to work with David over agreeing the material content of the panel with the assistance of Cllr Simmonds.

5) Traffic Calming and related matters

Road near school

Cllr Crellin said that he had met on site with Northumberland County Council's Highways Manager, Neil Snowdon and County Cllr Horncastle on 25th October to discuss the traffic calming measures that have been partially installed at the school. At the meeting he proposed a double row of raised (higher) granite setts to be installed, at the 20mph sign coming into the village and at the Village Hall with a single sett at the school.

Pedestrian crossing

Co Cllr Horncastle confirmed that the team from Berwick would shortly be completing the work to install the new pedestrian crossing. He explained that the new location for the crossing was selected because of anticipated drainage problems with the original location and to assist HGV vehicles in making the turn into the Market Square. The Council agreed that whilst the central refuge will narrow the road it would help overall with the village traffic calming measures. Cllr Sandison said that she had noted that in wet weather conditions the run off from the drop kerb on the west side of the crossing causes flooding to the pavement past Bank House. Cllr Sandison said that she had reported this to NCC because of her concern that it would present a hazard if the water freezes and she suggested that a new drain would remedy the problem.

Drop kerbs

Cllr Crellin said that Neil Snowdon has agreed to formalise the existing drop kerbs in the Market Square and install these correctly including providing textured surfaces.

6) Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th October 2018

Cllr Lee said that the costs charged for correspondence with Allendale Estates at 6) d) of the 4th October minutes related specifically to matters relating to the footpath between the Peth and Mill Cottages. With this amendment Cllr Quinn proposed, and Cllr Philipson seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2018 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

7) Matters Arising

Footpath through the wood beyond Holm's Lynn

Cllr Lee confirmed that he had sent details of the state of the existing path to Co Cllr Horncastle who agreed to take up the issue with David Brooks, Countryside Support Team Manager.

Village Keeper

The Clerk said that she had not yet advertised the Village Keeper vacancy but would do so shortly.

8) County Councillor update

Salt bin – Co Cllr Horncastle confirmed that the new salt bin for Allendale Parish is still on line to be installed though with a new design, and that in the meantime the salt had been delivered but it wasn't in its usual place.

Bright light in Council Yard – The Council discussed the bright light that can be seen from afar in view of concern from local residents and the area's dark sky status. Co Cllr Horncastle said that it was important to 'get to the bottom of it' and work with NCC to find a suitable remedy.

Haydon Bridge High School – Co Cllr Horncastle was pleased to report the *good* Ofsted inspection the school has just received. He said he believed the school had turned a corner with an increase in take up of 30/40 pupils this year and £5m invested in vocational courses that will start in September 2019 giving parents greater choice.

9) Allendale Market Square

Waste bins – Cllr Lee said that he had met with NCC's David Hunt, Area Manager of Neighbourhood Services and Geoff Cairns on 18th October together with Cllr Dunn and the Clerk. After a walk around the village reviewing the locations of bins to be serviced in the parish in future, the following recommendations were made to the Parish Council:

- a) To install a new (recycled) wheelie bin and stand outside the Primary School
- b) To remove the red dog waste bin outside the public toilets as it is in very poor condition
- c) To install a new (recycled) wheelie bin to be secured at the Hearse House
- d) To install a new 'street furniture' type of bin in the area of the Bull Ring

After discussion the Council agreed that any new bins would need to be budgeted for at the next Finance Sub-Committee meeting and that any new bin planned for the Bull Ring should wait until NCC Highways Department had replaced the signage there.

Streetlighting – The Clerk confirmed that the new streetlighting programme was still ongoing throughout November. Cllrs Dunn, Sandison and Walter to check if there are any more street lights to be replaced in the village and let the Clerk know so that she could inform NCC.

Weed spraying – The Clerk confirmed that NCC had carried out a 2nd (weed killing) spray on 18th October.

Autumn leaf collection – The Clerk confirmed that NCC had carried out leaf collection on 24th October and that further collections are only done on request and on a priority basis and once all the leaves have fallen. After discussion the Council agreed that the Clerk should request a further collection by NCC after the anticipated stormy conditions have passed, and to defer the offer from Practical Landscapes to carry out this work. Cllrs Philipson, Lee and Sandison agreed to inform the Clerk once all the leaves had fallen in Peck Riding, Catton and Allendale respectively.

10) Correspondence (see Appendix A)

Mrs Irene Ness – The Council discussed this request to consider putting in place traffic calming measures around Bishops Field to Thornley Leazes. The Council agreed that this request be referred to Neil Snowdon of NCC's Highways department and asked the Clerk to do this.

Ross Keady, Fire & Dough Pizzas – Cllr Crellin said that he had met Ross and agreed a suitable parking place in the Village to trade from on a weekly basis on a Tuesday, between the hours of 4-8pm.

Steve Robson, Principal Planner, NCC – The Council discussed correspondence relating to settlement boundaries and housing allocations in the Allendale Neighbourhood Area. The County Council invited the Council to review its approach to Allendale Parish as set out in the next version of the Northumberland Local Plan. Cllr Simmonds reminded everyone that the Council had not wished to have a settlement boundary. She said that Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policy 5: Housing Development describes the approach, with only small-scale new housing development schemes being allowed, and with development not restricted to Allendale Town and Catton or other specified settlements. The Clerk to confirm to Steve Robson that the Council agrees with County Council's approach and for the Local Plan to not define a settlement boundary or make site allocations.

11) Allotments

Cllr Philipson said that he and the Clerk had met with the tenants of the allotments on 30th September to discuss issues relating to the renewal of their tenancy agreement. Cllr Philipson said that there is an area within the allotments that is in need of restoration including removing a derelict building and broken glass. He said that if the area was levelled off then the size of the plot could be increased making all four plots more equal. Cllr Philipson to update the Council after a meeting he is arranging with tenants to discuss next steps.

12) Accounts for Payment (see Appendix B)

Cllr Sandison proposed the accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr Howard.

Bank balance as at 26 October 2018

Treasurer's Account - £ 57,390.78

Bank balance as at 9 October 2018

Business 30 Day Notice Account - £ 5,230.52

13) Matters for next month's agenda

Parking and Caravans

14) Date of next Parish Council meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **6th December 2018** in Allendale Village Hall at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 9:03 pm