

Minutes of Allendale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Thursday 3rd June 2021 at 7pm at Allendale Village Hall

Present: Cllr Crellin (Chair), Councillors Galley, Graham, Henderson, Howard, Philipson, Simmonds & White
Co Cllr Horncastle & H Newsome (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence

Cllr Henderson was late to the meeting and not present for item 2).

2) Planning Sub-Committee – planning applications

21/01498/FUL - Almora, Shilburn Road, Allendale

Cllr Philipson proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Galley seconding this and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01398/FUL – 3 Shield Street, Allendale

Cllr White proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Galley seconding this and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01467/FUL - Studdon Dene Farm, Allendale

Cllr Galley proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Howard seconding this as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policies 1: General Development Principles; and 7: Conversion of Buildings in the Open Countryside, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01483/FUL – 1 to 14 Arnison Close, Allendale

Cllr Galley proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Simmonds seconding this as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policies 1: General Development Principles; and 2: Scale of Housing Development, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01580/FUL – Laurel Cottage, Allenheads

Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr White seconding this as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policy 7: Conversion of Buildings in the Open Countryside, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01604/FUL – The Holms, B6295 Spartylea To Allendale, Sinderhope

Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Philipson seconding this and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

21/01630/FUL – Glenwood, The Dene, Allendale

Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Galley seconding this as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policy 9: Extensions to Dwellings and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

3) Declarations of Interest

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

[Links | Allendale Parish Council \(northumberlandparishes.uk\)](https://northumberlandparishes.uk)

4) To decide when to have the Annual Parish Meeting

The Council agreed to postpone the Annual Parish Meeting and hold it on 7th October 2021. Cllr Philipson proposed that the Council invite local people to come along and learn about how to become a councillor with an opportunity to ask lots of questions, and the Council agreed to this. Cllr Galley said that the Council should make the process easier to encourage new councillors to come forward.

5) Public participation

There was one member of the public in attendance. In response to his question about the Annual Parish Meeting the Chair clarified that it was not a council meeting but rather a meeting of the parish electors that can be called by the Council or electors. He said that the Council was looking to encourage the public to get more involved in helping it deliver services by inviting local people to join working parties that focus on specific topics, for example, the **Electrical Vehicle Charging Working Group** that is made up of interested parish residents and a councillor, and the soon to be formed **Isaac's Well Working Group**. Chair, Cllr Crellin said that it would be helpful if Allendale Parish Council was to raise more awareness as to the services that it was authorised to deliver, and how the precept pays for those services. Getting local people's involvement in the process in the past meant that there was support for improving the condition of the market square through the reinstatement of the cobbles, for example, he said.

6) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 13th May 2021

Cllr Philipson proposed, and Cllr Galley seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2021 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

7) Matters Arising

Estimate for Catton turning bay

Co Cllr Horncastle agreed to consult his NCC colleagues and seek their support to co-fund the resurfacing work at Catton turning bay. The Clerk to forward Coulson Construction's estimate to Colin.

Isaac's Well

Cllr Henderson had talked to Roger Morris (the driving force behind Isaac's Tea Trail) who said that his main concern was the proposed new housing development on Lonkley and to maintain the water supply at Isaac's Well.

Repairs to paved area outside the Post Office

The Clerk said that she had written to Johnny Weatherston to ask when he would be carrying out work to reinstate the pavement outside the Post Office, including the area in front of the Cashpoint machine, but that she had not yet received a reply.

Resurfacing of parking area adjacent to The Forge

Co Cllr Horncastle agreed to enlist the support of Andy Olive, Area Delivery Manager, to arrange for the white lines to be reinstated on the newly surfaced parking area at the same time NCC were in the area reinstating the road markings on the road from the Catton triangle to Thornley Leazes.

Restoration of Chapel of Rest

Work to restore the Chapel of Rest was ongoing and the Council agreed for Allen Valleys Local History Group (AVLHG) to source suitable furniture and storage to make the space suitable for both an exhibition space and dry meeting area for funeral mourners.

8) County Councillor update

Co Cllr Horncastle said that following the County Council elections he had been appointed as **Portfolio Holder for Community Services**, and that some of his new responsibilities included being Chair of both the County Emergency Committee and Emergency Committee with responsibility for fire and rescue and emergency planning. Other Committee appointments he now held included Health & Wellbeing, with responsibility for environmental health, environmental enforcement, public health, licensing and housing, and Tynedale Local Area Council.

9) Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2020/21

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, and he confirmed that he would continue in the role for FY 2021/22. The Clerk was asked to pass on the Council's thanks for the thoroughness with which he carries out his work.

9.2 To approve the Annual Governance Statement

Councillors had received a copy of the governance statement for 2020/2021. Cllr Galley proposed, seconded by Cllr Simmonds, and agreed unanimously that the governance statement be accepted.

9.3 To approve the draft annual accounts 2020/2021

Councillors had received a copy of the draft accounts for 2020/2021. Cllr Galley proposed, seconded by Cllr Simmonds, 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 2020/2021. Cllr Galley proposed, seconded by Cllr Simmonds, and agreed unanimously that the statement and explanation of variances be accepted.

10) Coronavirus matters

There was no new information to report this month.

11) Climate Action Allendale

There was no new information to report this month.

12) Towns & Villages Sub-Committee

Planters

Cllr Simmonds proposed, and Cllr Crellin seconded, and the Council agreed, to a £200 budget for local guardians to plant, water, and maintain the planters in Allendale each year, as well as make use of a large stone trough close to the entrance of Wentworth Park for planting flowers. Cllr Henderson to make suitable arrangements with the guardians and continue to use the Down to Earth as a supplier of plants.

Tree planting scheme

The Council agreed to ask Paul Atkinson for a quote for four steel tree guards so as to protect the new trees that were planted under the new planting scheme.

Village maintenance

Malcolm Aitchison had made a start on the village tidying works with edging to the Bullring now complete. The Council agreed that edging to the public toilets be the next priority.

Weed spraying

The Clerk said that David Hunt of Neighbourhood Services had confirmed that the usual arrangements were in place for weed spraying this year. He expected his team to be in Allendale in the next 3-4 weeks although this might vary as time scales were weather dependent.

13) Final scheme proposals for the new signage for the Bullring

Cllr Crellin proposed that the Council accept the new signage for the Bullring that Neil Snowdon had previously sent details of, with Cllr White seconding this and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

14) Bus shelter for Catton

The Council agreed that Cllr Crellin and the Clerk bring together a small working group with representatives of Catton to agree on a suitable design for the proposed new bus shelter. Co Cllr Horncastle agreed to contribute £2,000 towards the costs of the new shelter.

15) Footpath from Allendale to Mill Cottages (502/141)

Cllr Crellin said that he had met with two members of the May Fair Committee and Duncan Lovatt by the Blackett Level entrance on 1st June to discuss what repairs to the footpath were possible given the constraints on both time and resources. He said that the landowners, Allendale Estates, had given its permission for further art works to be installed along the footpath provided that the May Fair Committee got all the statutory consents in place should they be needed. Given the significance of the footpath, a

popular local walk that forms part of Isaac's Tea National Walking Trail, Cllr Crellin appealed to Co Cllr Horncastle for his support in securing some funding for urgent and essential repairs to sections of the path that have been eroded by the river. Co Cllr Horncastle agreed to enlist the help of David Brooks, Countryside Support Team Manager and see what could be done.

16) Co-option policy for the recruitment of new councillors

Cllr Simmonds proposed that the Council adopt the draft co-option policy for new councillors, seconded by Cllr Henderson, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

17) Correspondence

Alex Bell, Definitive Map Officer, Northumberland County Council

Cllr Crellin proposed to accept the proposed upgrade Public Rights of Way as Public Footpath No 5 to restricted byway status, seconded by Cllr Graham, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Council.

Local resident, Allendale

The Council agreed to provide more 'no dog fouling' signs to be put up at the rear of the properties at Forstersteads to encourage dog owners to clean up their own dog mess. The Clerk to ask Malcolm Aitchison to put the signs up. Co Cllr Horncastle agreed to take advice from his environmental enforcement colleagues as to what further action could be taken.

Ginny Swaile, Wild Planting Scheme

The Council agreed that Cllr Henderson should be Ginny Swaile's parish council contact for the Wild Planting Scheme. The Council had previously agreed to stop mowing the grass in the triangular area close to Batey Terrace, but, after discussion it agreed that allowing the grass to grow long there, would make visibility at the Batey Terrace junction even worse than it already was. The Council therefore agreed to look for an alternative area to offer up for no mowing.

David English, Planning Manager (Neighbourhood Planning)

The Council agreed to meet with David English to progress the review of Allendale's Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Clerk to find a suitable date in the autumn for the extraordinary meeting.

18) Accounts for payment

Cllr Crellin proposed the accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr White.

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as of **18th May 2021 - £ 36, 779.85**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balance as of **10th May 2021 - £ 23,400.30**

19) Matters for 1st July 2021 agenda

To be confirmed.

20) Confidential agenda item (for Council only)

There were none.

21) Date of next Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on **1st July 2021** at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 21:00