

Meeting of West Allen Parish Council

Wednesday 27 May 2026 at 17:00- Ninebanks Church & Community Hall

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence – Gilly Davies (GD)

2 Public Questions

3 Minutes of meeting held on 18 March 2026 to be approved.

4 Matters arising from previous meeting:

- Update required about bus service.
- Meeting with Northumbrian Water (NW) was on March 25th. NW to do a fact-finding exercise and Joe Morris MP made it clear that WAPC should not have to bear any installation costs if feasible.
- Batteries for mobile mast still being chased as no satisfactory reply received.

5 AGAR

- Approval required for Annual Governance and Accountability Return

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

- New way markers required on Mohope moor.
- School bank road has been widened by NCC clearing dirt from sides of road. Further works are scheduled for 7-11 September so there will be disruption.

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

- **WAPC Resilience Group**
 - Starlink trial date to be agreed as postponed (run by NCC)
 - B4RN provided a free UPS device to help in power cuts.

8 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| Mr Simon Williams | Bench Mark, Allendale | Conversion of garage to ensuite bedroom & office space | 25/04597/FUL WITHDRAWN |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 | Listed Building Consent to convert garage into bedroom | 25/04608/LBC APPROVED |
| Mr Simon Williams | Bench Mark, Allendale | Convert existing garage into a large office space | 26/01716/FUL |

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

- **Financial and Administrative Matters**

- Bank balance of £3,357.19
- Amounts received £925 Precept
- Amounts paid – HugoFox £11.99 and £5.99 for website and email monthly, Clerks salary £250.
- Website monthly cost now suspended for 6 months for free period.
- Website build cost £199 plus VAT – still to be paid DD in place
- To Pay - NALC annual fee £36.73 after website fee refund; ICO fee £52 and insurance £387.42
- Approve WAPC IT Policy

10 Correspondence:

- Allendale Almshouses re new member for West Allen
- Email from Graeme Hodgson about mirror at top of Ouston Bank.
- Contact from a resident about the level of dog waste. NCC contacted about some signs.

11 Update from Cllr Colin Horncastle

12 Any other Business

- Review
- Communications – website now transferred to gov.uk and updated
- Publish map of parish on website?
- Chair position

13 Date and times of next meetings – tbc Wednesday 23 Septembers at 7pm at Ninebanks Church and Community Hall