

draft Minutes of Allendale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Thursday 3rd March 2022 at 7pm at St Cuthbert's Church Hall

Present: Cllr Simmonds (Chair), Councillors Graham, Henderson, Philipson & White and H Newsome (Clerk)

1) Introductions (Councillors and Candidates)

The councillors introduced themselves to the candidates and vice versa. The council responded to the candidates' questions and described the activities it engaged in, and the extent of its statutory powers. Councillors said that the new councillors could choose which sub-committees to join as well as taking on project-based activities. Cllr Simmonds said that the council would follow its co-option policy in making appointments at the end of the meeting under the confidential item, and then candidates then accepted her invitation to stay for the remainder of the public meeting.

2) Apologies for absence

Cllr Howard and Co Cllr Colin Horncastle

3) Planning Committee – planning applications

22/00303/FUL - Land North Of Meadow Gate, Catton

The Council discussed the application and noted the absence of information on the levels in the plans. Cllr Philipson proposed **to object** to the application because of concerns about the prominence of the building, with Cllr White seconding this, as it was not keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development (ANDP) Plan Policy 1: General Development Principles bullet points five and six, and the Council unanimously carried the motion.

22/00236/LBC - Dawson Place Hall, Allendale

Cllr Philipson proposed **to support** the application with Cllr White seconding this, as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development (ANDP) Plan Policy 10: Small Scale Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Schemes, and the Council unanimously carried the motion. Cllr Simmonds abstained.

22/00480/FUL – Rothley Cottage, Catton

Cllr Graham proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Philipson seconding this, and the Council unanimously carried the motion. Cllr Henderson abstained.

22/00505/FUL – Westwynds, 3 Station Road

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

4) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dani Henderson had joined the Whitfield Village Fair Committee; see APC's website for full list: [Links | Allendale Parish Council \(northumberlandparishes.uk\)](http://northumberlandparishes.uk)

5) Public participation

There were fourteen members of the public in attendance including twelve councillor candidates. Guy Pierce of Catton presented a petition from forty residents of Catton that opposed planning application 22/00303/FUL - Land North Of Meadow Gate, Catton on the basis that it contravened Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan. Guy Pierce said that he was dismayed that the community had been unaware of the planning application since notices informing residents of the development had not been put up and that letters had only been sent to two residents. His principal concern was that he could not assess the visual impact since there was no information provided about the heights and levels, and at what level the dwelling would be set. He said that the residents that had signed the petition were concerned that the whole character of the village would be adversely affected by the development since Meadow

Gate crossroads was a key component part of the character of Catton village. He asked Allendale Parish Council to take these points into account when discussing the application.

Cllr Simmonds said that it was important that every concerned resident use Northumberland County Council's planning portal to make their views known. **See also 3) above.**

6) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 3rd February 2022

Cllr Philipson proposed, and Cllr White seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

7) Matters Arising

Affordable housing in Allendale Parish

Cllr Simmonds said that it might be best to set up a working group to research and discuss affordable housing issues that reports to the parish council in the same way as the other sub-committees do.

Cobble setts in the Market Place

Cllr Philipson said that Mike Cook, sub-contractor of Coulson Construction Ltd had re-pointed the cobbles that were loose on account of the cement not being mixed properly the first time and that hopefully, this had resolved the issue.

Damaged stone wall and tree in cemetery

The Clerk to arrange for Gavin Reicher to tend to another damaged tree in the cemetery. Cllr Graham to get two or three quotes to repair the damaged stone wall between the old and new cemetery.

8) County Councillor and Northumberland County Council update

Co Cllr Colin Horncastle sent his apologies to the meeting with a message that once the new Local Plan was in place at the end of the month, he would help Allendale Parish Council through the process of getting an **affordable housing scheme** in place.

9) Correspondence

Linda Charlton, Thornley Leazes

The Clerk to invite Linda Charlton to apply for a small grant when the councillors consider these twice a year at their February and September meetings.

Mike Bartholomew, Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement (GLEAM)

Cllr Simmonds to draft a response to the government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review and present this for consideration by the Council at its meeting on 7th April and in time for the deadline on 9th April 2022.

Rob Murfin, Planning and Local Services, Northumberland County Council

Cllr Philipson raised two concerns about the new Northumberland Local Plan: a) that the green areas around Allendale Primary School did not appear to be protected from future development; and b) that the new Local Plan severely restricts new build in open countryside, and if the area between Allendale and Catton, previously considered for development, was still classed as open countryside, then this would likely cause a problem for potential future development. The Clerk to ask Co Cllr Horncastle to clarify these two points.

10) Finance Committee

Accounts for payment

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

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as of **21 February 2022 - £ 43,538.11**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balances as of **09 February 2022 - £ 16,438.56**

11) Matters for 7th April 2022 agenda

None yet.

12) Confidential agenda item *(for Council only)*

The Council appointed the following candidates in to the seven new vacancies:

Linda Beck

Sam Coulson

Charlie Halliday

Mike Kirk

Dave Stevenson

Ginny Swaile

Oran Villiers-Stuart

13) Date of next Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on **7th April 2022** at 7pm.

[The meeting ended at 21:30](#)