

**Minutes of Allendale Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on**  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7pm at Allendale Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr Simmonds (Chair), Councillors Beck, Coulson, Graham, Howard, Kirk, Philipson, Stevenson, Swaile, Villiers-Stuart, White and Co Cllr Horncastle  
H Newsome (Clerk)

**Annual Meeting of the Council**

**1) Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Halliday and Henderson

**2) Declarations of interest**

Cllr Simmonds updated her declaration; see APC's website for full list:

[Declarations of Interest \(new council 2022\) 0.pdf \(northumberlandparishes.uk\)](#)

**3) Nominations for the Chair**

Cllr Howard proposed to elect Cllr Simmonds as Chair, seconded by Cllr Philipson, and this was unanimously agreed by the Council.

**4) Nominations for the Vice Chair**

Cllr Kirk proposed to elect Cllr Philipson as Vice-Chair, seconded by Cllr Villiers-Stuart, and this was unanimously agreed by the Council.

**5) Signing of Declarations of Acceptance**

Cllrs Simmonds and Philipson signed their declarations of acceptance following their election.

**6) Adoption of Standing Orders**

Cllr Simmonds proposed to adopt the Standing Orders with a small amendment as the Council had agreed to the June 2022 meeting being held on the *second* Thursday of the month. This was seconded by Cllr Swaile and unanimously agreed by the Council.

**7) Adoption of Financial Regulations**

Cllr Philipson proposed to adopt the Financial regulations and seconded by Cllr Kirk, and this was unanimously agreed by the Council.

**8) Appointment to Committees**

**Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Review:** Cllrs Beck, Coulson, Kirk, Philipson, Simmonds (convener), Swaile & Villiers-Stuart

**Allotments** – Cllrs Beck, Coulson (convener) & Villiers-Stuart

**Cemetery** – Cllrs: Graham, Howard (convener), Stevenson & White

**Finance** – Cllrs: Graham, Howard, Kirk, Philipson & Simmonds

**Rights of Way & Access** – Cllrs: Beck, Coulson, and Villiers-Stuart

**Towns & Villages (to include electrical vehicle charging and parking)** – Cllrs: Graham (convener), Henderson, Stevenson, Swaile & White

**Allendale Education Endowment Trust** – Cllr Howard

**Allenheads Trust** – Cllr White

**Arnison Jubilee Almshouses** – Cllr Henderson

**High Forest Committee** – Cllr Howard

## Haydon Bridge & Allendale Medical Practice, Patient Participation Group – Cllr Henderson

Cllr Simmonds reminded everyone to consider ways in which other members of the community could contribute to the Council's committee work.

### Meeting of the new Parish Council

#### 9) Planning Committee – planning applications

##### 22/01307/FUL – Hollybush, Allendale

Cllr Howard proposed **no objections** with Cllr Kirk seconding this, as it was keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development (ANDP) Plan Policy 1: General Development Principles and the Council carried the motion.

##### 22/01303/FUL - Studdon Dene Farm, U8013 Haggburn Gate Junction To Green Hill, Allendale

Cllr Swaile declared an interest and abstained. The Council agreed to postpone making a recommendation and seek further information from the Planning Team as there was a lack of clarity with the documentation (see also **Public Participation** below).

##### 22/00804/FUL - Outbuilding North East Of Holms House, Sinderhope

Cllr Graham proposed **no objections** with Cllr Stevenson seconding this, as it was keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development (ANDP) Plan Policy 1: General Development Principles and the Council carried the motion.

##### 22/01314/LBC - Sinderhope Shield, Sinderhope

Cllr Philipson declared an interest and abstained. Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Swaile seconding this, and the Council unanimously carried the motion.

##### 20/02417/FUL - Land North Of Lonkley Lodge Lonkley Head Allendale

Cllr Kirk agreed to represent Allendale Parish Council and support instating the Section 106 contribution originally agreed to at the Local Area Council Tynedale planning hearing on 10 May 2022.

#### 10) Public participation

There were three members of the public in attendance.

One member of the public with an interest in planning application **22/01303/FUL** (see above) said that there had been a discrepancy on one of the plans relating to planning application **22/01302/FUL** otherwise it would have been presented to the consultees at the same time as planning application 22/01303/FUL. He said that that the Planning Officer and Conservation Officer had specified that the two intrinsically linked applications should be jointly considered at the same time. The Council therefore agreed that it would consider both applications at its 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 meeting.

#### 11) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022

The Council agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be signed as a correct record.

#### 12) Matters Arising

The Council discussed two items under the confidential item.

#### 13) County Councillor and Northumberland County Council update

##### Strategic and regeneration investments in Northumberland

Co Cllr Colin Horncastle gave an update on some of the strategic regeneration and investment work going on in the county council that he was involved with including a) an education consultation in Berwick because of the poor results in that area; b) Blyth, a thriving port that was fast becoming a centre for green energy; c) the re-opening of the railway line linking Ashington and Blyth with Newcastle; d) the new battery cell production factory in Blyth, Britishvolt, that had created thousands of new jobs; e) £48 million

set aside for new affordable housing schemes and the county's support of mixed retail/housing schemes (living accommodation above shops) and similar schemes (empty police houses) to help regenerate town centres including Hexham; and f) looking for a new green crematorium site in Hexham.

#### **Supporting refugees**

Co Cllr Horncastle said that the county was heavily involved in supporting refugees from Syria, Afghanistan as well as Ukraine, and finding the most suitable housing according to their needs. He said that the county council had settled the Afghan refugees together in the southeast of the county where they were close to mosques. Co Cllr Horncastle would pass on NCC contact details to Cllr Beck so that she could follow up on potentially using the empty police homes for Ukrainian refugees.

Co Cllr Horncastle said that the county's fire and rescue service had sent three vehicles (fire appliance, small ambulance, and an emergency vehicle) to Poland to support the Ukrainians, and that it had previously sent an ex-Allendale fire appliance to Ukraine.

#### **Re-surfacing of Allenheads to Carrshield road**

Co Cllr Horncastle announced that Highways would be resurfacing the road from Allenheads to Carrshield this year.

#### **Speed bumps**

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he had given instructions for Highways not to put the rumble strips back down and had to intervene when it had reinstated the first set of strips close to Allendale Primary School to prevent the team from putting back the Denelands ones. The Council discussed what further it could do to improve road safety and agreed to Co Cllr Horncastle's proposal that he meets both the capital and installation costs of interactive speed signs (like those in Catton) provided that the parish council pays for an annual maintenance contract (as it does for Catton). Cllr Beck proposed the installation of a safety barrier on the school side of the road opposite the entrance to the Recreation Park to prevent children from running down from the school on to the road at that point. Co Cllr Horncastle said that he was already talking to the Head Teacher Alison Hawkins about this.

#### **Catton parking**

Co Cllr Horncastle said that the Highways Department would shortly be visiting Catton to see how better to manage the parking on the highway through Catton.

#### **Community governance review**

Co Cllr Horncastle confirmed that Democratic Services had acted on the parish's request for a community governance review with a view to reducing its number of parish councillors from thirteen to nine. He said that there would be a consultation (13<sup>th</sup> May to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022) and the Council would invite local people to comment. If approved, the request would come into effect at the next parish council election in 2026.

#### **14) Publication scheme of parish council policies**

Cllr Swaile proposed to adopt the publication scheme of parish council policies put together by Cllr Kirk with Cllr Beck seconding this, and the Council unanimously carried the motion.

#### **15) Allotments tenancy agreement**

Cllr Coulson proposed to adopt the new tenancy agreement and increase the annual rent when the Council installed a water standpipe. Cllr Graham seconded this, and the motion was agreed unanimously by the Council.

#### **16) Cemetery Committee**

Cllr Howard said that he and the gravedigger would shortly agree what materials they would buy to improve grave shoring. He also reminded the Council that it had previously agreed to provide a shed with a secure lock to store all the gravedigger's equipment in one place.

#### **17) Rights of Way & Access Committee**

**Riverside footpath (Blackett Level & path at sewage works)**

Area Countryside Officer Duncan Lovatt had confirmed that he would review the riverside path situation at Blakett Level and at the sewage works towards Catton when he returned from leave on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

### **18) Towns & Villages Committee**

Cllr Graham said that Valeria Dunn would provide a list of plants for him to get from Down to Earth for the planters in Allendale Village. The Council also agreed for Cllr Graham to a) source two recycled plastic planters and one recycled plastic bench for Allendale Village; and b) find a suitable replacement bench for the damaged one in Allenheads.

### **19) Correspondence**

**George and Susan Armstrong** – The Council agreed that Highways should remove the speed bumps as soon as the proposed new interactive speed signs were installed alongside Allendale Primary School (see also 13 above).

**Christine Sherwood** – The Council agreed to install a new waste bin around the Portgate Road end of Shilburn Road. Cllr Graham to meet with Christine Sherwood and agree on a suitable design and site for the bin. The Clerk would need to get NCC's agreement to empty it.

**Anna Stonehouse** – The Council agreed for the Towns and Villages Committee to convene a meeting of stakeholders to work out how to improve the parking arrangements in the village square including the area outside Natural Beauty.

### **20) Finance Committee**

#### **Accounts for payment**

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

The Council agreed to cancel the monthly Zoom subscription.

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as of **27 April 2022 - £ 62,516.24**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balances as of **11 April 2022 - £ 16,438.84**

### **21) Matters for 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 agenda**

May Fair

### **22) Confidential agenda item (for Council only)**

There were two.

### **23) Date of next Parish Council**

The Annual Parish meeting and next Parish Council meeting would take place on **9<sup>th</sup> June 2022** at 7pm.

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