



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

www.whittingham-callaly-alnham-pc.gov.uk

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | whittinghampc29@gmail.com | 07455 004164

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of WCA Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th September 2026, at the Whittingham Memorial Institute Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Andrew Whincup (Chair), Karen Armstrong, David Bateson, Neil Blackshaw, Jamie Bolton, Paul Bradley, Jonathan Clark, Elidh Gardiner (following her co-option at minute 46/26), Stuart Grey, Toni Marsden, James Renner, Brian Wood.

Clerk: Sarah Trushell

Members of the public: 6

44/26 Apologies for absence

All Councillors attended, so no apologies were received.

45/26 Declaration of interests.

Cllr Andrew Whincup declared an interest in item 51/26(b), Donation Plans.

46/26 Co-option to the Vacant Whittingham Seat

The Council considered the application received for the vacant Whittingham Parish Councillor seat.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to co-opt Elidh Gardiner to the Council. Cllr Gardiner joined the Council at the table following her co-option.

47/26 Public Participation

A member of the public asked a procedural question regarding public participation during meetings.

48/26 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on **21 July 2026** were approved as a true and accurate record by those members who had been present.

49/26 Matters Arising

None not otherwise covered on the agenda.

50/26 Parish Council Administration Matters

a) Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Group update was noted.

Cllr Bradley would attend the NALC funding meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Gardiner would join the Steering Group.

b) Governance Documents

It was RESOLVED to adopt the IT Policy.

c) Parish Council Meeting Summaries

It was agreed to continue publishing informal meeting summaries. Cllr Bradley would prepare the summary of this meeting.

Signed as a true record of the meeting _____ on Date _____

51/26 Community Matters

a) Parish Projects

i) Cast Iron Road Signs: Options for restoring the cast-iron road signs were discussed. The Clerk would make further enquiries to establish who had restored the Glanton signs.

ii) Telephone Box: Further options, including volunteers or an alternative contractor, would be explored.

iii) Bus Shelter

The Northumberland County Council update was noted. Cllr Armstrong would continue to pursue the matter.

b) Donation Plans

It was noted that the footpath plans had been submitted to Northumberland County Council and a response was awaited.

c) Grass Cutting

The Clerk would request details from Northumberland County Council of the areas, schedule and current arrangements for grass cutting.

Cllr Armstrong would pursue the vegetation and railings issues beside the riverside path.

d) Bridge Island (Whittingham Grass Triangle) Planting

The amended planting plan would be submitted to Northumberland County Council for approval before any work or publicity proceeded.

e) Road Safety

The Council noted that Northumberland County Council was developing proposals to improve the Bridge of Aln junction and would consult the Parish Council.

It was agreed to request a speed survey at 3 points in Whittingham.

f) Whittingham Green Tree

Only 1 quotation had been received at the time of the meeting. A decision was deferred until the next meeting to allow further quotations to be sought.

52/26 Planning Matters:

Cllr Bateson advised that he was a former owner of the property but no longer had any ownership interest in it.

a) 26/03040/FUL It was RESOLVED to support the application without additional comment.

b) 26/03041/LBC It was RESOLVED to support the application.

53/26 Financial Matters:

a) Transaction Report

The Transaction Report was received and noted.

b) Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation to 15 September 2026 was received, accepted and verified by Cllr Bateson.



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c) Payments for Authorisation

The Clerk's wages and Working from Home Allowance (£26) were noted as contractually approved and paid in accordance with the Clerk's contract of employment.

The payments listed on the circulated schedule were approved.

54/26 Items for Information or Future Agenda

The following items were identified for future consideration:

Burial ground extension.

Bulb planting on the village green.

Christmas lighting arrangements.

Dog waste bin.

Road safety.

Dangerous tree quotation.

55/26 Date of next meeting

20th October 2026, 7pm, Whittingham Memorial Hall

Signed as a true record of the meeting _____ on Date _____