

Minutes of Allendale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Thursday 6th October 2022 at 7.30pm at Allendale Village Hall

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

1) Apologies for absence

Cllrs Henderson, Halliday, Simmonds (Chair), Stevenson and Swaile

The Council agreed to give Cllr Henderson leave of absence from attending meetings and continue as Councillor until February 2023 when the Council would review this.

2) Declarations of interest

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

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

3) Planning Committee – planning applications

22/03245/FUL - Roberta Cottage Access Road To Resting Hill Allenheads

Cllr Kirk proposed **no objections** to the application with Cllr White seconding this, as it was in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development (ANDP) Plan Policy 10: Extension to Dwellings, and the Council unanimously carried the motion.

22/03420/FELTPO - 1 Denelands Allendale

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

22/03323/FUL - Black Cleugh Allendale

Cllr Howard proposed **no objections** the application, with Cllr Beck seconding this, and the Council unanimously carried the motion.

4) Public participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 1st September 2022

Cllr Graham agreed, and Cllr White seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2022 are signed by the Acting Chair as a correct record.

6) Matters Arising

Community resilience

Cllr Kirk had attended a community meeting at Hexham Mart on 26th September with Cllrs Simmonds and Philipson and the Clerk, which was jointly hosted by Guy Opperman MP and Paul Glendinning, Northern Powergrid's Policy, and Markets Director. Cllr Kirk said that the most essential point was that however Northern Powergrid (NP) improved its ability to respond to rural communities following on from an event such as Storm Arwen and the Beast from the East, that communities should make themselves more resilient and access the grants of between £1,000 to £20,000 made available to organisations through the Northern Powergrid Foundation. He said the main points to come out of the meeting were:

- a) The focus of the funding was on supporting energy resilience during emergency events, and that it has been made available by NP with a simple application and fast approval process
- b) Community Groups could make their own applications and being a registered charity speeded up the process

- c) NP would support buildings wishing to become more resilient with the infrastructure suitable to support generators so that people would have somewhere to go and keep warm and charge phones etc
- d) The funding could not be provided to pay for salaries but could include other items including electrical wiring charges, solar panels, improved cooking facilities and bottled gas.

The Council agreed that it made sense to get on board with the funding and improve the resilience of the four main community buildings in the parish, that is, Allendale Village Hall, Catton Village Hall, Sinderhope Community Centre, and Allenheads Heritage Centre. The Clerk agreed to contact Gillian Bulman and Catherine Stirling-Hill to ask if they were interested in providing a hub and access the funding. Cllr Philipson was already in touch with Allenheads and Sinderhope Community Centre.

Environmental sustainability policy

The Council agreed that there had been insufficient time to consider the new draft environmental and sustainability policy and that the Clerk should add it to November's agenda.

Grass cutting contract

Cllrs Graham and Howard proposed, after inspection, to buy for £200, the well-constructed trailer built by Paul Atkinson, to transport the Iseki mower around the parish, and the Council unanimously agreed. Paul had confirmed that he would be stepping down for good from assisting Melvin Robinson with the grass cutting now that the season had ended. The Council recognised the fantastic job that both Melvin and Paul had done to date.

7) Allotments Committee

Cllr Coulson said that the Allotments Committee had identified a long list of potential sites to create more allotments. The Council welcomed the news and the work that the Committee had done to date and confirmed that if it identified a suitable site or sites after making further enquiries, then it could raise a capital loan at a relatively low interest rate (as for the Cemetery). The Council acknowledged the process that it would need to go through to get approval. Cllr Coulson agreed to talk to John Short with a view to defining the extent of the allotments in relation to the adjacent property and prior to re-drawing the allotment boundaries.

8) Cemetery Committee

The Council agreed to Cllrs Howard and Graham's proposal to install a storage shed in the Cemetery and Cllr Graham agreed to get two or three prices for the Council to consider.

9) Rights of Way & Access Committee

The Council agreed for the Rights of Way Committee to make direct contact with Duncan Lovatt, Area Countryside Officer at NCC, and ask him what it could do to help him, and his team maintain the parish footpaths, possibly through mobilising local volunteers, given his limited time and resources.

10) Towns & Villages Committee

Allendale village green blocked drain

Cllr Howard said that a Northumbrian Water engineer called out to investigate a blocked drain close to Emma's Coffee and Sweet Shop had been unable to establish ownership and that the problem remained. The Clerk agreed to follow up on the enquiry.

Allendale village planters

The Council agreed for Cllr Graham to continue getting the bulbs from Down to Earth on behalf of the Council and for Allendale Primary School schoolchildren to continue to plant the flower tubs up.

RoSPA play safety inspection reports

The Council agreed for Cllr Graham to a) grass seed the area under the swing at Allenfields, and b) get a quote to repair the steps up to the play frame at Denefields.

Village tidying works

The Council agreed for Cllr Graham to ask Hilton Graham to keep tidy the shrubs along Arnison Terrace, and for Melvin Robinson to trim the vegetation around the steps that lead up from the Peth at the back of the Forge.

11) Correspondence

Damaged pavement outside Post Office cash point machine and loose flagstones outside Bunkhouse

The Council agreed for Cllr Beck to ask a local contractor if he was free to conduct the work.

Peter Aldcroft President, Allendale Lions Club

See Accounts for payment below.

Local resident via Cllr Ginny Swaile

The Council advised that the local resident enquiring about funds available for talented sports individuals should contact Sport Tynedale, an organisation that Allendale Parish Council regularly made donations to and that supported talented individuals to develop their skills further at county level or higher <https://www.sport-tynedale.co.uk/apply-for-grants/> as well as the Allendale Endowment Trust (current closing date is the 28th October 2022).

12) Finance Committee

Accounts for payment

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

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as of **23 September 2022 - £ 67,838.54**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balances as of **9 September 2022 - £ 16,440.50**

Grant applications

Cllr Philipson proposed, and Cllr Beck seconded, to grant **£1,000** to the **Allendale Lions Club** towards the costs of **Christmas activities** in the parish, including Santa's Sleigh, Christmas Tree and lights, and Carols in the Square, and the Council unanimously agreed.

13) Matters for 3rd November 2022 agenda

Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Review

Environmental sustainability policy

14) Confidential agenda item (for Council only)

There was one.

15) Date of next Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on **3rd November 2022** at 7pm.

[The meeting ended at 21:55](#)