

**Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of Allendale Parish Council  
(including minutes of the Planning Sub-Committee)  
held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllr Crellin (Chair), Councillors Dunn, Galley, Hill, Howard, Lee, Philipson, Quinn, Sandison, Simmonds and White  
H Newsome (Clerk)

**1) Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Henderson and Co Cllr Horncastle

Cllr Baxter announced her resignation shortly before the meeting.

**2) Planning Sub-Committee**

**Planning applications**

**20/02540/FUL – Thorney Knowe, Allendale**

Cllr Dunn proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Crellin seconding it and this was carried by the Council, with the exception of Cllr White who had declared an interest and abstained from the discussion and vote.

**20/03348/FUL – Dene Croft, The Dene, Allendale**

Cllr Crellin proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Galley seconding this with the proviso that the new building in relation to the existing dwelling does not exceed the guidance as set out in Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Policy 9: Extensions to Dwellings. This was unanimously carried by the Council with the exception of Cllr Dunn who abstained.

**20/03290/TREECA – Tree in Conservation Area**

Cllr Howard proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Crellin seconding this provided that replacement trees suitable for the location are planted to take the place of those removed. This was unanimously carried by the Council with the exception of Cllr Simmonds who declared an interest.

**20/03292/TREECA – Tree in Conservation Area**

Cllr Galley proposed **to support** the application with Cllr Simmonds seconding it and this was unanimously carried by the Council.

**Pre-application enquiry for re-build at Bank Side, Catton, Allendale**

The applicant attended the meeting to answer any questions that the Parish Council might have about his proposal to re-build and salvage a derelict dwelling that was unsafe for both people and grazing cattle. The Council discussed the pre-app and unanimously agreed that the proposal *was* in keeping with Allendale Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies 1, 7, 8 and 9 and it would support a full application.

The Council advised the applicant to make contact with Simon Wilson of North Pennines AONB for advice on AONB Planning Guidelines and Building Design Guide prior to submitting his planning application.

**3) Declarations of Interest**

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

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/allendale/documents>

**4) Public participation**

There were two members of the general public in attendance.

**5) Minutes of the previous meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

Cllr Quinn proposed, and Cllr Galley seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

## **6) Matters Arising**

### **Allen View, Catton parking**

See Co Cllr update at 7)

### **Allenfields Play Area**

Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Howard for agreeing to assemble and store the two picnic tables until they were installed in the play area, most likely next spring.

### **Benches**

The Council discussed the need to adopt a procedure for maintaining both its own benches as well as those gifted to the parish following on from Cllr Dunn's audit that had identified quite a few benches in Allendale needing repair. The Council agreed: a) to rationalise the location of all benches in the parish and put in place suitable arrangements for maintaining them; and b) for Cllr Dunn and the Clerk to draft a benches policy to discuss at its December meeting.

### **Blackett Level Tunnel**

Cllr Sandison said that Allendale Estates had now removed the plastic (sand) bags that had become dislodged at Blackett Level Tunnel and replaced these with standard hessian sandbags.

### **Bowling Green**

The Clerk said that the Bowling Club had not been able to play bowls at all this season and that it wouldn't know who would be playing again until it had its AGM next spring. The Clerk was asked to add this topic to the agenda for its Parish Council meeting in March 2021.

### **Joyce Jewitt request for her uncle's name to be added to the Lychgate War Memorial**

Cllr Simmonds said that she was trying to progress her research in relation to this request and had written to the Northumberland Archives as its catalogue, normally available on-line was down. However, she said that she had made some progress using the National Archive and identified the most likely document sets that would be the most useful in finding out the original criteria used to decide who was commemorated on the different war memorials in the parish, and in particular the Lychgate War Memorial. Cllr Simmonds had written to Northumberland Archives with a list of the documents she would like to see when the Archives are again open to the public, and she would continue her search with other archives, including notes from parochial church meetings and newspaper articles from the Hexham Courant. However, she said that it would not be possible to make any progress with the research until the lockdown had eased.

### **Local Transport Plan – priorities for 2021/2022**

The Clerk was asked to request from Highways the criteria that it used for changing the speed restrictions on the road when she gets the feedback on the 2021/22 priorities submitted last month.

### **Northern Powergrid – installation of new underground electricity cables**

The Clerk confirmed that the action to write to Northern Powergrid to request that it increases the power supply to Allendale Village to allow for the on-street charging of electric vehicles, was still outstanding.

### **Waste bins and flower tubs**

Cllrs Crellin, Lee and Sandison had met in Catton on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and agreed to: a) provide a shelter and bench, in addition to the bus timetable information (and post mounted waste bin) that Northumberland County Council had already agreed to provide, on the site of the old telephone kiosk; and b) move the larger ground mounted waste bin to Catton Village Hall.

The Clerk to ask Malcolm Aitchison to remove the brackets from the posts on the Bullring and outside the primary school where the damaged bins have gone missing. The Clerk to thank John Colley of the Tar Barl Committee for the donation of a flower tub barrel to replace the damaged one on the Bull Ring.

## **7) County Councillor update (received prior to the meeting)**

### **Allen View parking**

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he remained concerned about the parking at Allen View where there was no wall/fence as a parked vehicle could be seen to be obstructing the pavement there. He said he was aware that a Planning Enforcement Officer had confirmed that it fell within the conditions and limitations of the

Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 but the planning officer might not be aware of the vehicle causing an obstruction.

#### **Catton driving and parking conditions**

Co Cllr Horncastle said that he would be meeting on site with Neil Snowdon's line manager on either the 6<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> November specifically to look at priority parking problems he had raised at the previous meeting:

**a)** managing the parking on the highway through Catton, reducing the speed limit to 20 mph and providing a new mirror at Batey Terrace. The Council agreed that permitting parking on both sides of the road was problematic and that parking on the pavement meant that pedestrians had to step on to the highway to get past. Cllr Philipson suggested that if the white line was moved further to the village green side of the road there would be more room for cars to get past.

**b)** taking advice on what could be done about parking around Catton Methodist Church that was preventing farm vehicles from getting up and down the lane.

**c)** taking advice on what could be done about the parking around Catton triangle that was reducing the visibility at the junction and obscuring the road signs.

#### **8) Coronavirus matters**

There was no new information to report this month.

#### **9) Towns & Villages Sub-Committee**

##### **Salt bin for Village Hall & Recreation Ground**

The Clerk to enquire about buying a new green salt bin for Allendale Village Hall & Recreation Ground.

##### **Honey fungus diseased tree on Bullring**

The Council discussed the mature tree that has been found to have honey fungus and as there was a real risk of the tree splitting, it asked the Clerk to request that Matty Robson remove the tree as quickly as possible on the grounds of it being a public safety concern. Matty should also ensure any requirements relating to Tree Preservation Orders and trees in a conservation area are addressed. The Council would then take advice on a suitable tree to plant in its place.

#### **10) Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan**

Cllr Dunn had presented the plans to the Council prior to the meeting. Cllr Crellin thanked Cllrs Galley, Philipson and the Clerk for all their work in getting the proposals off the ground. The Council briefly discussed ways to involve the community and special interest groups in the parish. The Council agreed to Cllr Crellin's suggestion to fix a date for the group to meet again; and, to set about putting some structure around the proposals and work out the priorities. The Council would refer to the other sources of information including the *Report on the Allendale Parish Plan 2006 Survey* that was used to inform the parish council on what people thought were the priorities for the future. In the meantime, the Council agreed to prioritise urgent repair work to the paving area outside the Post Office and resurfacing the tarmac area adjacent to The Forge. The Clerk to request estimates for the work.

#### **11) Climate Action Allendale**

There was no new information to report this month.

#### **12) Correspondence**

##### **Dr Richard M Clarke, University of Southampton Covid-19 preventative behaviour and symptoms study**

The Clerk to post details of the study on Facebook.

##### **Paul Barber, Allendale resident**

The Clerk to thank Mr Barber for his kind offer of help, to assist the parish council in making decisions around Electrical Vehicle charging strategy for the Village.

## **Neil Snowdon, Highways, Northumberland County Council**

The Clerk to accept Neil Snowdon's offer to discuss the proposed signage improvements at B6295/B6303 junction in Allendale by way of a virtual meeting, and arrange for the Towns & Villages Committee to meet with him.

### **13) Accounts for payment**

Cllr Galley proposed the accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr Howard.

Treasurer's Account: bank balance as at **16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - £ 58, 626.82**

Business 30-Day Notice Account: bank balance as at **9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - £ 5,235.38**

### **14) Matters for 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 agenda**

**Benches**

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

There was one.

### **16) Date of next Parish Council Zoom teleconference**

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on **3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020** at 7pm. The meeting ended at 20:53