

Minutes of the Meeting of Allendale Parish Council held in Allendale Village Hall on Thursday 4th January 2018

Present: Councillors Crellin (Vice Chair), Baxter, Dunn, Galley, Lee, Quinn, Sandison & Simmonds
Newsome (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence

County Councillor Horncastle

Cllrs: Henderson, Howard, Philipson (Chair) & Walter

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Baxter declared an interest in the Allendale Agricultural Society

Cllr Crellin declared an interest in the Dale Singers, Allendale Folk Festival & Allen Valleys Promotions Ltd

Cllr Dunn declared an interest in Allendale Primary School, Allendale Sports Club & Allendale Golf Club

Cllr Henderson declared an interest in the Allendale Agricultural Society, Allendale Horticulture Society and Allendale Baby & Toddler Group

Cllr Lee declared an interest in Allendale Primary School, Arnison Jubilee Almshouses & Health Walks

Cllr Philipson declared an interest in High Forest Community Association, Allenheads Trust & Natural Ability

Cllr Quinn declared an interest in Natural Ability

Cllr Sandison declared an interest in Allendale Film Club

Cllr Simmonds declared an interest in St Cuthbert's Church, North Pennines AONB Partnership Board & Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership Board

3) Public Participation

There were two members of the public in attendance.

4) Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th December 2017

The Vice Chair proposed and Cllr Dunn seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December be agreed and signed as a correct record.

5) Matters Arising

Haydon Bridge High School

The Council discussed its role in Northumberland County Council's forthcoming consultation looking at education in the west of Northumberland in light of Maggie Keyte's further correspondence on this topic, that she also presented in person at the meeting. Mrs Keyte requested that the Parish Council consider responding to phase two of the consultation even though it has no brief for education. She urged the Parish Council to use its voice and that of the

wider community to have their say. After a full discussion about how best to respond the following actions were agreed:

- a) Clerk to request details from Northumberland County Council on the consultation process and whether Allendale Parish Council is to be formally consulted on the proposals, and if so what the format of the consultation will take. To date no formal information has been received.
- b) Allendale Parish Councillors to get the message out to their Parish that the consultation is happening and encourage people to get involved.
- c) Cllr Galley to put information about the consultation in Hexham Courant's Allen Valleys Village Notes.
- d) Clerk to work with Cllrs Baxter and Henderson to get the information out on social media.
- e) Parish Council to review its role in the consultation at the next meeting on 1 February.

Public footpath No 141 between The Peth and Mill Cottages

County Footpaths Officer, Duncan Lovett acknowledged the poor state of repair in places and agreed to review the footpath to determine what could be done. Parish Council to discuss the condition of local footpaths at the next meeting on 1 February.

Parish Council noticeboards

The Clerk confirmed that the posting of the agenda and minutes has been reinstated in Allendale (including the Library), Allenheads and Catton.

Street lighting modernisation project

The dates for these works to be undertaken will take place between the period Feb – April 2018.

Road signage

Northumberland County Council's Highway Inspector, Stephen Lowes, has inspected the signage around the village and agrees that some of the signs are in a poor state and warrant replacing, and others that need cleaning. He will report his findings and make some recommendations.

Maintenance of footpaths

Neil McLaughlin is available to meet representatives of the Parish Council to discuss the services that he can provide during w/b 8 – 12 January. Clerk to firm up the appointment.

Pothole scheme

Cllr Dunn to use Northumberland County Council's website to report local potholes using the *Report a Pothole* site.

Northumberland Parishes website

The Council agreed to use the Northumberland Parishes website for the purposes of publishing Council documents including the minutes of meetings. The charge is £80/year that covers hosting, maintenance and ongoing support. Cllrs Baxter and Henderson to help manage the use of social media to help the Council get its messages across.

6) County Councillor update

County Cllr Horncastle was not in attendance.

7) Precept 2018/2019

The Finance sub-committee had met and produced a budget for the financial year 2018/2019. They recommended that the precept is set at £38,000. Cllr Galley proposed that the recommendation be accepted and Cllr Sandison seconded this.

8) Allendale Market Square

Abandoned car in village

Clerk to report an abandoned car that has been left by the Village Green.

9) Correspondence

Stephen Rickitt, Chief Officer, Northumberland County Council (NALC)

- Information on new EU regulations that will require all Public Authorities to appoint a 'data protection officer' that is likely to affect all Local Councils
- Information on Local Council of the Year award scheme
- Information on the next phase of the process of implementing plans for devolution for North of the Tyne which will be a formal consultation
- Information on application process for attending a Royal Garden Party
- News about the deferment on introducing referendums for Parish, Town and Community Councils

Susan Rodgers, Local Access Forum

Request for information on Allendale Parish Council's response to an order for a right of way at Gaterley Road in Catton (502/158). Clerk to respond.

Garden Allotment at Allenfields

Chair and Clerk to contact garden allotment applicant who would like to be put on the waiting list for an allotment.

Catton Women's Institute

The Council agreed to a request for their permission to move the two planters at the north entrance of Catton village to a more suitable place.

10) Accounts for Payment

R Ford	£55
Allendale Village Hall & Recreation Ground	£50
SH Newsome (by DD)	£400

Bank balances as at **27th December 2017**

Treasurer's Account - **£50,230.69**

Business 30 Day Notice Account - **£5,228.36**

11) Matters for next month's agenda

S137 Payments (funding requests)

Haydon Bridge High School consultation

Footpaths

The meeting ended at 8.35pm