

Meeting of West Allen Parish Council

Wednesday 18 March 2026 at 19:00- Ninebanks Church & Community Hall

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence

2 Public Questions

3 Minutes of meeting held on 17 December 2025 to be approved.

4 Matters arising from previous meeting:

- Gov.UK emails set up for clerk and chair at £5.99 pm. Website being transferred over by Hugo Fox. Cost is £11.99. We will receive some back from NALC
- Colin Horncastle to speak to Chris Curtis about bus service.
- GD was to talk to Fairplay about satellite phone
- Meeting with Heidi Mottram, CEO of Northumbrian Water to be set up by Joe Morris MP
- Batteries for mobile mast being chased by Sylvia Pringle from iNorthumberland as did not work in last power cut.
- All money in Barclays bank account now and VAT refund received.
- Precept set at £1,850 to take account of additional costs.

5 Improve the quality of life and the environment in the local area

- Flooding hotspots identified
- Letter written to BT about green box not working that affects the Post Office van.

6 Working to bring improvements (through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with other parishes and agencies)

- **WAPC Resilience Group**
 - The Emergency Plan has been registered with the Civil Contingencies team at NCC.
 - Scenario to be agreed for Starlink trial (run by NCC)

7 Influencing and shaping the long-term development policy for the Parish, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications in the parish

- **Planning:** Applications can be viewed at:
<http://publicaccess.northumberland.gov.uk/online-applications>

Applicant:	Address:	Details:	Application no:
Fiona Hope	Furnace House, Mohope	Single storey extension, internal alterations, gates, oil tank and stove.	25/03504/FUL/LBC APPROVED
Mr & Mrs G Hodgson	The Old Vicarage, Ninebanks	Conversion and extension to former tractor shed to self-contained accommodation	25/03957/FUL APPROVED
Tuffrey	Throssel Hole – Land north west of Myrtle Bank	Demolition of existing Kanzeon Retreat building and erection of new Kanzeon Retreat building	25/04409/FUL APPROVED

Mr Ian Pentney	Heron Well, Carrshield	Linked extension to annex and replacement windows	25/04513/FUL APPROVED
Mr Simon Williams	Bench Mark, Allendale	Conversion of garage to ensuite bedroom & office space	25/04597/FUL

8 Deciding how much to raise through local tax in order to deliver services

- **Financial and Administrative Matters**

- Bank balance of £2,825.63
- Amounts paid – HugoFox £11.99 and £5.99 for website and email monthly
- Website build cost £199 plus VAT
- Precept for 2026/27 set at £1,850

9 Correspondence:

- Request from Jean Baird to put in a bench in memory of her husband. Clerk to contact NCC.

10 Update from Cllr Colin Horncastle

11 Any other Business

- Community Resilience Forum – Allendale 14 May 12-4pm
- Review
- Communications – website being transferred to gov.uk and updated.
- Allendale Almshouses (AA) representative – GD attended meeting. AA will provide description of role for getting new member from West Allen.
- PC Exemption (for info) https://www.nalc.gov.uk/resource/nalc-secures-referendum-exemption-for-parish-and-town-councils.html?utm_campaign=Chief%2Bexecutive%2527s%2Bbulletin%2B-%2B12%2BFebruary%2B2026&utm_medium=email
- PC noticeboard key

12 Date and times of next meetings – tbc Wednesday 27 May at 5pm at Ninebanks Church and Community Hall