



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of WCA Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th June 2026, at the Whittingham Memorial Institute Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Andrew Whincup (Chair) Karen Armstrong, David Bateson, Neil Blackshaw, Paul Bradley, Jonathan Clark, Elidh Gardiner, Brian Wood

Clerk: Sarah Trushell

Members of the public: 7

24/26 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Bolton, Gray and Marsden

25/26 Declaration of interests.

Cllr Whincup declared an interest in item 30/26(b).

26/26 Public Participation

Residents raised concerns regarding visibility and safety at Bridge Island/the triangle due to the height of the grass.

27/26 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2026 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

28/26 Matters Arising

Road safety concerns, including the Bridge Island steel posts, are to be included on the agenda for the July meeting.

29/26 Parish Council Administration Matters

a) Neighbourhood Plan

The Council received an update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. It was resolved that a budget of up to £400 plus VAT be approved for printing and distributing the Neighbourhood Plan vision and objectives document to households in the parish, subject to the draft first being circulated to the Parish Council before printing.

It was noted that Cllr Bateson would step down from the Steering Group and a replacement parish councillor representative would be sought.

b) Council Communications

It was agreed that councillor meeting summaries would be published on the Council website on a rotating basis between councillors, beginning with Cllr Whincup.

c) Website Update

The Clerk reported that the website was now live and councillors were invited to provide

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

feedback.

30/26 Community Matters

a) Parish Projects

- i) Cast Iron Road Signs: The Council received an update regarding cast iron road signs.
- ii) Telephone Box: Cllr Blackshaw reported that enquiries had been made regarding the works to the telephone box and a quotation was awaited.
- iii) Bus Shelter: Further enquiries would be made regarding ownership of the land associated with the bus shelter and whether any action was required by the Parish Council.

b) Donation Plans

The Chair declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Armstrong took the Chair. It was resolved that the project continue to be explored, including further discussions with the estate regarding revised terms, and that further information be obtained on insurance, legal arrangements and costings.

Cllr Whincup returned to the meeting and took the Chair.

c) Grass Cutting in the Parish

An update was received on NCC mowing arrangements. The Clerk will circulate NCC's response on available options and safety requirements once received.

31/26 Financial Matters:

a) Transaction Report

The Transaction Report was received.

b) Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation to 16 June 2026 was received and accepted.

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.

d) AGAR 2025/26

It was noted that the AGAR was awaiting internal audit.

32/26 Items for Information or Future Agenda

It was agreed that the following items be included on a future agenda:

Road safety, speeding, traffic and pedestrian safety in the village

Bridge Island / the triangle

Review of any outstanding documents

33/26 Date of next and future meetings (to start at 7pm unless stated otherwise)

21st July 2026