

## Meeting of West Allen Parish Council

Thursday 3 March 2022 at 19:00, at Middle, Ninebanks, Hexham, NE47 8DL – Minutes

Present: Steve Agar, Alan Greaves, Helen Adams, John Martin, Colin Horncastle

as observers David Adams, Rolland Hull and Lee Sutterby

- Welcome: Steve welcomed everyone and thanked John Martin as this is his last meeting. John is standing down as a Parish Councillor having served for over 30 years. We formerly record our thanks to John for his many years of service.
- Steve gave a background to the Parish Council to the prospective new Councillors.
- Minutes were approved from the last meeting and matters arising from previous meeting are covered in the items below.

**Correspondence:** Power cuts – David Manson is working on a questionnaire for the residents of the Parish which will aim to establish people’s requirements and needs in power cuts. Steve estimates a mailshot to distribute a questionnaire would cost around £100. NCC are also trying to establish procedures and they are liaising with Northern Powergrid and aim to come up with a local resilience scheme to make sure people know who to contact. Parish Councils can choose how to use this. Roland asked if NCC is involving the media so that in an emergency communication can be made and Steve pointed out that School closures are communicated on Radio Newcastle.

**Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review** – an opportunity to stop ‘off-roading’ in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) – they have prepared a questionnaire. Parish Council can respond. It was agreed that off roaders are wrecking the tracks and which they often use at unsociable hours. It was agreed to complete the online question registering the Parish Council’s objections to off roading.

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

Applicant:	Address:	Details:	Application no:
Mr & Mrs Wilson	Spartywell, Ninebanks	Retrospective – siting of caravan, Change of use from agricultural to temporary short term residential use for family, friends and farm help.	22/00320/FUL <b>pending</b>

Spartywell is rented to Mr & Mrs Wilson. It was described as a small mobile home which is not true. It is a large static caravan. It is an eyesore in an area of outstanding natural beauty and quite out of keeping. Alan agreed to respond on behalf of the West Allen Council and register our objections.

Mr W Young	1 Farneyside Cottages, Ninebanks	Retrospective Change of Use of land to residential garden land and construction of garden building	21/03504/FUL <b>pending</b>
Mr Jesse Doyle	Temperance Farm	Change to windows –amended plan	<b>pending</b>
Mr Terrence Page	2 New Houses	Variation on approved application –	<b>pending</b>
Mr Stuart Hankinson	Raby Cottage	Proposed two storey gable extension -	<b>granted</b>

- **Any other Business** –  
**Procedure for appointing Parish Councillors:** The Parish Council formally

declared vacancies for 3 Councillors due to the resignations of Ian Reed, Alan Greaves and John Martin. A notice to this effect will be posted on the parish noticeboard and has been sent to the elections team at County Hall. If there are ten applications, they will run an election. If not, the Parish Council will make a formal resolution to co-opt David Adams, Rolland Hull and Lee Sutterby as parish councillors at the meeting on 2 June 2022. Newly co-opted Councillors will be requested to sign a declaration of acceptance at that meeting.

**Internet banking:** Steve Agar and Helen Adams will now manage the West Allen Parish council bank accounts. All payments and receipts are now done online.

**Payment of Clerk:** it is proposed to pay pro rata until a new Clerk is appointed. A payment of £62.50 per meeting was agreed.

**Jubilee Celebrations** –celebrations will be held in Ninebanks Village Hall. A Jubilee street party will be held on Friday 3 June followed by barbecue and ceilidh. Children will receive a souvenir. The organising committee propose to arrange fundraising events. Steve agreed to email [nigel.walsh@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.walsh@northumberland.gov.uk) requesting information on how to apply for funding from NCC. The West Allen Parish Council agreed to £100 towards the celebrations. (Steve to organise)

**Requests for Slow signs at Mohope** – it was agreed to ask Andrew Olive to arrange for the slow signs in Mohope to be redone.

Colin Horncastle reported that the County Council are organising drop off points for people wanting to donate items to Ukraine.

6. **Date and time of next meetings** – Thursday 9 June 2022 at 7.00, Ninebanks Church Hall