

**MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 6.00pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall**

Present: Chair- G Martindale, Vice-Chair J Hall
Parish Councillors: A Nation, C Williamson & A Baker
County Councillor G Renner-Thompson
Clerk: I Hunter
6 Members of the public

Public Question Time: None

Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillor J Darcy.

Declaration of Interest: The Vice-Chair declared a personal interest in the request for a donation from Citizens Advice due to previous connections to the organisation.

Request for Dispensation- None

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 24th January 2024- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on 24th January 2024 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair signed the hard copy.

Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda-

Min 24/2024 (Min 18/2024) Policies- Footpath- Parish Councillor A Nation asked if there were any updates on the adverse possession of the footpath stating the footpath is currently well protected. Parish Councillors agreed there were no updates as Parish Councillor J Darcy was leading on the investigation and she was not in attendance.

Min 25/2024 (Min 20/2024) NCC-Northumberland Open Space Assessment - Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she is still undertaking her research about the wishes/requirements of local teenagers. She agreed to prepare a report for consideration at a future Parish Council meeting.

Min 26/2024 (Min 22/2024) Working Groups- Parish Councillor A Nation requested that the terms and reference for Working Groups are considered at the May Meeting, as they are not included within the Parish Council's Standing Orders.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meetings held on Wednesday 14th & 28th February 2024- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meetings held on 14th & 28th February 2024 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair signed the hard copy.

Min 27/2024- Community Police- The Clerk read out the following report:
Six incidents since the last meeting and only one crime. None of which involve the wider community or increase any concern in the village
Nothing to add from a community perspective on this occasion.

Obviously, it is still very early in the season and we expect there to be more to report on as the weather gets better and the volume of people in the village increases.

Min 28/2024- County Councillor report- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson advised the meeting that the overflowing skip now had a permit and had been emptied. Parish Councillors reported that the replacement skip is now overflowing.

Parish Councillors raised the following points/comments:

- The highways works' which were agreed to be undertaken at the Swinhoe crossroads had still not been completed.
- Thank you for efforts to ensure Northumberland County Council removed the charges to Parish Councils for the winter opening of the public toilets.
- Are there any updates on the funding for works to the footpath from Beadnell to Seahouses. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson confirmed that Northumberland Coast National Landscape are currently in the process of submitting an application for ramp funding for the works.

Min 29/2024- North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan- Parish Councillors agreed to defer this agenda item until the Planning Meeting to be held on 10th April.

Min 30/2024- Planning Application-

24/00672/FUL- Erection of 2no. residential dwellings and associated landscaping and infrastructure- Land East Of 21 Bernicia Way Bernicia Way Beadnell
Parish Councillors debated this planning application. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed and Parish Councillor A Nation seconded the Parish Council object to this application. A vote was undertaken: 4 for objection and 1 against.
Parish Councillors agreed to object to this application on the following grounds:

- This planning application is contrary to Policy No 5 of the North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan.
The proposed properties are 4 bed and 5 bed and with multiple en-suite facilities, the largest property at present in the development is 3 bed.
Any new properties ideally should adopt an existing design (and size) to complement the existing properties and blend in, supported by the Appeal Decision in 2019 (18/03779/FUL) where permission was refused for a balcony extension and the Appeal dismissed.
- The S106 should be enforced as per the formal agreement.
- The landscaping of the original application was to enhance the nature of the development, this was demanded by the Environmental Impact Assessment and agreed by Northumberland Estates under Clause 25 of the S106. The proposed plot has been planted with young trees.
- The current Ecological Mitigation Strategy proposes 1 onsite measure and 4 off-site measures.
- The ecological mitigation strategy will not mitigate the loss of the woodland area.
- The proposed plot was originally to be the buffer zone.
- Who will be responsible for the proposed suds drainage in the future?

However, if the application is approved the Parish Council require the following condition to be included within the approval notification:

- As per Policy 14 within the North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan the properties must be -Principal Residence Housing secured under a S106 Agreement.

Min 31/2024- Planning Approvals-

23/03389/FUL- Single storey rear extension and replacement balcony- 7 Dunes Court Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5EE

23/04651/FUL- Installation of Pent Shed and Pergola within our side and rear garden (Retrospective)- 12 Coble Way The Kilns Beadnell NE67 5EP

24/00243/FUL- Retrospective - Erection of a garden store- 10 Coble Way The Kilns Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5EP

Min 32/2024- Play Areas.

- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £942.00 to M & M Contractors for the hedge cutting etc at Meadow Lane play area.
- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £241.92 to JobDunn for repairs to fence & gate at the Kennedy Green exit.
- The Vice-Chair provided an update from the Working Group- Re replacement of play equipment:
Posters had been displayed asking for views from families, and a survey is being undertaken. The responses will be reviewed once the survey closes.
- Parish Councillors agreed to accept the quote of £172.00 + VAT from RoSPA Play Safety for undertaking the annual ROSPA inspection of the 2 play areas in 2024. Parish Councillors also agreed to pay an additional £50 + VAT for up to 4 Parish Councillors to meet the Inspector. Parish Councillor A Nation expressed an interest to meet the Inspector.
- Parish Councillors noted that one of the litter bins in Meadow Lane play area had been relocated to near the Kennedy Green exit of the play area. Parish Councillors asked the Clerk to advise Northumberland County Council that the litter bin had been relocated.
- Parish Councillors ratified the signing of the 2024/25 SLA with Northumberland County Council for undertaking the weekly inspections of the play equipment.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of £50.79 to Parish Councillor A Nation for a net for the Meadow Lane play area.
- The Chair gave a vote of thanks to the volunteer for his help and support with minor repairs at the play areas.

Min 33/2024- Cemetery-

- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the update on the drainage of the surface water in the cemetery until the Annual Parish Council meeting as Parish Councillor J Darcy who had agreed to investigate the options for a percolation test was not in attendance.
- Parish Councillors noted the consultations for headstones for plots N24, 715 & 699
- Parish Councillor A Baker agreed to contact the local farmer to see he would be willing

to empty the compound in the cemetery.

Min 34/2024- Financial Statement

Current Account	£ 7754.49
Savings Account	£ 19618.88

Min 35/2024- Finance:

Receipts

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| • Donations | £ 310.00 | 2 nd Home owners |
| • Barclays Bank | £ 73.10 | High Interest A/c- Interest |

Payments Made

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------|---|
| • M & M Contractors | £ 942.00 | Meadow Lane play area- Hedge & tree works |
| • JobDunn | £ 241.92 | Meadow Lane play area- Works to gate & fence post |

Payments due

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| • I Hunter | £ 565.70 | Salary 36.25 hours @ £ 13.73 per hour |
| • HMRC | £ 141.40 | PAYE |
| • I Hunter | £ 14.24 | Expenses |
| • Beadnell WI | £ 42.00 | Room hire |
| • A Nation | £ 50.79 | Meadow Lane play area- net |
| • B Armstrong | £ 55.00 | Annual email addresses & domain fee |
| • GNAA | £ 50.00 | Donation |
| • Citizens Advice | £ 50.00 | Donation |
| • HospiceCare | £ 50.00 | Donation |
| • Seahouses Dev' Trust | £ 50.00 | Donation- for MUGA |

Min 36/2024- Northumberland Coast National Landscape

- The Vice-Chair spoke to her previously circulated update report.
- Parish Councillors ratified the Parish Council's express of interest to take part in the Clutter Audit.

Min 37/2024- Correspondence

- **NCC-** Email- Update on Household DIY waste at Household Waste Recovery Centres.
- **Local Business-** Email- Request to join newsletter. Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she had spoken to the local business.
- **NCC-** Email- Preliminary review of where voters cast their votes
- **Resident-** Email- undergrounding powerlines on Harbour Road. Parish Councillor A Baker stated that Northumberland Coast National Landscape had this as their No1 priority and was applying for funding.
- **NCC-** Email- Invite to North Northumberland Local Area Committee 28/3

Min 38/2024- Policies

- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of the Parish Council Asset Register and agreed it was up to date.

- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the review of the Tree Management Policy until the Annual Parish Council meeting, to allow the Vice-Chair & Parish Councillor A Baker to physically check the numbers, types, and location of the trees within the Parish Council's responsibility.
- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of the Memorial Policy and agreed it was up to date. Parish Councillor A Baker to obtain a cost for replacement plaques for the public benches which are under the management of the Parish Council.
- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review the Cemetery regulations & charges Policy. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed and Parish Councillor C Williamson seconded an 8% increase in charges which is in line with the increase of the 2024/25 precept. This was agreed:
Fees as from 1st July 2024

1- Purchase single burial plot	£ 540
2- Purchase double burial plot	£1080
3- Purchase cremation plot	£ 215
4- Additional interment	£ 160
5- Erection of headstone/tablet	£ 160
6- Additional inscription	£ 160
- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of Standing Orders. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed the Parish Council hold 12 meetings per year or a return to a 3-hour limit for Parish Council meetings to allow a discussion/debate on agenda items. The proposal was not seconded. Therefore, the proposal failed. Parish Councillors agreed the Standing Orders were up to date.
- Parish Councillors deferred the annual review of the Planning Meeting Policy until the Annual Parish Council meeting, as the Vice-Chair agreed to draft a revised Planning Meeting Policy. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to check if an objection from the Parish Council would trigger an automatic call-in to committee due to having a valid Neighbourhood Plan in place.
- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of the Grants & Donations Policy and agreed it was up to date.
- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of the Transparency Policy. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed the expenditure to be raised from £100 to £500. This was agreed. Parish Councillors agreed the policy was up to date.

Min 39/2024- Annual Audit- Parish Councillors agreed the appointment of Mr C Brunt as the Internal Auditor for the 2023/24 Parish Council annual accounts.

Min 40/2024- Annual Holiday let donation request letter

- Parish Councillors ratified the decision to produce a letter in 2024.
- Parish Councillors ratified the printing and distribution of the letter

Min 41/2024- Email & Domain

- Parish Councillors considered the latest information received from NALC Re Parish Council email addresses. Parish Councillor A Nation queried that the information was contained within the Parish Council's website provider's newsletter. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed all Parish Councillors use the specific email address which is funded by

the Parish Council. The Vice-Chair agreed to use the specific email address, however stated that it would not be monitored daily.

- Parish Councillors agreed to make annual payment of £55 to B Armstrong for the Parish Councillors email account & domain

Min 42/2024- Updates

Parish Councillors received updates on the following items and considered any actions:

- a) **Coastal erosion & flooding-** Parish Councillor A Nation stated the latest update refers to £2m being allocated to works in 2025, suggesting works are required further south than those already identified for funding. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson stated the works further south are not viable and Northumberland County Council do not have any influence on the scheme of works.
- b) **Beadnell-Seahouses footpath-** Northumberland Coast National Landscape are applying for ramp funding to undertake the works.
- c) **Beadnell- Swinhoe footpath-** Parish Councillor A Baker proposed the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council and ask for the footpath which was cleared last year is sprayed to kill the weeds, ahead of the growing season This was agreed.
- d) **Installation of cycle stands-** Parish Councillor A Nation reported that the Caretaker at Beadnell Towers is willing to help with the installation. The Vice-Chair proposed contacting local businesses to see if they can help with the installation. The Chair agreed to take over as lead for the project.
- e) **Bus stop/poles Beadnell village-** Parish Councillor A Nation again raised concerns about issues with bus timetables, holders etc. suggesting another email is sent to Northumberland County Council Bus Services Officer and cc Northumberland Coast National Landscape Officer. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson asked for the correspondence to be forwarded onto him and he would investigate the issues.
- f) **Future bus services in Beadnell area-** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting there are to be micro services, and it is hoped that there will be a link to the Chathill rail service.
- g) **Chathill rail services** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting the Leader of Northumberland County Council will be attending a site meeting on 10th April, and it is hoped the service may be available from April 2025.
- h) **Grit bin-** Parish Councillors agreed the location at Longstone Close for the new grit bin, and that the grit bin will be locked over the summer.
- i) **Memorial benches-** Parish Councillors noted the response from National Trust Re the installation of benches on land north of Beadnell. Parish Councillors agreed their preference for benches are those which have been installed recently.
- j) **The Landing Planning Application-** Parish Councillor A Nation reported that the planning application had been approved at committee on 21st March.
- k) **Feedback from Town & Parish Council Conference-** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she had already circulated updates from the conference. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed placing the 1st Responder recruitment poster on the noticeboard. This was agreed.

Min 43/2024- Local Issues-

- **VG49/Church area-** Parish Councillor A Nation asked for this agenda item to be deferred as she still had to contact Northumberland County Council Planning Highways

as she had a couple of questions about the use of the unadopted roads. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson offered to help answer her questions if she emailed the questions to him. Parish Councillors agreed to defer this agenda item.

NWL- Local drainage & sewage issues- Parish Councillor A Nation provided a summary, stating that NWL are proposing to pump out the pond 2-3 times a year, confirming that Natural England and Environment Agency are happy with the temporary proposal. Parish Councillor A Baker stated that Northumberland Coast National Landscape had verbally advised him that they had no issues as this had been in the past. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed that Parish Council write to NWL asking them to focus on finding a permanent solution, and for them to provide the Parish Council a copy of their proposals by end of May. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation draft a letter for Parish Councillors to consider. Also, a copy of the letter to be sent to County Councillor G Renner-Thompson & Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP.

2 members of the public left the meeting at that point.

Min 44/2024- Request for a donation- Parish Councillors considered all requests for donations received in 2023/24. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed and Parish Councillor C Williamson seconded the Parish Council donate £50 to each of the following organisations:

- HospiceCare
- Great North Air Ambulance
- Citizens Advice
- Seahouses Development Trust- for Multi-Use-Games-Area + a letter of support for funding purposes.

This was agreed.

The Clerk reported that she was still awaiting a reply from a local resident confirming if they currently still require funding for local defibrillators. The Vice-Chair and Parish Councillor A Nation were of the understanding that the resident had sufficient funding at the present time.

Min 45/2024- Bullring- VG55- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council and ask what would be involved in the Parish Council taking over the ownership/management of the Bullring. Also, ask for the pros and cons of managing a Village Green.

Parish Councillors to consider any updates at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

Min 46/2024- Annual Parish Meeting- Parish Councillor A Nation proposed inviting a speaker to the Annual Parish Meeting to give a presentation on Community led housing. The Chair proposed the Annual Parish & Annual Parish Council Meetings will have the same format as that of 2023. This was agreed.

Any Other Urgent Business-

Min 47/2024- Press Releases/Documents etc- Parish Councillor A Nation requested that all future press releases and documents etc. to be issued are circulated to Parish Councillors for comment/amendment ahead release. The Vice-Chair reminded the meeting that the Parish Council works as a team and there must be trust between members.

The date of the Annual Parish & Parish Council Meeting 22nd May 2024

Chair_____Date_____