

**MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at 6.05pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall**

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

Min 48/2024 -Election of Chair for 2024/25- Parish Councillor J Hall proposed & Parish Councillor J Darcy seconded Parish Councillor G Martindale as Chair for 2024/25. This was agreed. Parish Councillor G Martindale accepted the position and signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

Min 49/2024-Election of Vice-Chair for 2024/25- Parish Councillor C Williamson proposed & Parish Councillor J Darcy seconded, Parish Councillor J Hall as Vice- Chair for 2024/25. Parish Councillor J Hall. accepted the position and signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

Min 50/2024- Chair's Annual Report- The Chair read out the attached 2023/24 Chair's annual report:

Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillor A Baker.

Declaration of Interest: None.

Request for Dispensation- None.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on Wednesday 27th March 2024- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2024 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair signed a hard copy.

Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda- None

The Minutes of the Planning Meetings: Parish Councillors agreed the minutes of the Planning Meetings held on 10th & 24th April 2024 were a true record of the meetings. The Chair signed the hard copies.

Min 51/2024-Community Police- The Clerk read out the following report:
Crimes and incidents – No crimes or incidents to report on this period. Nothing reported that would raise the vulnerabilities of anyone in the parish.
Other local matters – There was a report of some minor asb outside one of the local licensed premises earlier this month but it was dealt with without further issue. Unlikely there will be further problems as a result.
Community engagement – Nothing to pass on or update on this month.
All in all a quiet period but I'm sure as the foot fall in the area increases as the season gets warmer there will be more to pass on.

Min 52/2024- County Councillor report- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson gave the following verbal updates:

- Northumberland County Council Childrens Service had just had its Ofsted inspection we hope to retain our current “Good” status.
- I have been re-appointed Vice-Chair of NIFCA again this year, and NIFCA officers have visited Beadnell.
- Northumberland County Council Highways Department had undertaken some patching works on Beadnell by-pass.
- The Northumberland Coast National Landscape officer has advised that the footpath from Beadnell to Seahouses does not meet the criteria from RAMP funding.
- I have a meeting with Bernicia officers next week to discuss their plans for any developments within Bamburgh Ward.

Parish Councillor A Nation asked the following questions:

- Would Bernicia be willing to purchase the flats which are up for sale in Seahouses. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied no, however, Seahouses Development Trust could look at purchasing the flats, as other Development Trusts in other areas within Northumberland, have purchased local properties.
- 2nd home owners are upset about the double council tax which comes in to effect as of April 2025, will there be any exemptions. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied Northumberland County Council are awaiting sight of the legislation and guidance for the Government.
- As the Beadnell to Seahouses Footpath does not meet the criteria for RAMP funding will Northumberland County Council Highways Department look at undertaking some partial repairs. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied he would contact Northumberland County Council Highways Officers.
- When will the double yellow lines be installed on The Wynding. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied he would contact Northumberland County Council Highways Department for an update.
- The bus stop sign which had been removed at the Craster Arms/ Saltwater Café area, what can be done to ensure bus passengers and drivers know there is a bus stop in operation at this location. Parish Councillors debated this issue and agreed County Councillor G Renner-Thompson organise contact to be made with the business owner to ask for the sign to be reinstated.

Min 53/2024- Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan

- Parish Councillor A Nation proposed if Parish Councillor J Darcy is to join the Steering Group it needs to be minuted. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor J Darcy will join the Vice-Chair & Parish Councillor A Nation to represent Beadnell Parish Council on the Steering Group.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked the Vice-Chair if there were any updates on the parking consultation in Beadnell. The Vice-Chair replied that she had taken no actions. The Parish Council could hold an event; however, this does not need to be undertaken urgently.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked about progressing a review of the NHP. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to contact the Northumberland County Council link officer for some possible dates for a meeting.

Min 54/2024- Parish Council Policies-

- Parish Councillors reviewed and agreed adopt the Code of Conduct
- Parish Councillors agreed to adopt the previously circulated Tree Management Policy complete with amendments proposed by Parish Councillor A Nation.
- Parish Councillors agreed to adopt a shortened version of the Planning Meeting Policy to be used when only regular members of the public attend Planning meetings.
Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk invite the applicant/agent to planning meetings if contact details are available.

Min 55/2024- Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23

- Parish Councillors noted the following comments/suggestions raised by the Internal Auditor
 1. There is an expenses claim for work on the playground. The amount claimed is not the sum of the individual receipts. It is lower.
Recommendation: Ask individuals submitting an expense claim to submit a summary of their claim as you would a trades person submitting an invoice.
 2. The second home donation spreadsheet should be for the fiscal year not calendar year. The current set up just adds unnecessary confusion.
The Vice-Chair reported that the Internal Auditor asked her to report to the Parish Council the high standard of the pack of paperwork prepared by the Clerk.
- Parish Councillors completed and approved the Annual Governance Statement
- Parish Councillors approved the draft Annual Accounts for 2023/24.
- Parish Councillors approved the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances.
- Parish Councillors approved the completion and submission of the Certification of Exemption.
- Parish Councillors agreed to give a vote of thanks to the Internal Auditor for undertaking the Internal Audit.

Min 56/2024- Annual Insurance premium-

- Parish Councillors considered the quote and information received from Clear Councils. Parish Councillor A Nation questioned the declared value on the insurance policy for walls, gates & fences, stating she felt the figure should be raised. Parish Councillors debated the declared values on the insurance policy. Parish Councillor C Williamson & the Chair seconded that the figure on the insurance policy to remain as quoted. This was agreed by a majority vote Parish Councillor A Nation voted against the decision.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of £792.72 to Clear Councils for the Parish Council's 2024/25 Insurance policy. The Parish Council entered a 3-year long term agreement.

Min 57/2024- Annual Holiday let donation request letter- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £78 to Shiel & Morrison for printing the annual donation letter & envelopes.

Min 58/2024- Planning Approvals

24/00352/FUL- Proposed loft conversion with Velux windows and solar panels along with addition of pitched roof replacing existing flat roof, which will include a roof over proposed bedroom and porch extension- The Chimes 7 The Wynding Beadnell NE67 5BU.

23/04290/FUL- Single storey extension to front and both sides of existing dwelling- 11 The Wamses Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5BL

24/00343/FUL- Proposed attic conversion to form new bedrooms and a bathroom with 2 rear dormers and velux rooflights- 126 Harbour Road Beadnell NE67 5BJ

23/03957/VARYCO- Variation of Conditions 2 (Approved Plans) and 6 (Drainage) pursuant to planning permission 21/00126/FUL to allow changes to the house types and materiality of the permission granted and amendment to the drainage design- Land South Of 30 Swinhoe Road Swinhoe Road Beadnell Northumberland.

Min 59/2024- Play Areas.

- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £2036.45 to Northumberland County Council for the SLA for undertaking the weekly inspections of the play areas in 2024/25.
- Parish Councillor A Nation raised concerns that there are 4 items on the weekly inspection reports which are not showing what the defects are. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk raise the issues again with Northumberland County Council Neighbourhood Services officers.
- The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that the Parish Council has a spare football net which she will retain until it is required.
- The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that to date 39 responses had been received to the questionnaires, and provided a summary of the responses. The Vice-Chair stated that Parish Councillor J Darcy had attended the recent car boot sale at the Bullring and asked attendees for their comments, and will attend the next car boot sale in the hope to gather further information.

The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that the working group are going to invite 2 play equipment providers to come along and make some suggestions as to what could be provided, then the information can be used for consultation purposes as the next step. Parish Councillor A Nation reminded the Vice-Chair about the use of the shaded areas in the play areas.

- Parish Councillor A Nation raised concerns that a fence is leaning against the Longbeach Drive fence, as well as blocking the footpath, stating the fence could cause damage. Parish Councillors agreed the leaning fence was not under the ownership of the Parish Council or Northumberland County Council.

Min 60/2024- Cemetery- Possible drainage works- Parish Councillor J Darcy provided an update on the possibility of percolation tests, stating there will be a cost, and in her opinion, there will be no value in undertaking the tests. Also, if the concrete base of the compound was removed this would not solve the current drainage issue.

Parish Councillor J Darcy stated that in her opinion, a reasonable area of the cemetery will be unable to be used for burials, however, she was willing to monitor situation, and keep photographic evidence. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor J Darcy monitor the drainage issue in the cemetery.

Min 61/2024- Financial Statement as at 31st March 2024

Current Account	£ 8699.49
Savings Account	£ 19618.88

Min 62/2024- Finance:

Receipts

• Northumberland CC	£ 115.00	Cemetery- double charge
• Northumberland CC	£ 6500.00	Precept
• Northern Powergrid	£ 1.53	Wayleave
• J Richmond	£ 150.00	Plot 699- headstone additional inscription.
• Donations	£ 2340.00	2 nd Home owners
• B Endean	£ 150.00	Plot 715- headstone
• B Endean	£ 150.00	Plot N24- headstone
• HMRC	£ 1034.40	VAT refund

Payments made

• Northumberland CC	£ 2036.45	Play Areas- SLA weekly inspections
• Shiel & Morrison	£ 78.00	Printing donation letters
• ICO	£ 35.00	Annual Data Protection fee

Payments due

• I Hunter	£ 549.30	Salary 50 hours @ £ 13.73 per hour
• HMRC	£ 137.20	PAYE
• I Hunter	£ 33.30	Expenses
• Beadnell WI	£ 42.00	Room hire
• NALC	£ 217.13	Annual subscription
• Clear Councils	£ 792.72	Annual Insurance premium
• Seahouses 1 st Responders	£ 50.00	Defibrillators- donation

Min 63/2024- Updates

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

- a) **Possible adverse possession for footpath along Harbour Road-** Parish Councillor J Darcy explained why an application would not be successful for this area, stating the area is not at a risk of development. Parish Councillors agreed not to progress an application. Parish Councillor A Nation questioned why the Parish Council was paying for the grass on this footpath to be cut, when the footpath was not under the ownership of Beadnell Parish Council.
- b) **Chathill rail services.** County Councillor G Renner-Thompson advised the meeting that the Leader of Northumberland County Council, Elected members, and local interested residents attended a recent site meeting. This project has now moved from Transport North to the new Combined Authority; therefore, this comes under the new Elected Mayor. Also, there are no updates on a bus service linking the rail services to the coastal area.
- c) **Cycle stands-** The Chair reported that the installation is progressing a local businessman hopes to install them in June weather permitting. The local businessman has a copy of the location plan and a resume of what is required.
- d) **Cost for replacement of plaques on memorial benches.** Parish Councillors agreed to defer this agenda item until the July agenda as Parish Councillor A Baker was not in attendance.

Min 64/2024- Local Issues-

- Parish Councillor A Nation asked for her update on the consultation with neighbouring residents on a concept for the VG49/Church area and surrounding unadopted roads to be defer to the July meeting. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillor A Nation provided an update on her dialogue with Northumbrian Water on local drainage issues and the sewage spill issues that they are investigating, stating that she had provided the details of 3 local contacts who were willing to engage with Northumbrian Water

Following advice from Northumbrian Water Parish Councillors agreed to contact Northumberland County Council in respect of the surface water outflow beyond the seawall/ Harbour Road and the missing flap.

As an alternative to tankering surface water from Bernicia Way pond, Northumbrian Water are considering permanent solutions and aim is to have a plan approved by the end of 2025 and works completed by the end of 2027. Northumbrian Water have said they will consult with Beadnell Parish Council and property owners.

Parish Councillor A Nation asked about providing an update to The National Trust, Parish Councillors agreed to wait until the Parish Council had met with Northumbrian Water before contacting The National Trust

Parish Councillor A Nation agreed to continue to be the lead Parish Councillor on these Northumbrian Water issues, and keep the Parish Council updated.

Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council hold a meeting with Northumbrian Water within the next 1-2 months on the current drainage and sewage issues, and the meeting to be chaired by County Councillor G Renner-Thompson.

Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation draft an email to be sent to Northumbrian Water for Parish Councillors to agree.

- The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that she had attended the recent National Fishing Remembrance Day service at St Ebba's Church. She advised the meeting that there is a fishermen memorial stone cross on the floor in the closed churchyard. The area of the Bronze Age stone cist on Harbour Road is overgrown and would be a suitable place for the installation of an information board. She concluded by saying these could be projects which BCV & the Parish Council could work on. The Vice-Chair agreed to provide the Parish Council with updates.

Min 65/2024- Request for a donation- Parish Councillors considered the request for donation towards the upkeep of the local defibrillators. Parish Councillor C Williamson proposed & the Vice-Chair seconded a donation of £50 to be ringfenced for defibrillators. Also, the Clerk to remind the requester that any annual requests need to be received by the beginning of February.

Min 66/2024- Bullring- VG55-The Chair proposed that Parish Councillor A Baker create a business plan to cover the costs and income for the management of the Bullring, for Parish Councillors to consider at the July meeting. This was agreed.

Min 67/2024- Correspondence

- **Adderstone with Lucker PC-** Email – request for support to write to Lloyds Bank- Re bank closure in Alnwick. Parish Councillors agreed to support a letter.

- **HospiceCare-** Email- thank you
- **Seahouses Dev Trust-** Email- thank you
- **CAB-** Email thank you
- **GNAA-** letter of thanks
- **Alnmouth PC-** Email- Enquiry on Coastal Erosion and access to the shore
- **Northumberland Fire & Rescue Service-** Email- information/guidance on D-Day 80th Anniversary celebrations.

Min 68/2024- Consultations

- Parish Councillors agreed not to respond to current consultation on the Academisation of Seahouses Primary School.
- Parish Councillors agreed to support the current consultation for the proposed 30mph speed limit on B1340 at Swinhoe, as a starting point.

Min 69/2024- Community Engagement with teenagers- Parish Councillor A Nation provided a summary to her previously circulated report in relation to consultation and further consultation about possible local activities for teenagers. Parish Councillors agreed not to progress the consultation at the present time.

Min 70/2024- Working Groups- Parish Councillor A Nation proposed Beadnell Parish Council agree a terms and reference policy for working groups, referring to the previously circulated examples from other Northumberland Parish Councils. Parish Councillors debated the possibility of preparing a policy and by a majority vote agreed not to prepare a terms and reference policy for working groups.

Min 71/2024- Parish Council Meeting dates for 2024/25 - Parish Councillors agreed the previously circulated list of dates, as the dates for Parish Council meetings in 2024/25.

Any Other Urgent Business-

Min 72/2024- Trees- Parish Councillor A Nation raised concerns about a tree on the Swinhoe road needing attention, as it is obscuring the 30mph sign.

The Vice-Chair stated there is a tree on the B1340 which was blocking the highway signage and needed attention. She will check the current situation.

County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to investigate the 2 issues if Parish Councillor A Nation and the Vice-Chair provided photographs.

Min 73/2024- Petition- Parish Councillor A Nation asked the Vice-Chair about the petition she had organised in her personal capacity that the additional council tax received from 2nd homes is ringfenced to be used locally, the Vice-Chair stated that the petition is still open and will be until 12th June 2024.

The date of the next meeting 24th July 2024 at 6pm

Chair_____Date_____

Ch's Initials_____