

MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 6pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall

Present: Chair- G Martindale, Vice-Chair J Hall
Parish Councillors: A Baker, J Darcy, T Jayes & A Nation
County Councillor G Renner-Thompson
Clerk: I Hunter
9 Members of the public
PC Curtis Ritchie & PC Darren Robson

Public Question Time: None

Apologies for Absence: None

Declaration of Interest: The Clerk declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No 14 the Annual National NALC/SLCC pay rise.

Request for Dispensation- None.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2025- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd July 2025 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-

Min 90/2025 (Min 76/2025)- Planning S106 Agreements- Parish Councillor T Jayes asked County Councillor G Renner-Thompson if he had any updates on the Non-compliance to S106 Occupancy restrictions at The Kilns and the criteria of this S106 Agreement. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson advised the meeting that to date he had no updates. Parish Councillor T Jayes asked for this to be a standing agenda item on every agenda until answers to the outstanding questions had been received. This was agreed.

Min 91/2025 (Min 87/2025)- Beadnell Beaches- Northumbrian Water Ltd- Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she will continue to have a dialogue with Northumbrian Water Ltd in a personal capacity and will provide updates to the Parish Council when there are updates which will be of interest to the Parish Council.

2 members of the public joined the meeting at that point

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting: Parish Councillors agreed the minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 27th August 2025 were a true record of the meetings. The Chair signed the hard copy.

Min 92/2025-Community Police- The Clerk read out the following report:

Crimes and incidents – Crime was very low this period with the only thing of note being the theft of a Yamaha jet ski on a trailer from near the caravan park. This did occur a few weeks ago but enquiries are still ongoing. More than happy for any possible information for it to be fed back to myself via the parish council.

Local matters – No new issues reported with regards antisocial behaviour and or speeding motorists going passed the village using the B1340. Given it has been the peak period that is always good to report.

Community engagement – Nothing to pass on this period.

PC Curtis Ritchie & PC Darren Robson joined the meeting whilst the Clerk was providing the update.

Parish Councillors discussed local issues including the speed of bikers on the B1340 on a Sunday.

PC Curtis Ritchie agreed to raise the issue with the Police bike officers and the Berwick Community Volunteers to see if there could be a presence on the B1340 on a Sunday.

PC Curtis Ritchie & PC Darren Robson left the meeting at this point

Min 93/2025- County Councillor report- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson provided the following updates:

- **The roundabout at Swinhoe crossroads-** Northumberland County Council are progressing the plans. There will be a meeting with Northumberland County Council Officers, Parish Councillors & the petitioners shortly.
Parish Councillor A Baker thanked County Councillor G Renner-Thompson as the white lines at the Swinhoe crossroads had now been repainted.
- **Beadnell Harbour Road seawall-** The Parish Council had received the email update. Section 77 of the approval identifies where the compound will be located.
- **Bernicia Housing Association-** I have no updates on HUSK garage conversions & infill sites within Beadnell

Min 94/2025- Northumberland Coast National Landscape

- The Chair read out the attached update report from the Chair's meeting.
County Councillor G Renner-Thompson advised the meeting that he had no updates on the works to the Beadnell public toilets.
- Parish Councillors noted that there had been no Partnership meetings recently.
- Parish Councillors noted the previously circulated update from Parish Councillor A Baker on the Beadnell Round Carin.
Parish Councillor A Nation suggested the grass cutting of the proposed area may need to be considered at a future Parish Council meeting.

Min 95/2025- Planning Applications

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council in relation to Planning Application No 25/00648/FUL.

Parish Councillors agreed to reinstate Standing Orders.

25/00648/FUL- Construction of one detached dwelling with attached single garage and landscaping (as amended)- Land North Of 27 Longbeach Drive Beadnell NE67 5EG

Parish Councillors considered the above planning application and unanimously agreed to object to this planning application on the following grounds:

- The proposed design for this development is not appropriate for this site.

- This is an overdevelopment for this site.

If Northumberland County Council are minded to approve this planning application one of the conditions should be that the property must be for principal residence.

25/03191/FUL- Single storey rear extension to existing dwelling house- 8 Sandy Lane Court
Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5EH
Parish Councillors considered the above planning application and unanimously agreed to submit no objections to this planning application.

Min 96/2025- Planning Approvals

25/01402/FUL- Replacement of 4 single glazed timber sash windows with double glazed timber sash windows- Flat 5 Beadnell Hall The Haven Beadnell Chathill NE67 5AT

25/01403/LBC- Replacement of 4 single glazed timber sash windows with double glazed timber sash windows- Flat 5 Beadnell Hall The Haven Beadnell Chathill NE67 5AT

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

Min 97/2025- Play Areas.

- The Chairman of the Sub-Committee spoke to the previously circulated update report on the Meadow Lane play area refurbishment.
 - 1- The 1st instalment had been paid to Kompan.
 - 2- The Northumberland County Council lead officer for RAMP had visited the site.
 - 3- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & the Chair seconded that the 2nd instalment (£60,005.94) will be paid to Kompan once the 1st claim from the RAMP grant is received.
This was agreed.
- Parish Councillors noted the previously circulated updated cashflow forecast
- Parish Councillors noted that Parish Councils are unable to access overdraft facilities from Barclays Bank as the Parish Council is part of Local Government.
Parish Councillor A Nation asked about the Parish Council applying to Barclays Bank for a credit card.
The Clerk replied she had asked Barclays Bank the question and was told she was the only person who could apply for a credit card as she was the only director for the business, which is not correct as she is only an employee.
Parish Councillors agreed not to proceed with an application for a credit card.
- Parish Councillors noted the updated timeline for Meadow Lane play area refurbishment.
- Parish Councillors considered and agreed to accept the quote of £58.20 from Fantasy Prints for the supply of 11 sponsorship plaques
- Parish Councillors noted the previously circulated report from Parish Councillor A Baker in relation to maintenance of the cantilever swing.
The majority of Parish Councillors agreed to take no action at the present time to the cantilever swing.
- Parish Councillor A Baker informed the meeting that Kompan will be providing a maintenance file for the new play equipment, which will hopefully be received by the end of November.

- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that Kompan had provided a quote of £1694 + VAT to repair the edge banding of the wet pour at the cantilever swing & witches hat areas.
- The Vice-Chair proposed & Parish Councillor T Jayes seconded that the Parish Council accept the quote.
Parish Councillor A Nation suggested that the wet pour surface under both items of play equipment be replaced as it may require replacing in the next few years. Parish Councillors did not accept this proposal due to the costs involved and that there was not a requirement to replace the wet pour surface at the present time.
Parish Councillors agreed to accept the proposal of £1694 + VAT from Kompan to repair the edging etc.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked about the state of the fence and installation of a gate at the Kennedy Green access to the play area.
Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that Kompan will replace the section of fence they had removed at Kennedy Green once the refurbishment is completed.
Parish Councillors agreed to await the refurbishment of the play area before considering the installation of a gate.
- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed the Parish Council go out to tender for prices for the upgrading of the Longbeach Drive play area, stating Kompan had viewed the site when they were in the area and made some suggestions.
Parish Councillor A Nation suggested the Parish Council would need to check the landownership of that area.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk check the landownership.
The Sub-Committee contact Play Providers inviting them to tender for the upgrading of the Longbeach Drive play area by 31st October.
Parish Councillors to receive an update at the November meeting

Min 98/2025- Cemetery- The Vice-Chair reported that there were no updates.

Min 99/2025- Clerk's annual salary review 2025/26

- Parish Councillors agreed the previously circulated Local Government Services pay agreement for 2025/26. The Parish Clerk is on SCP 12 = £14.82 per hour from 1st April 2025.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of an additional 78.25 hours @ 0.46p per hour gross. The above proposals were proposed by Parish Councillor A Baker & seconded by the Vice-Chair.

Min 100/2025- St Ebba's Church Clock

- Parish Councillors considered the following quotes for the annual servicing of St Ebba Church Clock
 - a) Option 1 a 3-year agreement at a cost of £920 + VAT
 - b) Option 2 an annual payment at a cost of £334 + VAT this will be subject to annual increases.
- Parish Councillors agreed to accept option a) on the condition the payment can be made after March 2026.

Min 101/2025- Financial Statement

Community Account	£ 14925.25
Savings Account	£ 4898.54
Playground Refurbishment A/C	£ 16133.16

Min 102/2025- Finance:

Receipts

• BCV	£ 1250.00	Donation
• Member of public	£ 1637.57	Purchase & installation memorial bench
• HMRC	£10,947.57	VAT Refund
• Northumberland CC	£10,000.00	½ Annual precept
• Barclays Bank	£ 16.20	Savings A/c – Interest

Transfer

- Community A/c to Refurbishment A/c £ 100.00
- Community A/c to Refurbishment A/c £10,029.44 x2
- Refurbishment A/c to Community A/c £60,176.64

Playground Refurbishment Account

• BCV	£ 2057.18	Auction
• Barclays Bank	£ 132.02	Interest
• Crowdfunder	£ 280.15	Fundraising- donations

Payments: Parish Councillors agreed the following payments.

- Kompan Scotland Ltd £60,176.64 Meadow Lane Play Area upgrade- 1st instalment.
- I Hunter £ 21.50 Volunteer- DBS fee
- Rdesign Building £ 1621.24 Installation cycle stands
- I Hunter £ 410.73 Salary 53 hours @ £ 14.82 per hour + back pay
- HMRC £ 410.73 PAYE
- I Hunter £ 18.96 Expenses
- Beadnell WI £ 42.00 Room hire
- Town & PC Websites £ 520.00 Annual website & email address fee
- Kompan Scotland Ltd £ 60,005.94 Meadow Lane Play Area upgrade- 2nd instalment. (This payment to be raised once the 1st payment from the RAMP grant is received)

Min 103/2025- Parish Council Policies-

- Parish Councillors considered the previously circulated examples of Communications/Press Release Policies.
The Vice-Chair proposed & the Chair seconded that the Parish Council did not adopt a Communications/Press Release Policy. This was agreed by a majority vote.
- The Chair reminded Parish Councillors to start using the gov.uk email address which had provided to each Parish Councillor, as this is inline with the Parish Council email policy.

The Chair asked the Clerk to update the Parish Councillors contact details on the Parish Council website.

Min 104/2025- Correspondence- Parish Councillors noted the following correspondence.

- **NCC-** Email-Invitation for Town and Parish Councillors to attend a meeting re Budget and Corporate Priorities.
- **Member of public-** Emails- Northumberland EV Charging points
- **Member of public-** Emails- Access to beach – tractor
- **Bernicia-** Email- Reply to Parish Council email re garages etc & possible HUSK housing.
- **NALC-** Email- Invite to AGM 15/11
- **Citizens Advice-** Email- Invite to AGM 1/12
- **NCC-**Email – update on installation of drop kerbs. Parish Councillors asked the Clerk to research the list of drop kerb locations the Parish Council had submitted to Northumberland County Council.

Min 105/2025- Benches

- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the consideration of the purchase and installation of a bench on the grass area near the cemetery by BCV until March-May 2026.
- The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received a request from a resident for the installation of a memorial bench.
Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk advise the resident that the cost of a bench would be £1637.57 and the only locations available were on the grass area outside the cemetery gates on the B1340 or at the end of Swinhoe Road next to the new bench.

Min 106/2025- Local Transport Plan 2026/27 to 2028/29

- Parish Councillors considered feedback from Northumberland County Council on the Parish Council's 3 priorities for 2025/26
- Parish Councillors agreed the following 3 priorities as the Parish Council's priorities for 2026/27 to 2028/29
 - 1- The resurfacing of the U2036 from St Ebba's Church to The Haven- Harbour Road
 - 2- Drainage works, markings for vertical parking and the realignment of the U2036 at the Bullring which is the first entrance heading south from Seahouses off the B1340
 - 3- The extension of the 30mph speed limit on the U2036 Swinhoe Road to incorporate all houses which have received planning approval.
- Parish Councillors noted the invite from Northumberland County Council for 2 Parish Councillors to attend Local Transport Plan Programme guidance workshops. Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she would be attending the workshop on 29th September.

Min 107/2025- Consultations

- Parish Councillors considered and agreed not to respond to the current consultation from Northumberland County Council- Northumberland Local Plan 'Call for Sites'
 - a) Parish Councillors to consider HUSK housing and development on infill sites within Beadnell parish. This was covered at Min 93/2025.
- Parish Councillors considered and agreed not to respond to the current consultation from Northumberland Coast National Landscape- Management Plan Review 25/9.

The Chair stated if a Parish Councillor wishes to respond they can do so in a personal capacity.

- Parish Councillors considered responding the Community Governance Review Parish Pre Consultation Questionnaire by 30/11. Parish Councillors agreed they did not wish any changes to the current arrangements.
- Parish Councillors considered responding to the Polling District and Polling Place Review 2025 by 9/10. Parish Councillors agreed they had no issues with the current arrangements.

Min 108/2025- North Northumberland Neighbourhood Plan Review.

- The Vice-Chair proposed that each of the Parish Councils with the NHP area need to provide a list of changes they would like to see in the NHP.
- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to call a NHP Steering Group meeting.

Min 109/2025- Local Issues-

- Parish Councillors considered relocating the litter bin which is currently sited in Meadow Lane.
Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council Neighbourhood Services and ask if they would support the litter bin being relocated to the junction of Kennedy Green
- Parish Councillors noted that the direction sign for the beach on the footpath at Meadow Lane had been repaired.

Min 110/2025- Parish Clerk pension provision- Parish Councillors undertook the 3-year review of a pension provision for the Parish Clerk. The Clerk informed the meeting that a pension is of no value to her due to the level of wages.
Parish Councillors accepted the Clerk's recommendation and agreed not to provide a pension for the Clerk.

Min 111/2025- Conclusion of Annual Audit 2024/25

- Parish Councillors noted that at request of the External Auditor the Clerk had provided a breakdown of the Parish Council's reserves/ carry forward balances.
- Parish Councillors agreed to make the payment to Mazars Ltd for undertaking the External Audit on receipt of an invoice.
- Parish Councillors agreed the conclusion of the Annual Audit for 2024/25.
- Parish Councillors agreed a £5 fee for any requests for a hard copy of the 2024/25 account & audit paperwork.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council accounts for 2024/25 are now approved.

Min 112/2025- Updates- Parish Councillors to receive updates on the following items and consider any actions:

- a) Parish Councillors considered and agreed to ask for the redundant bus pole at The Haven area is to be removed.
The Clerk to make the request via Fix my street.
- b) Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that volunteers are helping the Northumberland County Council Bus Ambassador to update the bus timetables at the bus stops from Belford to Beadnell.

- c) Parish Councillor A Nation provided the following update from CRAG:
- 1- The event at Chathill Station on 4th September was good, however the Elected Deputy Mayor had stated that more fast trains stopping at Chathill would not happen.
 - 2- CRAG are investigating having 1 additional train in each direction stop at Chathill to mirror the morning and afternoon services.
 - 3- We are looking at progressing the installation of a temporary shelter at Chathill Station.

Any Other Urgent Business-

Min 113/2025- Bullring fence- The Chair reported that the Bulling fence had been knocked down when the MacMillan Walk event was in the area recently, confirming that the organisers of the MacMillan Walk have accepted responsibility and the repair had been actioned. The Chair agreed to monitor the situation.

Min 114/2025- Road closure notifications- The Vice-Chair raised concerns about the current road closure notifications the Parish Council receives stating that there is no valuable information within the notifications.

The date of the next meeting 26th November 2025 at 6pm

Chair_____Date_____