

MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 26th November 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
Clerk: I Hunter
9 Members of the public

Public Question Time: Members of the public raised the following points & asked the following questions:

- 1- Thank you for the refurbishment of the playground, the work was completed quickly. A special thank to the 3 main players.
- 2- The noticeboard at the shop does not display a readable poster of the times when the Post Office van will be in Beadnell.
Parish Councillors agreed to look at re-placing the poster in the noticeboard
- 3- Sewage discharges- there are no warnings displayed at Beadnell Bay to advise visitors with children that there had been a recent discharge.
The Chair replied that all discharge information is on the Northumbrian Water website.
The member of the public asked about the installation of a warning sign which could show if the area is safe i.e. red or green.
Councillor A Nation replied that others in the community are also concerned.
Northumberland County Council are required to use the Environment Agency template for a sign showing water quality classification at every designated bathing area i.e. at Beadnell Bay “excellent” water quality. Swimmers, out of county and country, do not realise there are sewage spills that can affect water quality despite this classification, Beadnell has had between 20 and 30 spills this year. In July during a sewage spill in the afternoon there were many in the water.
Swimmers can go to the Northumbrian Water map showing currently spilling and recently stopped spills – or go the surfers against sewage website where one can check and sign up for notifications sent to a mobile for chosen locations.
There will be more later in the meeting with updates following contact with Northumbrian Water.

Apologies for Absence: County Councillor G Renner-Thompson

Declaration of Interest: None

Request for Dispensation- None.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th September 2025- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th September 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 115/2025 (Min 93/2025)- Beadnell Harbour Road seawall- Parish Councillor A Nation stated that the works are scheduled to commence in April 2026, and a location had been identified for the storage of materials etc.

Min 116/2025-Community Police- The Clerk read out the following report:

Crimes and incidents – Recorded crime was very low this period with nothing having been reported which would impact on the community. Incident wise nothing of note has occurred to update you on either.

Local matters – No new reports of speeding in the area and no reports of ASB either. Nothing relevant to Beadnell has occurred in nearby parishes.

Community engagement – Nothing to advise on.

Min 117/2025- County Councillor report- The Clerk advised the meeting that County Councillor G Renner-Thompson had provided the following updates:

- **HUSK Housing** - No updates.

Councillor A Nation explained this no longer an option due to insufficient number of garages available locally to make a viable project. However, County Councillor G Renner-Thompson had agreed to contact Bernicia Homes to see if affordable housing could be built on the garages site as part of the North Sunderland projects, as this was a suggestion in the past.

- **The Kilns S106 Agreement-** Investigations are ongoing.

Parish Councillor T Jayes again raised concerns about the Non-compliance to S106 Occupancy restrictions at The Kilns and the criteria of this S106 Agreement.

Parish Councillor A Baker proposed Parish Councillor T Jayes draft an email to be sent to County Councillor G Renner-Thompson and Northumberland Estates should also be made aware of the situation. This was agreed.

Parish Councillors agreed this to be an agenda item until questions are answered.

Min 118/2025- Northumberland Coast National Landscape

- Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that all Partnership meetings are hybrid and open to the members of the public to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for 25th February, the venue is to be Bamburgh or Belford.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked if there was any further information on the Management Plan or updates from the meeting with Parish Council Chairs.
The Chair replied that his note from the meeting had been circulated.
- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that RAMP funding had been allocated to the installation of Interpretation boards, as well as preservation works to heritage assets on Harbour Road which includes the Beadnell Round Carin and a grave which had been discovered. Also, the area around the Round Cairn will be tidied up, planted and the grave will be fenced off.

Min 119/2025- Planning Application

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders to the applicant to provide an update on his planning application.

Standing Orders reinstated.

25/03771/VARYCO- Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) on approved application

25/02774/FUL in order to make design changes to the approved plans and to allow the proposals to be building regulations compliant- 6 Harbour Road Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5BB

Parish Councillors debated the planning application and Parish Councillors unanimously agreed to submit No Objections to the planning application.

Min 120/2025- Planning Approvals

- 25/02686/FUL- Single storey glazed veranda to north east elevation- 15 Coble Way The Kilns Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5EP
- 25/02774/FUL- Single storey front, side, and rear extensions. Solar panels to rear extension. Replacement of existing front dormer windows with flat roof dormers. Insertion of rear dormer window. Reduction in bedrooms from 4 to 3- 6 Harbour Road Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5BB
- 25/02001/FUL- Replacement of existing shower, laundry, boiler and storage building with new purpose-built shower, laundry, boiler and storage building, incorporating solar panels on the roof- Beadnell Links Caravan Site Benthall Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5BN
- 25/02213/LBC- Listed Building Consent for alteration of door to window on East elevation-Flat 3 Beadnell Hall The Haven Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5AT
- 25/03191/FUL- Single storey rear extension to existing dwelling house- 8 Sandy Lane Court Beadnell Northumberland NE67 5EH

Min 121/2025- Planning Refusals

- 25/02212/LBC- Listed Building Consent for replacement of four Gothic windows on East elevation of 1950s two storey extension- Flats 2 And 3 Beadnell Hall The Haven Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5AT
- 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

Min 122/2025- Play Areas.

- The Chairman of the Sub-Committee provided the following update on the Meadow Lane play area refurbishment.
The refurbishment is completed and the handover took place on 24th October.
There was a thorough inspection report undertaken which identified a few adjustments which were required. Kompan did return to site and make the identified adjustments.
Northumberland County Council removed all the old play equipment from their system which they use for the weekly inspections when uploading the new equipment, however this has now been rectified and all play equipment on the Meadow Lane play area is now on the Northumberland County Council system used for undertaking the weekly inspections.
Northumberland County Council's lead officer for RAMP has undertaken a site visit and is happy to state that the final £15K of the £100K grant can be paid once the Parish Council submits the final claim.
I estimate that once the final £15K grant + the 3rd VAT reclaim for the project is received there should be approx. £6,300 left in the Refurbishment Account. Also, the Parish Council agreed to make a £2,500 donation after the 2nd ½ of the 2025/26 precept was received.
This means the Parish Council should have approx. £8.5K to start the Longbeach Drive

refurbishment project.

We will receive 200 trees from the Woodland Trust, which will be planted in March by volunteers. All the work undertaken by volunteers is included within the RAMP funding application as it is part of the outcomes.

The official opening of the refurbished play area will be held at Easter 2026. BCV are providing assistance.

- Parish Councillor A Nation stated that the project was completed swiftly and that was good. She concluded by stating that she had concerns that the handover was undertaken on 24th October and the play area reopened when there were still outstanding issues. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed that the Longbeach play area is only reopened once Parish Councillors agreed the project is completed and signed off as ready to reopen. The Vice-Chair seconded the proposal.
- Parish Councillors noted the receipt of the handover pack from Kompan.
- The Vice-Chair proposed & the Chair seconded making the payment of £59,752.28 to Kompan which is the final Instalment for the refurbishment of Meadow Lane play area, once Parish Councillor A Baker circulates the confirmation email from Kompan stating all the required amendments had been completed. This was agreed.
- The Vice-Chair proposed & the Chair seconded making the payment of £2032.80 to Kompan for repairs to the wet pour at Meadow Lane play area, once either the VAT refund or final payment from RAMP is received. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillors agreed not to progress the purchase of sponsorship plaques from Fantasy Prints at the present time as the plaques cannot be installed on the play equipment as it may affect the guarantee. Parish Councillors agreed to consider erecting a sign ahead of the official opening as approx. £32k sponsorship funding had been received. All sponsors will be invited to the official opening.
- Parish Councillors considered any outstanding refurbishment issues at Meadow Lane play area.

Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that Stableyards had cut back the boundary hedge and the tree planting will be undertaken in spring.

Parish Councillors noted that the basket swing seat had been removed earlier that day on health & safety grounds following receipt of the weekly report from Northumberland County Council requesting action to be taken.

Parish Councillors considered the quote of £1016.80 + VAT from Play & Leisure to provide a replacement basket swing seat. Parish Councillors agreed to provisionally accept the quote on the condition Northumberland County Council would fit the replacement seat.

Parish Councillors agreed that the replacement seat would be paid for by using funds from the Refurbishment Account.

Parish Councillors agreed the safety surfacing at the multi gym area needs to be reviewed ahead of the official opening as grass seed has been sown twice, and matting could be a trip hazard.

- Parish Councillors agreed to include £500 per year in the next 2-3 years budget to cover on-going maintenance costs at Meadow Lane play area.

- Parish Councillors noted the points raised from the Longbeach Drive weekly inspection reports agreeing that the points will be addressed during the refurbishment, as the Sub-Committee are aware of the issues.
- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that all Playground providers who had tendered for the Meadow Lane refurbishment were invited to tender for the Longbeach Drive refurbishment, the total cost of the project to be £20k.
An invite to tender was also, placed on the Parish Council website.
4 Playground providers had tendered for the refurbishment and Parish Councillors have had sight of all the tenders.
Northumberland County Council own the land which Longbeach Drive play area is situated on.
- The Vice-Chair reported that she had consulted parents & residents surrounding the Longbeach Drive play area, and she received 100% support for the play area from the people she spoke to.
Residents have had a look at the proposed plans and the verbal feedback is they would like swings & a seat to be included within the site. However, concerns were raised about the slippery surface.
- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that a wet pour overlay could be placed on the current surface and new play equipment etc could be placed in a position to reduce the level of mossy/slippy surface.
Parish Councillor A Nation asked how long would the over lay last.
Parish Councillor A Baker replied he had been advised it could last up to 10 years.
- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that the Sub-Committee & surveyed parents voted Kompan was the preferred provider then Play & Leisure as No2.
Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & the Vice-Chair seconded that Parish Council award the contract to Kompan to refurbish the Longbeach Drive play area for a £20k budget, and to retain a bench within the play area. The final layout to be confirmed and reviewed by Parish Councillors. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that the Sub-Committee had submitted grant funding applications and if they are successful the Parish Council will receive £13K. Also, the Parish Council had been offered £1k sponsorship so far, and another 2 local businesses may be interested in becoming sponsors.

Min 123/2025- Cemetery- The Vice-Chair spoke to her previously circulated report following her recent visit to the cemetery:

- 1- **Headstones-** One of the headstones in the new section of the cemetery had a lean and a relative had been contacted about ownership.
One of the larges crosses had fallen and had been laid on the base, it is presumed by the grass cutter to allow him to cut the grass.
Another large headstone in the old section of the cemetery had a lean so the Clerk contacted Northumberland County Council who undertook the Memorial Inspection for advice.
The officer at Northumberland County Council who undertook the Memorial Inspection visited the cemetery and confirmed there is currently no issue with the large headstone

with the lean. However, he advised that 2 of the large crosses which failed the previous inspection had not received any attention and if the Parish Council are unable to trace the families the Parish Council is responsible to take remedial action. She confirmed that the Parish Council had been unable to trace any members of the families in relation to the 2 memorials.

- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk obtains quotes from 3 Memorial Masons to safely lay down the 3 large cross memorials.
- 2- **Boundary wall**- The wall facing the B1340 is beginning to crack, flake & buckle, proposing the Parish Council may need to undertake repairs to the boundary wall in the next 3-5 years and due to the costs involved the last time a section of the wall was repaired the Parish Council should start building up a fund for the works in next year's budget. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked if there is an issue with flooding in the cemetery like there had been in previous years. The Vice-Chair replied there had not been an issue so far this year, however, there is currently some flooding.
- The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received a request to inter ashes in a burial plot which already contained 2 burials, and the Cemetery Policy states 2 interments. Parish Councillors considered the request and agreed to approve the request. Parish Councillors also, agreed to consider any similar requests on a case-by-case basis.

Min 124/2025- Financial Statement

Community Account	£ 14605.68
Savings Account	£ 4898.54
Playground Refurbishment A/C	£ 51146.21

Min 125/2025- Finance:

Receipts

• Resident	£ 1080.00	Purchase Plot N48
• HMRC	£10,003.84	VAT Refund
• Resident	£ 18.00	Donation Play Area Refurbishment Phase 2

Transfer

- Refurbishment A/c to Community A/c £60,005.94
- Community A/c to Refurbishment A/c £ 18.00
- Community A/c to Refurbishment A/c £10,000.99

Playground Refurbishment Account

- Northumberland CC £50,147.20 RAMP grant funding 1st Instalment
- Northumberland CC £34,852.80 RAMP grant funding 2nd Instalment

Payments: Parish Councillors agreed the following payments.

- I Hunter £ 349.41 Salary 45.25 hours @ £ 14.82 per hour
- HMRC £ 321.20 PAYE
- Beadnell WI £ 24.00 Room hire
- Kompan Scotland Ltd £ 2032.80 Meadow Lane Play Area – wet pour repair

- Kompan Scotland Ltd £59,752.28 Meadow Lane Play Area upgrade-
3rd (final) instalment.

Min 126/2025- Parish Council Policies-

- Parish Councillors undertook the annual review of the Risk Assessment and agreed it was up to date. The Chair to sign a copy at the January meeting.
- Parish Councillors agreed to start the annual review of the Parish Council Asset Register. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Baker to be the lead Parish Councillor.
- Parish Councillors considered the current Email Policy. Parish Councillor A Nation raised again concerns about some of the wording within the policy. Parish Councillor A Baker stated that Email Policy had been adopted earlier in 2025 by a 5 to 1 vote.
Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & the Vice-Chair seconded that Parish Councillor A Nation prepare a revised draft version for Parish Councillors to consider at the January meeting. This was agreed.
The Chair stated that all Parish Councillors should now be using the Parish Council gov.uk email addresses. Parish Councillor A Nation stated at the present time she would continue to use her gmail email address until the Email Policy is amended, as this is the email address she has designated as her email address for Parish Council work. The Vice-Chair stated that she would copy Parish Councillor A Nation's gmail email into Parish Council emails at the present time.
The Chair proposed the adoption of Assertion 10 for digital & data compliance. Parish Councillors asked for this to be deferred to the January meeting as Parish Councillors had been unable to open the attachment. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed and the Vice-Chair seconded that Parish Councillor A Nation draft an Assertion 10 document for Parish Councillors to consider at the January meeting.
- Parish Councillor A Nation stated that all Parish Councillors should have the opportunity to review press releases ahead of issue. The Vice-Chair stated the latest press release re play Area had to meet the deadline for the Village News. It had been circulated but she only received one reply from councillors

Min 127/2025- Budget 2026/27

- Parish Councillors received an in-year budget update.
- Parish Councillors agreed to start the budget process for 2026/27:
Parish Councillors asked the Clerk to obtain a quote from Northumberland County Council for the weekly inspections for the 2 play areas, which is via an SLA.
The Clerk reported that the room hire for the W I Hall will increase to £15 per hour in 2026. Parish Councillor A Baker suggested the budget may need to £20k again in 2026/27 to cover possible cemetery expenditure in forthcoming years.

Min 128/2025- Correspondence- Parish Councillors noted the following correspondence.

- **Ad Gefrin-** Email- Request for nominations for Community Award
- **CRAG-** Email- Newsletter
- **NCC-** Email- Elected members Prevent handbook
- **NCC-**Email- Feedback from Corporate Priorities & budget meeting with Leader
- **NCC-** Email- Winter preparedness 2025/26 information
- **War Memorials Trust-** November 2025 Bulletin

- **North Northumberland Hospice Care-** Email- Local Community fundraising for businesses.

Min 129/2025- North Northumberland Neighbourhood Review

- Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that there had been 2 attempts to hold a meeting. Also, she had circulated an update which proposed the 3 Parish Councils within the NHP area agree to attend a meeting to be organised by Northumberland County Council officer from the Neighbourhood Plan Department. However, to date only County Councillor G Renner-Thompson had responded.
- Parish Councillors agreed Beadnell Parish Council were in agreement for the Neighbourhood Plan to be reviewed and Parish Councillor A Nation to contact Northumberland County Council to organise a review meeting for the 3 Parish Councils with the NHP area.

Min 130/2025- Consultations

- Parish Councillors considered and agreed not to respond to the Northumberland County Council renewal of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO). Parish Councillor A Nation proposed considering restrictions for dogs to be kept on leads on Beadnell's designated bathing beach at busy times of the year and day during the bathing season. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation prepare a proposal for Parish Councillors to consider at the January meeting.
- Parish Councillors considered and agreed not to respond to the North of Tyne draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Min 131/2025- Local Issues-

- Parish Councillors considered the parking of trading vehicles at the Bullring
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact County Councillor G Renner-Thompson to ask for information on the Terms of the Trading Licences.
- Parish Councillor A Nation proposed leaving the footpath at The Haven -beach area including safety & signage as a standing agenda item at the present time, stating there should be an update at the January meeting once Northumberland Coast National Landscapes release details of their sense of place & signage project.
- Parish Councillors agreed this is private land.
- Parish Councillors considered the information received from Northumberland County Council in relation to winter preparedness and the snow warden scheme.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk send the information in relation to snow squads to BCV to see if it is of interest.
The majority of Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council should not be involved with this. Parish Councillor A Nation suggested that the Parish Council should at least be interested in raising awareness of this scheme and a poster could be put in the notice boards and on the website. It was agreed Parish Councillor A Nation to design a poster for Parish Councillors to consider/agree.
- Parish Councillor A Nation asked about all the advertising signage at the Bullring.
- The majority of Parish Councillors agreed the signage was to be part of the Northumberland Coast National Landscape Clutter Audit.
The Clerk to contact Northumberland Coast National Landscape officer asking for an update on the Clutter Audit.

BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL
Web Site ★ www.beadnellparishcouncil.gov.uk

- Parish Councillor A Nation suggested the purchase and installation of a community information board near the phone box.
Parish Councillors agreed to defer this until 2026.
Parish Councillor T Jayes informed the meeting that the noticeboard at West Fleetham needs the cork to be replaced.
Parish Councillor A Baker proposed that cork is replaced if possible. Also, Parish Councillor T Jayes to obtain a cost for a replacement noticeboard.

Parish Councillor A Nation proposed the Parish Council suspend Standing Orders to allow the remaining agenda items to be considered as the meeting had reached the 2-hour limit. The proposal was not seconded.

The meeting closed at this point.

The date of the next meeting 28th January 2025 at 6pm

Chair_____Date_____