

Discussion of a proposed restriction of dogs on Beadnell Beach

It's good to see so many people attending a Parish Council Meeting. I understand that most of you are here because of recent publicity indicating that Beadnell Parish Council is considering imposing a requirement that dogs should be on a lead on the beach during the busy times of the year.

The first thing that I have to make clear is that the Parish Council does not have the authority to impose such a restriction. The beach is under the jurisdiction of Northumberland County Council.

At our last meeting, in January, Councillor Alison Nation raised the issue of dog fouling around the village and on the beach. She proposed that we purchase 'No dog fouling signs' to be stuck on litter bins. We agreed to allocate £10- £15 for her to purchase plastic signs and stick them on the bins.

Councillor Nation also raised the issue of dogs being required to be on leads on the beach during the summer months. Other councillors cautioned against this but agreed that Councillor Nation approach Northumberland County Council and the Northumberland Coast National Landscapes for advice on the matter. She agreed to update us at this meeting.

Meanwhile she has been quoted in the press.

I would like to stress that she was not speaking on behalf of the council as a 'spokeswoman' for the Parish Council.

Councillor Nation, please provide us with your update and your proposal for next steps.