

MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 23rd September 2026 at 6pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall

Present: Chair- J Hall,
Parish Councillors: J Darcy, T Jayes, G Martindale & A Nation.
County Councillor G Renner-Thompson
North Sunderland Parish Councillors J Wood & S Hillan
Clerk: I Hunter
5 Members of the public

Public Question Time: Members of the public asked the following questions:

- 1- My question concerns the 25/26 and 26/27 Council Local Transport Plan. Specifically, the item in the “Network Safety” category titled “Swinhoe Crossroads- Junction safety improvements”

Are Parish Councillors content with the pace of the progress being made and direction of travel?

Secondly, has the Parish Council a view on which of the options which were consulted on?

The Chair replied that Parish Councillors submitted their individual views, as it was felt that was the best option as Parish Councillors could have different preferences.

Parish Councillors agreed not to comment on the pace and direction of travel on the scheme

County Councillor G Renner-Thompson stated that the Parish Council should receive an update shortly.

- 2- The footpath from Beadnell to Seahouses is in a poor condition which means cyclists are having to use the B1340 road. The footpath needs to be upgraded.

County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied that the footpath is not a designated cycle way.

1 member of the public left the meeting at that point.

- 3- Parish Councillor T Jayes speaking on behalf of the residents of The Kilns raised the following concerns:

In the summer months visitors had been parking in The Kilns to go to the beach, as they did not realise the road was a “No Through Road” could signs be erected to advise drivers that The Kilns is a “No Through Road”. He concluded by saying residents have been in contact with the Development Manager at Northumberland Estates in relation to this issue as the roads etc are still not adopted.

County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to look into the issue.

Parish Councillors stated that to date Kennedy Green roads etc are still not adopted.

Apologies for Absence: Vice-Chair A Baker & Parish Councillor C Harrison

Declaration of Interest: None.

Request for Dispensation- None.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd July 2026- Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd July 2026 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 87/2026 (Min 70/2026)- Annual Insurance premium- Parish Councillor A Nation asked if there were any updates on the insurance value for the village clock. The Clerk replied that she had contacted Smiths of Derby again after the last meeting asking for an insurance value which she could share with the Insurance provider, however, to date no response had been received. She agreed to contact Smiths of Derby again.

Min 88/2026 (Min 72/2026)-Community Police- Parish Councillor A Nation reported that people had been in contact with her about the “Stop Alison Nation” stickers on lamp posts and elsewhere asking if the police could take action to stop this. Parish Councillor A Nation concluded that no action can be taken as the person/s responsible are not known. The Chair replied that she removed the stickers as and when she noticed them.

Min 89/2026 (Min 73/2026)- County Councillor report- Enforcement of Section 106 at Beadnell Kilns- Are Northumberland County Council Legal Department able to tell the Parish Council how many enforcement cases there are. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson replied he had no updates and would share any information as and when it is received.

Min 90/2026 (Min 82/2026)- Travel board- Parish Councillor A Nation gave a vote of thanks to BCV for allowing travel information to be displayed on the back of the “What’s On board”. She confirmed in her personal capacity she would keep the information up to date.

Min 91/2026 – Community Police- The Clerk reported no report had been received.

Min 92/2026- County Councillor report- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson provided the following answers to Parish Council questions;

1. Are there any updates on the public toilet refurbishment?
I have circulated the update I have received: however, I will raise the point that the deep clean has not been undertaken. I will continue to lobby for Beadnell toilets to be a priority.
2. Update on Bullring fence replacement to include thanks and recognition of BCV input.
The Bullring fence has been replaced thank you to NCC for undertaking the work in conjunction with support from BCV.
3. Any updates on the S106- *This was covered at Min 89/2026*
4. An update on the resurfacing works of the Haven.
The Parish Council have received an update when the works will be undertaken.
5. What are the plans to control parking once the seawall works are complete? There has been a suggestion that Harbour Road could be designated an urban clearway.
The works are currently still ongoing.
6. Parking outside the village shop and around the junctions of Harbour Road with The Haven and Longstone Crescent.
Northumberland County Council are open to any suggestions, which could include double yellow lines if that is the wish of the Parish Council and locals.
7. Any updates to the repairs to the AA box - *I have circulated the update.*

Planning- Next week Northumberland County Council will publish on their website the maps

that developers have submitted in the call for sites for possible development. This is in response to a request from Central Government that Northumberland have to build up to 34,000 houses, however, the maps identify enough land for 120,000 houses. Central Government have made changes to the NPPF which now means that settlement boundaries identified in NHP's will be harder to defend. NHP's will not be to stopping development but to control where you would like to see development.

Min 93/2026- National Landscape: The Chair welcomed National Landscape Northern Parish Council Representative North Sunderland Parish Councillor J Scott to Beadnell Parish Council meeting.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor J Scott provided a summary of the projects and the work of the National Landscapes.

- She informed the meeting that she hoped to attend at least 1 Parish Council meeting per year to provide verbal updates.
- The last Partnership meeting was held in June and the next Partnership meeting will be held on 19th November, and it might be in Beadnell TBC.
- The Chair raised concerns that due to the lack of a Communications Officer Parish Councils were not receiving updates.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor J Scott agreed to email agendas etc to the Clerk, and send an email ahead of Partnership meetings to ask if the Parish Council had any issues, they would like her to raise.

- Parish Councillor A Nation reminded the meeting that all Partnership meetings are hybrid and they are open to members of the public to attend.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor J Scott left the meeting at that point.

Min 94/2026- Northumberland Association of Local Councils: The Chair welcomed North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan to Beadnell Parish Council meeting and asked her to provide an update on the role of the Parish Council representative on the Northumberland Association of Local Councils

North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan provided a verbal update on the history & membership of the Northumberland Association of Local Councils.

She gave an update on the structure of the NALC Committee: G Popay is the Chief Officer, and provided the current names of the Chair, Vice-Chair & Treasurer.

She stated that the agendas are standard agendas and all information is circulated by the Chief Officer. Last year the representatives were asked to engage with the Parish Councils that they represent. I am happy to email the agendas & minutes to the Clerk.

The Chair questioned the value of the annual subscription.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan replied that NALC are considering reducing the annual subscription in 2027/28 due the current level of the NALC bank balance.

Parish Councillor A Nation asked about the NALC agendas & minutes which appear not to be available on the NALC website, and queried the cost of training.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan agreed to ask the website question, and stated that NALC are going to provide free training.

Parish Councillor A Nation questioned the content of the NALC AGM 2025 minutes, and asked what time would the 2026 AGM be held on 8th October.

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North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan replied that she had not been in attendance at the 2025 AGM, and the 2026 AGM would be held at 5.30pm on 8th October.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan concluded that Parish Councils can contact her, however usually Parish Councils contact NALC directly and if the issue is urgent Parish Councils should contact the NALC Chief Officer directly.

North Sunderland Parish Councillor S Hillan left the meeting at that point.

Min 95/2026- Beadnell Public Toilets:

- Parish Councillors agreed this agenda item was considered at Min 92/2026
- County Councillor G Renner-Thompson agreed to chase Northumberland County Council for an update on the refurbishment of the toilets.

Min 96/2025- Play Areas.

- Parish Councillors noted the submission of the completion report for the Northumberland Estates grant towards the refurbishment of Longbeach Drive play area.
- Parish Councillors ratified the order of a replacement spring for one of the gates at Meadow Lane play area.
- Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse the Vice-Chair £12.99 for the spring for one of the gates at Meadow Lane play area.
- Parish Councillors ratified the placing of the order for the sponsorship sign with Fantasy Prints for the Longbeach Drive refurbishment.
- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £50.92 to Fantasy Prints for the sponsorship sign for Longbeach Drive.
- The Clerk advised the meeting that Stableyards had confirmed that repairs to the fencing at Meadow Lane play area would be undertaken in October.
- Parish Councillors agreed that a volunteer would relocate the noticeboard within Meadow Lane play area to a more suitable location and height.
- Parish Councillors noted the final report from the Sub-Committee, which had been collated by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee.
The Chair gave a vote of thanks to the Vice-Chair and Beadnell in Bloom volunteers for cutting back the grass area etc.
The Chair proposed that the Sub-Committee report is circulated to other Parish Councils and groups wishing to refurbish play areas, and a copy to be placed on the Parish Council website. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillors noted that the Sub-Committee was now disbanded. Parish Councillor A Nation gave a vote of thanks to the Sub-Committee for their hard work in delivering 2 refurbished play areas.
- Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse the Clerk £73.47 for rubber matting/safety surfacing.
- Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse the Clerk £33.99 for grass seed.
- The Chair proposed the Clerk contact Stableyards and ask for a quote to cut the perimeter hedge in Meadow Lane play area. This was agreed.

Min 97/2026- Cemetery

- The Clerk advised the meeting that Wm Purves had confirmed that the 7-8 memorials will be laid flat by the end of October.

- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £225 to Wm Purves which is 50% of the total cost to lay 7-8 memorials flat.
- Parish Councillors agreed the remaining 50% payment to Wm Purves on completion of the works and receipt of final invoice.
- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £144 to Unstumpable for tree works.

Min 98/2026- Clerk's salary annual review 2026/27

- Parish Councillors agreed the Local Government Services pay agreement for 2026/27. The Parish Clerk is on SCP 12 = £15.31 per hour from 1st April 2026.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of an additional 111.75 hours @ 0.49p per hour gross.

Min 99/2026- Memorial Bench

- Parish Councillors noted that a family had agreed to fund the purchase and installation of 1x memorial bench on the grass verge outside Beadnell cemetery gates.
- Parish Councillors ratified the issue of the purchase order for £1,538.05 to Glasdon Uk Ltd for 1x memorial bench.
- Parish Councillors confirmed that O Kavanagh will install 1x memorial bench at a cost of £460.
- Parish Councillors ratified the issue the £ 1,741.71 invoice to the family requesting 1x memorial bench.
- Parish Councillors noted receipt of the 50% from the family for 1x memorial bench + installation.
- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £1,538.05 to Glasdon Uk Ltd for 1x memorial bench.
- Parish Councillors agreed the purchase of 1x plaque for the memorial bench from Fantasy Prints at a cost of £36. The nett cost to be funded by the family.
- Parish Councillors noted that the memorial bench had been installed and agreed the payment of £460 to O Kavanagh for the installation. The Chair stated that O Kavanagh had made a good job and had tidied up the surrounding area.
- Parish agreed the payment of £36 to Fantasy Prints for the plaque for the memorial bench.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk raise the £30 invoice to the family for the plaque and request the outstanding 50% payment for the purchase and installation of the memorial bench.

Min 100/2026- Planning Approval

26/02269/LBC- Listed Building Consent for replacement of 4no. unauthorised double glazed timber windows on ground floor East elevation with single glazed timber windows Flats 2 and 3 Beadnell Hall, The Haven Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5AT

Min 101/2026- Planning Refusal

26/02395/FUL- Construction of one detached dwelling with associated access and landscaping Land North Of 27 Longbeach Drive Beadnell NE67 5EG

Min 102/2026- Finance

Bank Balances

Community Account	£ 1,438.66
Savings Account	£ 26,966.67

Receipts

• Resident	£ 35.00	Donation
• Barclays Bank	£ 10.97	Refurbishment A/c – Interest
• Member of public	£ 870.86	Memorial bench-50% deposit
		Purchase & Installation
• Barclays Bank	£ 27.37	Saving A/c- Interest
• Northumberland CC	£10,250.00	½ Annual precept

Transfers

• Refurbishment A/c to Community A/c	£ 9,537.25
• Community A/c to Savings A/c	£13,000.00
• Savings A/c to Community A/c	£ 1,000.00
• Community A/c to Savings A/c	£10,000.00

Payments

• A J Mears	£ 144.00	Cemetery- tree works (paid)
• Glasdon Uk Ltd	£ 1,538.05	Memorial bench (paid)
• I Hunter	£ 394.82	Salary 48 hours @ £15.31 per hour + back pay
• HMRC	£ 394.82	PAYE
• I Hunter	£ 33.99	Play Area- Grass seed
• I Hunter	£ 73.47	Play Area- rubber matting/ safety surfacing.
• Beadnell WI	£ 30.00	Room hire
• A Baker	£ 12.99	Play Area- spring for gate
• Town & PC Websites	£ 540.00	Annual website & email fee
• O Kavanagh	£ 460.00	Install memorial bench
• Fantasy Prints	£ 36.00	Memorial bench- plaque
• Fantasy Prints	£ 50.92	Longbeach Drive play area Sponsorship sign.

Bank arrangements-

- Parish Councillors considered the report provided by the Vice-Chair proposing moving the Parish Council bank accounts from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust.
- Parish Councillors asked the Clerk if she had any experience of using Unity Trust. The Clerk replied that none of her Parish Councils use Unity Trust.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk open a current account with Unity Trust and trial the bank account ahead of moving all the Parish Council funds from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust.

Min 103/2026- Conclusion of Annual Audit 2025/26

- Parish Councillors considered and noted the following issues raised by the External Auditor.
 - 1- The internal control objective (F), “petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved, and VAT appropriately accounted for”, was ticked “Yes” by the internal auditor when no petty cash was held by the Council. The box should have been ticked “not covered” and an explanation provided if no petty cash held. In future, the Council should ensure the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) is accurate and complete.
 - 2- The internal control objective (K), “if the Authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2024/25, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt”, was ticked “Yes” by the internal auditor when the Council was not exempt in 2024/25. The box should have been ticked 'not covered'. In future, the Council should ensure the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) is accurate and complete.
 - 3- **Amendment to the Practitioners’ Guide 2026/27 in respect of Section 2 Box 11 Trust Fund Transactions** As part of the Accounting Statements (Section 2), the authority is asked to confirm whether there are any trust fund transactions included in the figures. Box 11 has been amended to state the authority should answer based on whether trust fund transactions have been excluded from the AGAR.
- Parish Councillors agreed to issue the payment to Mazars Ltd for undertaking the External Audit on receipt of an invoice.
- Parish Councillors agreed that Annual Audit for 2025/26 is now concluded.
- Parish Councillors agreed the fee of £5 for any requests for a hard copy of the 2025/26 account & audit paperwork.
- Parish Councillors agreed the AGAR & completion of Annual Audit notice to be displayed on the Parish Council website and noticeboards.
- Parish Councillors agreed that the Parish Council accounts for 2025/26 are now approved.

Min 104/2026- North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan

- Parish Councillors noted that there had been no neighbourhood plan meetings recently.
- The Chair stated that she will not be attending the neighbourhood plan meetings for the foreseeable future.
- The Chair proposed that she draft a letter to be sent to all Parish Councils within the NCNL area asking if they would support a joint letter being sent to Northumberland County Council asking for a specific section in the Local Plan to tackle issues such as high house prices, aging community, staffing crisis, lack of affordable accommodation and especially an over reliance on Tourism within the NCNL area. Parish Councillors agreed the Chair and Clerk collate and issue a letter to all Parish Councils within the NCNL area. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson stated that the Elected Mayor also, has planning policies & strategies, and this request may be more apt to the Elected Mayor’s Regional Economic plan.
- Parish Councillor A Nation referred to TR2 local parking standards, stating the neighbourhood plan could look at having a policy to exclude garages from being included within the count for parking spaces if the garages are not large enough to accommodate a car.

Min 105/2026- Consultations

- Parish Councillors agreed not to respond to the current Northumberland County Council consultation on its draft Gambling Licensing Policy (its local 'Statement of Principles').
- Parish Councillors agreed not to respond to the current Northumberland County Council consultation on a proposal to introduce a new countywide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) relating to the consumption of alcohol in public places.

Min 106/2026- Correspondence- Parish Councillors noted the following correspondence.

- **NCC-** Email- Invite to Town & Parish Council conference on 8th October.
- **Resident-** Emails- Swinhoe crossroads.
- **NCC-** Email- Update on Swinhoe crossroads.
- **Alnwick Medical Group-**Email- PPG Newsletter.
- **NCC-** Email- Northumberland Libraries August Newsletter
- **National Trust-** Email- Update on plastic pellets (nurdles) clean up on Northumberland beaches.
- **Resident-** Emails- Re verge parking in Beadnell village. *Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk respond to the resident to state that their emails were noted at the September PC meeting.*
- **Citizens Advice Northumberland-** Email- Reply to the Parish Council's request for statistics. *Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Citizens Advice Northumberland to ascertain if the data is in the public domain.*
- **NCC-** Email- Northumberland Local Plan update.
- **NCC-** Email- Leader's invite to Town & Parish Council conference on 8th October. *Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk book a place for Parish Councillor A Nation only.*
- **NCC-** Email- Digital Switchover January 2027
- **NCC-** Email- Information reports from Town & Parish Council Liaison Working Group.

Any other urgent business

Min 107/2026- Village Green & Bier house- Parish Councillor A Nation and the Chair proposed bringing a report to the November meeting for Parish Councillors to consider. The report to include a proposal for an information board to be installed at the Village Green similar to that for the Reading Room and the current state of the Bier House.
The Clerk to circulate the cost for the Reading Room sign.

Min 108/2026- Fisherman's Land- Parish Councillor A Nation asked about the ongoing works on the land in question and if the Parish Council could be of any assistance. A member of the public who is a member of the Fisherman's Committee summarised the situation and stated if anyone had any questions please could they contact him directly. He concluded by saying any voluntary help would be accepted.

The date of the next meeting 25th November 2026 at 6pm

Chair _____ Date _____