

**MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 6pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall**

**Present:** Chair- G Martindale, Vice-Chair J Hall  
Parish Councillors: J Rhind, C Williamson, A Baker, & A Nation  
Clerk: I Hunter  
7 Members of the public

**Public Question Time:** A member of the public informed the meeting that he had advised Northumberland County Council that he will not be cutting the grass verge outside his property in 2023, however, so far, he had not received any response. Parish Councillor C Williamson agreed to speak Northumberland County Council grass cutting operators when they are on site in 2023.

**Apologies for Absence:** County Councillor G Renner-Thompson

**Declaration of Interest:** The Vice-Chair reported that she did not have an interest in planning application No 21/01757/VARYCO, however she will not be taking part in the deliberations or the vote.

**Request for Dispensation-** None

**The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022**  
Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of this meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 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 1/2023 (Min 138/2022)- The Chatterry- The Seating area at Longstone Close-**

- Parish Councillor C Williamson provided the following updates:  
Work on The Chatterry is now complete and it is in use.
  1. Parish Council and BCV need to agree wording of plaque.  
Suggested wording was discussed.  
Parish Councillors agreed to delegate to BCV the final approval of the wording.
  2. To decide a plinth for the plaque.  
Suggestion is a planter/s located between the seats and the path.  
Supplier Marmax - size 60cm x 60cm x 60 cm, weight 38kg, recyclable material matching the seats, £252+vat+delivery  
Licence with NCC allows for planters to be installed on the area.  
Volunteers have been identified who are willing to maintain the planter/s  
Parish Councillor C Williamson proposed & Parish Councillor A Baker seconded the purchase of 2 planters from Marmax. This was agreed.
  3. Parish Council and BCV to decide on opening day and its format. Parish Councillors agreed BCV take the lead on organising the opening.
  4. The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that BCV will be contributing towards the chatterry.

**Min 2/2023 (Min 125/2022)- Parking on the Main Street in Seahouses-** Parish Councillor A Nation asked

if there were any updates to the Parish Council's letter to North Sunderland Parish Council. The meeting replied no updates had been received.

**Min 3/2023 (Min 135/2022) Village Green-** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that the sign at VG56 Benthall, had disappeared, however, she will ask the question again later in the year if the sign re-appears.

**Min 4/2023 (Min 136/2022) Climate Change-** Parish Councillor A Nation referred to the toolkit, infrared scanners and the request for local locations for EV chargers. Parish Councillors agreed Longstone Park & the Bullring could be possible locations. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation take the lead in identifying locations for EV chargers.

**Min 5/2023 (Min 120/2022)- Parish Council email addresses-** Parish Councillor A Nation again raised concerns that some Parish Councillors are not using the email address she had identified for Parish Council business, therefore she is not receiving all Parish Council communications. Parish Councillor J Rhind also, stated that he will be using the gmail email address he had identified for Parish Council business for the foreseeable future. It was agreed that all Parish Councillors will use the email addresses Parish Councillors A Nation & J Rhind have identified for Parish Council business.

**The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the planning meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair signed a hard copy

**Min 6/2023-Community Police-** The Clerk read out the following report:

Over the last 28 days there have been three reported incidents and one recorded crime. One incidents ASB reported. Due to the nature of the incidents, I am unable to give you further specific details. I can confirm however that none of these are relevant or have a wider impact on the community.

Parish Councillor A Baker questioned the value of a police report being an agenda item. Parish Councillors agreed to continue having police updates on future agendas.

**Min 7/2023- County Councillor report-** The Clerk read out the following report:

1. I have attached a PowerPoint presentation given to us at North Northumberland Local Area Council about the Coastal Summit and visitor management, I'm sure you'll find it interesting.
2. I've had an unconfirmed report of one of the Kings Mead houses being used as a second home. I'm awaiting confirmation of an address but any information from the Parish would be appreciated. Parish Councillors noted Kings Mead is not in Beadnell Parish.
3. I've again reported flooding on the path outside 22-24 Harbour Road and await a response on moving the drain.
4. Bernicia have come back with another application for affordable housing on the edge of North Sunderland. It's a reduced scheme to be more aligned with planning policy since the site had been subject to a judicial review by neighbours who opposed housing there. Personally I think they've been too cautious. Glen and I are pushing on to develop the old Seahouses school site which was linked to this but we're keen to delink it to deliver the houses asap.

5. The transfer of the tennis courts at Seahouses Hub from NCC to the Development Trust is almost complete and is sitting with the Trust solicitor. This will enable the refurbishment of the community faculty.
6. The consultation event at Belford Primary School on moving Belford into the Alnwick Partnership of Schools instead of Berwick as part of NCC's £40 million investment into Berwick schools was well attended. The consultation is ongoing.
7. The outcome of DEFRA proposals to ban fishing around Lindisfarne and the Farnes was expected before Christmas but has been delayed to the Spring due to the number of responses.

Questions from Parish Councillors:

- 1- It appears the motorhome pilot has been successful; however, the Parish Council have not been consulted in regards to the permanent sites.
- 2- Can the Clerk find out where Beadnell is on the list for the public toilet refurbishment.

**Min 8/2023- North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood plan-** Parish Councillor A Nation reported that Bamburgh Parish Council had responded in relation to the NHP review, however, North Sunderland Parish Council will not be responding until after the February Parish Council meeting.

Parish Councillor A Nation agreed to continue to update the monitoring spreadsheet. Parish Councillors gave a vote of thanks to Parish Councillor A Nation for undertaking this work.

#### **Min 9/2023- Planning Applications**

22/04708/FUL- Refurbishment of 3 no. existing staff pitches and upgrade of 3 no. existing hardstanding pitches to staff pitches- The Camping And Caravanning Club Beadnell Bay Caravan Site Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5BN. Parish Councillors agreed to submit no objections, however, Parish Councillors agreed to support the comments submitted by AONB.

The Vice-Chair did not take part in the deliberation or vote on the next planning application.

21/01757/VARYCO- Variation of condition 2 on approved application 18/01036/FUL in order to amend the design and internal layout of each property- Land East Of 21 Bernicia Way Bernicia Way Beadnell Northumberland.

Parish Councillors debated this planning application and agreed to object to the application on the following grounds:

1. A Change of Use application should be required. Only **the design and internal layout of each property** is the brief for a variation of Condition 2, **not** an enlargement of both footprints and adding an extra floor to Unit 2. The fact that the majority of the bedrooms are en-suite with extra showers and a laundry room points to multiple occupancy dwellings, rather than for family residency.
2. There is a covenant on all properties in Bernicia Way which states "Not to make any structural and/or external alterations or additions to the Dwelling...."
3. This application does not accord to the Northumberland Local Plan: scale, mass & density.
4. This application is contrary to the NNC NHP:

**Policy 5: DESIGN IN NEW DEVELOPMENT**

- All new development in the Neighbourhood Area, including extensions and conversions, should incorporate high quality design and demonstrate how:
- a) local context and character is respected in terms of scale, density, height, massing, layout, materials, hard and soft landscaping, means of enclosure and access; and
  - b) features including windows, doors, roof lights, chimneys, flues, roofs, and boundary treatments have regard to surrounding character and materials; and
  - c) appropriate landscaping and the use of indigenous species have been incorporated into the scheme; and
  - d) a Sustainable Urban Drainage System has been incorporated or demonstrate why such a system would not be practicable; and
  - e) measures have been incorporated to limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation; and
  - f) in terms of the massing, height, scale and proximity, of the proposed development does not result in an unacceptable loss of light or overshadowing, or other adverse amenity impacts on existing or future residents
5. The AONB Partnership has objected **to** the previous applications on this site, (the Parish Council believe the objections are still valid for this current application) in terms of siting, scale and mass and states. “Extending the Plot 2 house to the north changes the 'blue-print' for the holiday houses on the estate, which was designed to have coherency. It is reiterated that a larger house will have a greater impact on the drainage. Concerns are raised that increasing the scale of the development and the potential for run-off will exacerbate drainage problems.”
6. In 2018 an application [18/03779/FUL] for a proposed balcony extension at No 27 Bernicia Way was refused planning consent, a decision that was endorsed by the inspector who dismissed the appeal. She stated, *“The main issue arising in the appeal is the effect of the proposed development on the character and appearance of the surrounding area.....Therefore I conclude that the proposed development would contravene the requirements of Policy F2 of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Local Plan, adopted April 1999, because it would not accord with the layout of its surroundings. By failing to respect its local context and character it would also be unsupported by Policy 5 of the North Northumberland Neighbourhood Plan 2017 – 2032, made on 10 July 2018.”*
- Appeal Ref: APP/P2935/D/19/3219676 dated 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
7. There is insufficient parking in the curtilage to accommodate the possible number of vehicles for a 4 and 5 bed property respectively, a minimum of 3 spaces are required for both properties to comply with the Northumberland Local Plan Class C3 requirements.
- If Northumberland County Council are minded to approve this variation, then Beadnell Parish Council requests that the following 5 points are taken into account.”

1. The principal residence restriction is maintained, as accepted by the applicant, subject to a S106 agreement
2. The design to match the same as the existing dwellings in the vicinity
3. Plot 1 & 2 should each have at least 3 parking places to comply with the Northumberland Local Plan which states for a Class C3 development the minimum parking requirement for 4/5 bedrooms is 3 in curtilage.
4. There are ongoing issues with the provisions to manage sewage and surface water drainage at Bernicia Way. A number of properties suffer from time to time with sewage backing up and NWL has yet to decide on a permanent solution to manage surface water which it continues to tanker away. To prevent exacerbating the issues, building should not be allowed to commence until these issues have been permanently resolved and shown to be adequate to cope with the additional two properties.
5. The Parish Council would like a condition attached for water harvesting on site.

Beadnell Parish Council request this planning application is determined at Planning Committee.

1 member of public left the meeting at that point

**Min 10/2023- Planning Approvals**

22/02876/FUL- Construction of single storey front extension - re-submission of planning application ref:21/03848/FUL- Beach Lea Bungalow 67 Longstone Park Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5BP

22/03884/FUL- The installation of flues to serve woodburning stoves and solar panels- 1, 2 And 4 East Farm Steading The Stables Swinhoe Northumberland NE67 5AA

22/02338/FUL- Retrospective: Refurbishment and change of use of existing garage building to coffee shop to run alongside onsite accommodation business- Gardners Cottage Beadnell House The Haven Beadnell Chathill NE67 5AT. The Vice-Chair informed the meeting that the coffee shop opens the next day.

22/04289/FUL- Replacement of existing caravan used as an office/reception with new purpose-built office/reception building- Beadnell Links Caravan Site Benthall Beadnell Chathill NE67 5BN

**Min 11/2023- Planning Withdrawal**

22/04069/FUL- Remove existing porch and replace with new, and garage converted to bedroom- 29 Swinhoe Road Beadnell Chathill Northumberland NE67 5AG

**Min 12/2023- Play Areas.**

- Gate – Meadow Lane play area- The Vice-Chair provide a verbal update. Northumberland County Council have given permission for the gate to be installed, Karbon Homes will fund the works, she had contacted O Kavanagh for an up-to-date quote, Karbon Homes will pay O Kavanagh direct, and Karbon Homes would like the Parish Council to oversee the works. Parish Councillors gave the Vice-Chair a vote of thanks for her hard work to ensure a gate would eventually be installed.

- Activity Trail- Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she is unable to obtain a quote for spares for the activity trail as the original provider is no longer in business. Parish Councillors agreed no further actions are to be taken on the activity trail.
- Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse Parish Councillor A Nation £113.99 for fixings etc for repairs to play areas.
- Parish Councillors agreed to provide Parish Councillor A Nation a maximum budget of £120 in 2023/24 for fixings etc to be used on the play areas.
- Parish Councillor A Nation provided the following quotes for spares for the cantilever swing.

**1) Option 1 - for essential work**

This is a straightforward replacement of the chains, worn shackles and bolts and reusing the existing basket.

Parts £345.40

Installation £1,300

Total £1,645.40 +VAT

**2) Option 2**

As above plus taking the opportunity to replace the basket (£743)

Total £2,388.40 + VAT

**3) Option 3**

Includes replacement basket (which could be removed) and cantilever head (refurbished head returned to BPC as spare). The latter is something they have been offering with older swings.

" Carry out a full inspection of the Cantilever Head to ensure it is functioning correctly and remove if necessary."

Total £3,318.40 + VAT

Without new basket £2,575.40 + VAT

Installation/ labour cost is £1,300 for all options.

The Vice- Chair proposed & Parish Councillor A Baker seconded the Parish Council proceed with option 1 and Parish Councillor A Nation ask Northumberland County Council to quote for installing the spares. This was agreed.

- Parish Councillor A Nation referred to the previously circulated update from the meeting with Northumberland County Council officers. She stated there are still some inaccuracies in the weekly reports, which she will refer back to Northumberland County Council, and she will contact Play & Leisure to ask for confirmation as to why the bolt is sticking up on the cantilever swing.

Northumberland County Council are providing the Parish Council with a power wash to help clear the moss. Finally, she confirmed that the volunteer will continue to undertake minor repairs in 2023/24 following instructions from the Parish Council. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation to be the link Parish Councillor.

- Parish Councillors considered the quote of £1631.77 + VAT from Northumberland County Council for undertaking the weekly inspections of the 2 play areas in 2023/24. Parish Councillors provisionally accepted the quote, final approval will be after the Parish Council have had sight of the SLA.
- Parish Councillors considered the quote of £164 + VAT from RoSPA Play Safety for the annual ROSPA inspection of the 2 play areas. Parish Councillors accepted the quote.

**Min 13/2023- Cemetery**

- **The boundary wall.** The Vice-Chair stated the options are
  1. Taking down the wall from the south west corner, digging out new foundations, rebuilding both the large stretch of damaged wall and the small bit showing signs of wear. Total quote for all materials and labour £6,700.
  2. Repairing the worst section but leaving the second section at the moment until it gets worse. Estimates £2,700 to take down, rebuild, reform existing copping to match, dispose of debris, and includes the price of materials.
  3. Third quote sought but not received yet.Parish Councillors agreed the obligation for 3 quotes had been met. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & Parish Councillor A Nation seconded the Parish Council accepts quote 1 from C Mallaburn and ask for the works to commence asap. This was agreed.
- **Drainage-**The Vice-Chair sought advice from a local drainage specialist after the last meeting. He said he would take a look and get back to her. She hasn't had a reply. By planting trees we may have damaged the field drains. The Vice-Chair will continue to work on obtaining quotes.
- **The Memorial Inspection** -Will be undertaken by the NCC team after April 2023
- **Hedge/Rowan trees-** Parish Councillors need to agree if they wish to retain the planting at the north boundary wall as a hedge i.e., cut back regularly, or a mix of hedge and individual Rowan trees. The latter will be allowed to grow and will then need adding to the Tree Management Policy. Parish Councillors agreed the rowan trees are to be left to grow and the hedge is to be cut.
- **Groundworks-** The Clerk agreed to contact Stableyards to see when the agreed groundworks will commence.

**Min 14/2023- Financial Statement**

Current Account	£ 14999.59
Savings Account	£ 19361.45

**Min 15/2023- Finance:**

**Receipts**

- Barclays Bank                      £    10.79      Interest High Interest A/c

**Payments made**

- S Ternent                              £    510.00      Grass cutting

**Payments due**

- I Hunter                                £    307.19      Salary 34.75 hours @ £ 11.05 per hour
- HMRC                                    £     76.80      PAYE
- Beadnell WI                            £     30.00      Room hire
- A Nation                                 £    113.99      Fixings etc play areas

**Min 16/2023- Cycle stands-** Parish Councillor C Williamson referred to the information she had previously circulated asking for £500 to be earmarked in the budget for the purchase of the cycle stands to take up to 6 bikes, which would be fitted by BCV. She stated it is hoped the stands will be

fitted on the area where BT are removing the old phone box. She concluded by saying she is in dialogue with BT. Parish Councillors agreed to identify £500 in the 2023/24 budget for cycle stands.

**Min 17/2023- Budget/Precept 2023/24**

- Parish Councillors received an in-year budget update.
- Parish Councillors considered the draft budget prepared by Parish Councillor A Baker.
- Parish Councillors agreed the 2023/24 holiday let request for donation will remain at a minimum of £30 per property. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Baker prepares the draft letter for Parish Councillors to consider.
- Parish Councillors agreed to earmark a further £2K towards play equipment, remove the £10k for the footpath from Beadnell to Swinhoe, provide support to BCV of £500 from income and reserves, and consider support for Coast Care and any other organisation if a request is received.
- The Vice-Chair proposed that both the £4.5K & £5K donations which have been received are allocated towards projects i.e., repairs to play equipment etc. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillors agreed the amended budget which identifies £12K from the precept and the projects that will be funded from reserves and additional income. Parish Councillor A Baker to circulate the revised budget.
- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & the Vice-Chair seconded the precept for 2023/24 will remain at £12K. This was agreed.

**Min 18/2023- Parish Council Policies-**

- Parish Councillors agreed the revised Asset Register, the new seats at the chatterly are still to be added to the Asset Register. Parish Councillors agreed that Parish Councillor A Baker purchase numbered tags to be placed on each asset for identification purposes. It was also, agreed to organise photos for each plaque. The Vice-Chair suggested a photobook could be made of all plaques on assets, if this could be prepared for. Parish Councillors agreed the Vice-Chair progress the suggestion. Parish Councillors gave a vote of thanks to Parish Councillor A Baker and others for completing the annual review of the Parish Council assets.
- Parish Councillors reviewed the Tree Management Policy and agreed to add the silver birch tree within the playground to the list. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk obtain quotes from Arborists to under a survey of the trees in the Cemetery, the Village Green near St Ebba's Church and the tree in the playground.
- Parish Councillors considered the Memorial Policy. Parish Councillors agreed to add a plaque for memorial trees, and replace Greenbarnes with Broxap. It was agreed to complete the review at the March meeting to allow time to consider changes under B) Bulbs, Plants and Trees.
- Parish Councillors agreed that reviewed policies show the month and year they were reviewed.

1 member of the public left the meeting

**Min 19/2023- Updates**

- Parish Councillors received updates on the following items and considered any actions:
  - a) **Footpath to Swinhoe.** Parish Councillor A Baker reported no updates.



- b) **Footpath to Seahouses-** The Parish Council are in dialogue with Northumberland County Council.
- c) **Swinhoe junction.** Parish Councillors referred to the site meeting which had taken place with Northumberland County Council Highway's Officers, where it had been agreed to extend the 30mph speed limit. Parish Councillors asked the Clerk to contact County Councillor G Renner-Thompson for an update stating this needs to be actioned this financial year, and it is the best option on offer at the present time. Parish Councillor J Rhind stated he did not consider the changes would prevent accidents in future, and requested another Parish Councillor take on the lead on this matter in order that he can pursue it in a personal capacity.
- d) **Road signage Harbour Road-** Parish Councillors agreed this is sorted.
- e) **Tree Survey-** This was covered under Min 18/2023.
- f) **Old School Heritage Board-** Parish Councillor A Nation reported the repair had been undertaken.

**Min 20/2023- Correspondence-**

- **Beadnell & Seahouses residents-** Email Re affordable housing. Parish Councillors considered the email and agreed to send a short letter of support. Parish Councillor A Baker to draft the letter for Parish Councillors to approve
- **NCC-** Invite for possible locations for EV chargers. This was considered at Min 4/2023.

**Min 21/2023- Northumberland County Council Enforcement Strategy Consultation.** Parish Councillors agreed to submit the response which Parish Councillor A Nation had previously circulated.

**Min 22/2023- Parish Clerk's pension-** Parish Councillors undertook the 3-year review of a pension provision for the Parish Clerk, and following advice from the Clerk agreed not to provide a pension.

**Any Other Urgent Business-**

**Min 23/2023- NALC training-** Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council will fund Parish Councillor A Nation to attend the 2 virtual planning training sessions. The Clerk to make the bookings.

**Min 24/2023- Signage-** Parish Councillor C Williamson advised the meeting that Northumberland County Council Highways Department had not requested the installation of the signs at Longstone Close/Park. Therefore, as the signs are unauthorised, they will be removed.

**Min 25/2023- Benches-** The Vice-Chair informed the meeting that a donor of a memorial bench had asked for permission to have the seat sanded and varnished at their expense. She has met with a painter on site and provided the donor with the quote and contact details to allow them to deal directly with the painter.

Parish Councillor A Nation suggested the Parish Council contact AONB to see if they would like or if there is a need for 1-2 benches near the disabled beach access storage area/ toilet block area at the beach car park. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillors A Nation & J Rhind follow this up with AONB etc. if approved this could be an option which could be offered to anybody requesting a memorial bench.

**The date of the next meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6pm**

Chair\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_