

**MINUTES OF THE BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.00pm in Beadnell W.I. Hall**

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

**Public Question Time:** Residents provided an update on the flooding and the regular tankering of water by NWL at Bernicia Way, stating that the issues go back to the original installations which were not as per the conditions on the planning approval. The residents agreed to continue to liaise with NWL on the issue and it is hoped to receive further updates by June 2024. A resident asked if there were any updates on The Kilns development as it appears that the building works are completed, however, the reinstatement works had not been undertaken. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Northumberland Estates to ask for a timeline for when the reinstatement works will be undertaken along with the details of works to be undertaken.

**Apologies for Absence:** Parish Councillor C Williamson, & County Councillor G Renner-Thompson

**Declaration of Interest:** The Clerk declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Agenda Item No 15 Clerk's salary review; however, the only change is the 2023 national pay rise.  
The Vice-Chair declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Agenda Item No 17 request for donation to BCV as the Chair of BCV.

**Request for Dispensation-** None

**The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023-** Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair to sign a hard copy.

**Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda-**

**Min 1/2024 (Min 130/2023)- Parish Council Business-** Parish Councillor A Nation proposed the Clerk contact JT Doves to see if the Cash Account can be changed to a Credit Account. This was agreed.

**Min 2/2024 (Min 132/2023)- Local Issues-** Parish Councillor A Nation queried the unsightly pile of timber/rubbish which had been dumped where there used to be a black hut. Parish Councillors agreed no actions are required at the present time.

**Min 3/2024 (Min 133/2023)- 2024/25 Budget-** Parish Councillor A Nation asked about a donation to Coast Care. Parish Councillors agreed no formal written request for a donation had been received from Coast Care.

**The Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023-** Parish Councillors agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were a true record of the meeting. The Chair to sign a hard copy.

**Min 4/2024- Community Police-** The Clerk reported no report had been received.

**Min 5/2024- County Councillor report-** The Clerk reported no report had been received.

**Min 6/2024- North Northumberland Coast Neighbourhood Plan-** No updates

**Min 7/2024- Planning Application-**

23/04651/FUL- Installation of Pent Shed and Pergola within our side and rear garden (Retrospective)- 12 Coble Way The Kilns Beadnell NE67 5EP. Parish Councillors debated this planning application and unanimously agreed to support the planning application.

**Min 8/2024- Planning Approvals-**

23/03105/VARYCO- Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) pursuant to planning permission 21/00084/FUL in order to accommodate minor changes in design to roof and window locations/sizes- 84 Harbour Road Beadnell NE67 5BE

23/03973/FUL- Single storey rear and side extension to enlarge lounge and create new entrance with porch- 11 Longstone Park Beadnell Chathill NE67 5BP

**Min 9/2024- Play Areas.**

- Parish Councillors agreed the hedge cutting works at Meadow Lane play area are complete. However, a missing fence rail needs to be replaced. Parish Councillors asked the volunteer who was present at the meeting to organise the replacement of the missing rail.
- Parish Councillors agreed to issue the payment of £942.00 to M & M Contractors for the hedge cutting etc at Meadow Lane play area on receipt of an invoice
- Parish Councillors agreed JobDunn had undertaken the repairs to fence & gate at the Kennedy Green exit. Parish Councillors agreed to issue the payment to JobDunn on receipt of an invoice.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of £105.12 to Parish Councillor A Nation for fittings etc for the play areas.
- The Vice-Chair provided an update from the Working Group- Re replacement of play equipment:  
The Working Group had met to consider the responses to the questionnaire and had agreed that they need to consider further the questions and options for consultation. Parish Councillor A Nation requested that all Parish Councillors had sight of any survey etc. for agreement ahead of circulation. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillors considered and agreed the quote of £1,697.04 + VAT from Northumberland County Council for the weekly inspections of the 2 play areas in 2024/25 under an SLA. Parish Councillor A Nation queried the lack of detail on some of the weekly reports. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk report the lack of details to Northumberland County Council and ask for an annual review of the reports.

- Parish Councillors considered the quote of £172.00 + VAT from RoSPA Play Safety for undertaking the annual ROSPA inspection of the 2 play areas in 2024. Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she would like to meet the Inspector and offered to pay the additional £50 + VAT. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk ask if the £50 + VAT is per person as other Parish Councillors agreed they would also like to meet the Inspector.
- Meadow Lane play area- Parish Councillor A Nation proposed moving one of two the litter bins which are located within the play area at the entrance from Meadow Lane to within the play area at the entrance from Kennedy Green. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council Neighbourhood Services to see if they would service the litter bin at the proposed new location.

1 member of the public left the meeting at that point

**Min 10/2024- Cemetery-** Parish Councillors debated the drainage of the surface water in the cemetery, which will involve complex works. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed the Parish Council should obtain quotes and proceed with the works in Summer 2024. Parish Councillor A Nation offered to obtain quotes from firms specialising in the type of works required. Parish Councillor J Darcy proposed that the 1<sup>st</sup> step should be organise a percolation test. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor J Darcy undertake research for a contractor who would undertake the test and obtain a cost for the test as the first step.

**Min 11/2024- Trees-**

- Parish Councillor J Darcy advised the meeting that the trees had been felled, stating that stumps had been left on VG49.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of £1200 to Unstumpable for undertaking the tree works as per the agreed quote.

**Min 12/2024- Clerk's salary review 2023/24**

- Parish Councillors agreed the previously circulated NALC 2023/24 pay scale for the Parish Clerk SCP 12 = £13.73 per hour from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.
- Parish Councillors agreed the payment of an additional 156.25 hours @ £1 per hour gross.

**Min 13/2024- Financial Statement**

Current Account	£ 11123.50
Savings Account	£ 19545.78

**Min 14/2024- Finance:**

**Receipts**

- Donations                      £ 130.00      2<sup>nd</sup> Home owners
- Barclays Bank                £ 67.83      High Interest A/c- Interest

**Payments due**

- I Hunter                        £ 523.17      Salary 36.25 hours @ £ 13.73 per hour +  
back pay
- HMRC                            £ 130.80      PAYE

**BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
Web Site ★ www.beadnellparishcouncil.co.uk

• Beadnell WI	£ 36.00	Room hire
• Unstumpable	£ 1200.00	Tree works
• A Nation	£ 105.12	Fixings etc for play areas.
• BCV	£ 500.00	Donation

**Min 15/2024- Budget/Precept 2024/25**

- Parish Councillor A Baker provided an in-year budget update.
- Parish Councillor A Baker presented his draft budget. Parish Councillors considered and agreed the £13000 budget for 2024/25 to cover predicted day to day running costs.
  - 1- Parish Councillors noted that there may be expenditure in 2024/25 towards drainage in the cemetery, and the installation of the cycle stands. The £8967 proposed additional expenditure will be met by holiday let donations, or by the use of reserves.
  - 2- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed ring fencing £5K towards general maintenance and an additional £2K towards the play areas. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed & Parish Councillor A Nation seconded the precept for 2024/25 to be £13000 which is an 8% increase. This was agreed.
- Parish Councillor A Baker proposed and Parish Councillor A Nation seconded a donation of £500 to BCV. This was agreed.

**Min 16/2024- Northumberland Coast National Landscape**

- The Vice-Chair advised the meeting that she had just circulated the minutes from the recent Partnership meeting.
- Parish Councillors agreed the possible signage issues especially for the Bullring area could be raised at the forthcoming Highways and Public Realm in the National Landscape Teams meeting 29/1.

**Min 17/2024- Correspondence**

- **Resident-** Email- request for the Parish Council to provide grit bins. Parish Councillor A Baker proposed the Parish Council approach Northumberland Estates as a grit bin had been left on The Kilns development site. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Baker approach Northumberland Estates.
- **Resident-** Email- request for memorial plaque on Long Nanny Bridge. Parish Councillors noted that the Long Nanny Bridge is under the ownership of Northumberland County Council.
- **Resident-** Email- request for memorial bench. Parish Councillor A Baker suggested contacting National Trust to see if they would support benches on the grass areas within Beadnell parish. Parish Councillor A Nation suggested that Northumberland Coast National Landscape would need to be consulted. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Baker draft a letter to National Trust for Parish Councillors to consider as a starting point.
- **Resident -** Copy of email sent to Northumberland County Council Re overnight camping on Harbour Road. Parish Councillors agreed to monitor the situation.
- **NCC-** Email- Town & Parish Council Conference 14/3. Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that she was interested in attending the Conference, other Parish Councillors stated that they may be interested in attending.

**Min 18/2024- Policies**

- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the review of the Parish Council Asset Register until the March meeting, as some minor changes are required.
- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the review of the Tree Management Policy until the March meeting, as some minor changes are required. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed the Parish Council have an Arborist undertake an inspection of the trees every 3 years, as per their recommendation. The Vice-Chair proposed and the Chair seconded that an Arborist undertake the inspection of the trees every 4 years, this was agreed by a majority vote.
- Parish Councillors agreed the previously circulated draft addendum to the grass cutting contract to be issued to the grass cutting contractor. Parish Councillor A Nation asked for clarity as to why the grass cutting of a footpath was included within the grass cutting contract. Parish Councillors explained this had been done for many years as the footpath was not maintained. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor J Darcy investigate what is involved in applying for adverse possession.
- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the annual review of the Memorial Policy until the March meeting, as some minor changes are required.

**Min 19/2024- Email & Domain-** Parish Councillors agreed to renew the Parish Councillors email account & domain

**Min 20/2024- Updates**

Parish Councillors received updates on the following items and considered any actions:

- a) **Coastal erosion & flooding-** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that there are slight changes to the seawall. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk report the recent issue on fix my street and contact Northumberland County Council for an update on the proposed scheme for the area.
- b) **Beadnell-Seahouses footpath-** No updates
- c) **Installation of cycle stands-** Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation contact Beadnell Towers for an update.
- d) **Bus stop/poles Beadnell village-** Parish Councillor A Nation raised concerns about issues with bus timetables, holders etc. The Vice-Chair stated she had contacted the Clerk about bus stop issues. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk report the issues raised to Northumberland County Council.
- e) **Future bus services in Beadnell area-** No updates
- f) **Chathill rail services** Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that the next online meeting is on 25<sup>th</sup> January.
- g) **NWL & local drainage issues-** Parish Councillor A Nation provided a verbal update following a site meeting. County Councillor G Renner-Thompson is going to organise another meeting in the future. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation continue to push for updates.  
The Vice-Chair and Parish Councillor A Nation provided verbal updates on the recent sewage/pollution issues. Parish Councillors agreed that Parish Councillor A Nation contact NWL and the Vice-Chair update Surfers Against Sewage
- h) **NCC-Northumberland Open Space Assessment - Town/Parish Council Survey-** Parish Councillors agreed the previously circulated draft as the Parish Council submission. Parish Councillor A Nation questioned engagement with local teenagers and their needs.

**BEADNELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
Web Site ★ www.beadnellparishcouncil.co.uk

Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Nation consult local teenagers for their wishes/requirements.

- i) **30MPH sign Swinhoe Road.** Parish Councillors noted the response received from Northumberland County Council.
- j) **Installation of double yellow lines The Wynding.** Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk obtain a timeline for the installation of the double yellow lines.
- k) **Winter opening of public toilets-** Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact County Councillor G Renner-Thompson to obtain an update on the future winter opening of Beadnell public toilets.
- l) **Community Group updates on PC website-** Parish Councillor A Nation asked the Vice-Chair as Chair of BCV if BCV & BiB would take up the invite and provide information for uploading on to the parish Council website. The Vice-Chair responded to say yes they would. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk obtain approval from Parish Councillors in relation to information provided by Community Groups ahead of updating the Parish Council website.

**Min 21/2024- Local Issues-**

- Parish Councillor A Nation advised the meeting that residents adjoining the VG49/Church area had agreed they would like the area to remain as natural open space. Parish Councillor A Nation proposed that she contact Northumberland County Council Planning Highways again about the use of the unadopted road in this area. This was agreed.
- Dialogue with NWL and sewage leakage was covered at Min 19/2024.
- Parish Councillor A Baker asked Parish Councillors to consider the previously circulated draft Holiday let letter. The Vice-Chair stated that Northumberland Coast National Landscape are issuing a leaflet on dark skies to all properties in the parish. Parish Councillor A Nation suggested adding information on disposing of wet wipes etc. Parish Councillors to agree the final version of the letter by 3<sup>rd</sup> week in February, to allow time for printing & delivery

**Min 22/2024- Working Groups-** Parish Councillor A Nation stated that Working Groups require terms and references, and reminded the meeting that Working Groups cannot make decisions, they can only make recommendations to the Parish Council.  
Parish Councillor A Baker advised the meeting that is no need for terms of reference as the Parish Council Standing Orders cover Working Groups. The Vice-Chair proposed and Parish Council A Baker seconded that there was no need for any additional terms of reference for Working Groups. A vote was undertaken 4 in favour, 1 against. It was agreed by a majority vote.

**Min 23/2024- Annual Parish Meeting-** Parish Councillor A Nation asked about the proposed format for the Annual Parish meeting, including any possible speakers. Parish Councillors agreed all suggestions will be considered at the March Parish Council meeting.

**Any Other Urgent Business-** None

**The date of the next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 6pm**

Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_