

Whittingham Callaly & Alnham Parish Council
 Clerk Lesley Long, 5 Meadow Riggs, Alnwick NE66 1AP
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Whittingham, Callaly & Alnham Parish Council held on Tuesday, November 16th, 2021, at 7.00pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall.

Present, BW (Chair), C Durie (CD), A Whincup (AW), S Gray (SG) A Young (AY) J Renner (JR)), K Armstrong (KA), Elidh Gardner (EG), Prof. J Clark (Prof. JC), N Riordan (NR).

In attendance: Clerk - Lesley Long and Sarah Brannigan - NCC Planning Dept

ITEM	DISCUSSION
139/21 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest	Apologies: K Turvey (KT), R Bateson (RB) There were no declarations of interest.
140/21 Public Participation	No questions received.
141/21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting on October 19th, 2021, were APPROVED as a true record.
142/21 Neighbourhood Planning &	<p>Sarah Brannigan of NCC Planning Department, gave a presentation on the background of the Localism Act 2010 and the introduction and application of Neighbourhood Plans before taking questions. She explained that Neighbourhood Plans only relate to land use and future planned building development within the parish, and do not address issues such as local transport or community facilities etc. Such issues could be addressed in a Parish Plan should the parish council decide to follow that route. The Clerk advised that the parish council had never previously prepared a parish plan - though it had conducted a survey of residents in 2008 as to whether one was needed.</p> <p>On average, Neighbourhood Plans take between 18 months - 3 years to prepare and would last for approximately 15 years before a review would be required. There is £10k grant funding available to enable the parish council to engage an independent planning consultant to help write the policies to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. Once agreed by local referendum, a formally 'made' Neighbourhood Plan carries significant weight with the planning authority when officers are assessing new planning applications. It is, therefore, essential that it is properly drawn up and fits within the Northumberland Local Plan framework.</p> <p>NCC Planning Department can advise the parish council on how to undertake the process and ensure proper community engagement. It was noted that the parish council might benefit from speaking with other parish councils who had completed Neighbourhood Plans, to help them decide whether to go ahead or not. Further discussion was deferred until Spring 2022. ACTION - ALL</p> <p>Sarah confirmed that the Northumberland Local Plan is still with the HM Planning Inspector for assessment, but that the County Council hoped to receive a decision on the final document in December, so that the new Local Plan for the county can be formally adopted in Spring 2022.</p>

**143/21 Planning
Reference Numbers for
MISC Planning
Applications**

On the matter of permitted development rights for landowners and residential property owners, Sarah explained that these were changing frequently, as the government sought to simplify and relax planning controls on what landowners can do regarding development on their own property.

Prof JC shared his research of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. Sarah clarified that a permanent campsite on land would require full planning permission, while a temporary 56-day campsite does not, as it is covered by permitted development rights.

The Clerk concluded with a summary provided by NCC Planning, which confirmed there was no requirement on the part of the NCC planning authority to consult with the parish council on MISC planning applications.

**144/21 Use of Social
Media and Members
Code of Conduct**

The Chair reminded councillors to be mindful of their role as parish councillors when posting comments on social media as residents, lest the comments be misconstrued as the views of the parish council.

145/21 Matters Arising

- i. **Progress on construction of footpath** - Start of works is still pending.
- ii. **Risk assessment for users of the path** - in hand **ACTION - AW**
- iii. **Alternative School Parking** - AW is progressing options with the various parties involved. **ACTION - AW**
- iv. **General Risk Assessment Review** - The Clerk thanked EG for providing an up-to-date photographic record of the condition of WPC-owned street furniture on the Asset Register. It was agreed to defer the decision to seek quotations for maintenance work until Spring 2022. **ACTION - Clerk**
- v. **Tree Survey** - The Arboriculturalist confirmed the cost of a survey in Spring 2022 will be £150. Clerk to arrange in the new year. **ACTION - Clerk**
- vi. **Adoption of Telephone Kiosk** - BT have confirmed receipt of the signed contract and will decommission the equipment in the kiosk in the next 3 months.
- vii. **Quotes for Noticeboards for Alnham & Callaly** - Owing to a significant increase in the cost of timber, Oak noticeboard prices are extremely high. An option would be to buy carbon plastic composite boards which would look like wood but be easier to maintain. AW will continue his negotiations with suppliers. Decision deferred until January 2022. **ACTION - AW**
- viii **NCC Response to an avenue of trees on the approach to Whittingham**
After considering the response from NCC Highways, it was concluded that it was not feasible to pursue the project.
- viii **Xmas Tree & Lights for the Village Green** It was agreed that AW would source a tree and that AY had a budget of £250 to purchase solar lights for the tree. **ACTION - AW & AY**

**146/21 Climate Action &
Energy Saving
Measures Report**

EG referred to her report which detailed the most effective actions that householders living in older, stone-built properties could take to minimise heat loss and improve energy conservation. These were to stop draughts and significantly increase the amount and depth of roof insulation. EG's research revealed that: "...for most houses, windows typically account for 10% of heat loss. Around 2/3 of this is due to radiation through glazing". It transpires that it is more energy-efficient to seal draughts and gaps around ill-fitting frames, than replace glazing panels. No further action.

**147/21 Planning
Applications**

- **21/03751/FUL The Memorial Hall Alnham, Main Road Alnham.**
Outcome - NCC GRANTED permission
- **21/01523/FUL Buildings East Of 6 Callaly High Houses Whittingham**
Outcome - NCC GRANTED permission

