

RENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sarah Trushell, 19 Portal Place, NE66 3JN

Email: renningtonpc@gmail.com Website: www.northumberlandparishes.uk/rennington

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of Rennington Parish Council held at 7pm on Thursday 9th November 2023 at Rennington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Stephen Baggott (Chair), Fred Bosanquet, Tony Lomas, Bruce Minty, Peter Purdom, Katie Robertson, Andy Sisson, Alan Tremlett

Clerk: Sarah Trushell

Members of the public: none attended

200/23 **Apologies for Absence:**
County Councillor Wendy Pattison

201/23 **Declarations of Interest:**
205/23 iii) Cllrs Bosanquet and Robertson

202/23 **Public Participation Time:**
No members of the public attended the meeting.

203/23 **Minutes of Meeting of 12th October 2023**
It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 12th October 2023 be AGREED and accepted as a true record of the meeting

204/23 **County Councillor Report for October**
Noted and uploaded to the PC website.

205/23 **Neighbourhood Development Plan Update**
There were 34 attendees from Rock and 49 from Rennington to the respective public meetings. A total of 79 questionnaires have been completed. The summary information has been uploaded to the Parish Council website. This information has been passed on to the planning consultant with a request to for her to have written the development site appraisal criteria by the next NHP meeting (4/12/23) and the draft planning policies by Christmas.

206/23 **Planning Matters:**
1) RPC Planning Application 22/03766/VARYCO – Refusal
Northumberland's Local Area Planning Committee refused our application to turn off/ remove the streetlights installed with the North Farm development.

Despite this setback, the planning committee recognise that the installation of streetlights in rural areas should be done in partnership with the local residents. They have asked Highways and Planning to hold discussions with the Parish Council to arrive at a solution that satisfies Highways road safety concerns without the implementation of an intrusive lighting scheme.

Hopefully, this approach will ensure that the lighting schemes required for any future developments will be more in keeping with a rural environment.

The PC RESOLVED to delegate authority to the chair on behalf of the PC in future discussions regarding the streetlights with Highways. The chair will update the PC on his progress.

2) Grange Park 23/03842/VARYCO – Consultation

The PC had the following comments:

Condition 6: Neutral

Condition 8: Neutral

Condition 11: If the site is to be developed in a single phase, then support removal of this condition.

Condition 13: The Parish Council notes that the development will be on a private drive so there will not be a requirement from Highways for the installation of streetlights. If the developer is intending to instal streetlights on this development, then we would ask that they consult with the Parish Council prior to the scheme's design. – Neutral.

Condition 14: Plot 1, house type 4 has no garage and no identifiable cycle storage in the plans – Refuse.

Condition 15: No objection from the lead local flood authority – Neutral

207/23 **Rennington Village Hall**

Cllr Bosanquet provided the following update:

“RVH will present invoice to PC to receive Awards for All Grant.

Roof works to commence in accordance with Natural England Licence requirements.

Northern Power Grid Foundation representatives are coming to RVH on Friday 1st December at 11am to see the Solar PV Installation and learn how it supports the PC's Resilience Plan. Anne Marie Trevelyan MP has been invited.”

208/23 **Community Matters**

1) Speeding

Highways have agreed to set up the traffic trackers and asked the PC for any specific locations. Cllr Lomas highlighted 3 locations and the Clerk will forward these to Highways for their consideration.

2) Dog Waste Bins

Neighbourhood services advised the PC that dog waste was declassified and is able to be placed in standard litter bins. The PC resolved to remove the dog waste bins that are no longer serviceable and add a notice to the remaining bins alerting users to them now being dual purpose.

Regarding the grit bins, the Clerk is to message NCC to request replacement / repair of bins in need.

3) Footpaths Update

NCC confirmed that they do maintain the footbridge at the Lonnen, and the Clerk has asked them to look and undertake any necessary works.

The footpath in Rennington is likely the responsibility of Northumberland Estates – the Clerk is to contact them.

209/23 **Financial Matters**

1) Financial Report and Update

Cllrs were provided access to the PC accounts to view payments in and out since the last meeting. These were NOTED.

2) Bank Reconciliation

Cllr Purdom has checked the Bank Reconciliations of the treasurer's bank account pursuant to Financial Regulations 2.2 and confirmed that the account reconciles.

The Clerk is to contact the internal auditor to investigate whether this process can be streamlined.

3) Payments for Authorisation

Clerk Oct Wages £200.20

Clerk Oct PAYE £50.00

Clerk Oct Mileage (8 miles) £3.60

Clerk WFH Allowance £26.00

Parish Council Insurance 2023-24 £383.49

NPD – Surveying £540.00

4) New Accounts Software

The Clerk has now exclusively been using Easy PC, this will cost £5 a month when the trial ends. Cllr Baggott has been assisting the clerk in setting it up to work for the PC's upcoming budget.

5) 2024/25 Budget

The Clerk distributed the 2023/24 budget to all Cllrs with the current spend against it. Cllrs have started discussions, and this will continue at the December meeting.

210/23 Emails Received

1) Environment and Climate Fund

This Email from NCC Climate Change Team was noted without comment

2) Carbon Literacy for Town and Parish Councils.

it was RESOLVED that the cost of this was prohibitive.

3) Rough Sleeper Estimate the night of 14/15 November

It was discussed that there are no known rough sleepers in the Parish. The Clerk is to reply to NCC confirming this.

211/23 Any Other Business (for Information Only) / Future Agenda Items

No items were raised.

212/23 Date of Next Meeting

7:00pm Thursday 14th December 2023 at Rennington Village Hall

Future Meeting Dates (all start at 7pm unless stated otherwise)

11th January 2024

8th February 2024

14th March 2024

213/23 Confidential Matters

The meeting was closed to the public whilst a confidential matter was discussed.

The meeting closed at 8:27pm