

DRAFT MINUTES OF KNARSDALE WITH KIRKHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30p.m. IN KNARESDALE COMMUNITY HALL.

Present: Cllrs M Mennie (Chair), A Armstrong (Vice Chair), J Grieves, J Raine, & J Reed.

Apologies: Cllrs J Styne, W Watson & I Hutchinson (NCC).

Public Question –Must be submitted in writing prior to Parish Council meetings to allow for a detailed and accurate response. None received.

1. Minutes (including any ratification of decisions taken) of meetings held 9th September 2024 were agreed and signed.

2. Declaration of Interest: None.

3. Matters Arising:

Highway Issues: Mr Harrison, NCC Highways, and Cllr Mennie have organised a meeting for next week and will discuss the various issues including:

Blocked Drains (Hangshaw Junction): resulting in house flooding, Knarr Bridge (Road): drain cover needs urgent attention. Eals Foot Bridge: A tree is causing a blockage which has led to flooding and is putting the bridge in danger. The Eals Road Bridge: erosion of the riverbank needs attention.

Bridge (Snope Burn), NCC have checked out the damage, does not require immediate attention.

Roadside verges –alongside the Kirk Style, Highways contact details have been given for them to deal with direct – no update. The parking is still an ongoing problem.

Speeding – ‘slow down’ flashing signs/collation of data – no further update.

Parking Burnstones Junction – This is a serious safety issue, a potential serious accident waiting to happen and will be highlighted at the meeting with G Harrison, NCC.

Scheduled work on Burnstones bridge – has not started, probably in 2025 work schedule and will require a ‘road closure’. Still awaiting clarification on track status – public right of way or a permission right of way. Heavy vehicles still seen travelling across the bridge which is dangerous – no further update.

Railway bridge over the Knarr (South Tyne Trail): the additional rail necessary for the safety is still to be Done. Kissing-Gate – needs repair, it has all rotted away. Cllr Hutchinson has previously informed NCC Rights Of Way.

Steps on Pennine Way/Burnstones bridle path: lethal and need urgent attention, Cllr Hutchinson has informed NCC Rights Of Way.

Old School: still awaiting information to complete documentation for re-submission to go for adverse possession and register with Land Registry – no further update.

South Tyne Railway: No update re the field.

South Tyne Trail: vehicles using it as a road, accessing it from Burnstones, travelling at speed – churning up surface and a danger to walkers – still no update from NCC Rights of Way as to what action they are taking to stop this.

Wheelie Bins: NCC have agreed a price and will arrange the installation of two bins (South Tyne Trail/Burnstones & Bottle Bank) as soon as possible, the bins will be added onto the route for emptying. Still to be installed.

Public Right Of Way/Witness Statements: Cllr Armstrong no further info.

Maintenance: Maintenance of the bus shelters and seats – contact has taken place but due to other commitments assessment of work required still to take place – no further update.

Play Park Inspection: 2024 inspection has been carried out, advisory actions will be addressed.

Grass Cutting: – After a discussion it was agreed to send a letter to the contractor re notification of visits etc. for 2025.

5. Planning Applications:

None.

6. Financial:

Monies: £14,623.10 (includes £623 ring fenced Transparency Grant).

LESS: Grass Cutting £1,260.00, Poppy Wreaths £60.00, Refreshments for Lifesaving £20.00, Bank Charges £16.00 = £13,267.10 (includes £623 ring fenced Transparency Grant).

Online Banking: Final documentation being collated.

NCC 2025/26 Precept After discussion and reviewing the budget it was proposed by Cllr Raine, seconded by Cllr Reed and agreed by the Council to increase precept by 2% (£102), making it £5,211. The necessary paperwork was signed.

7. Transparency, Open-ness & Accountability:

The Standing Orders are being reviewed and will be amended as necessary, with the agreement of the Council.

8. Tynedale Local Area Council:

Next meeting – 12th November 2024.

9. Correspondence:

Email received re the road safety issues for pedestrians, walking along the A689 from the Bottle Bank to Slaggyford and vice versa, which is part of the Pennine Way. This issue has been raised with NCC a number of times and unfortunately there is nothing that can be done. Will raise again with Mr Harrison (NCC) next week.

Fibrus : Invitation to Hyperfast GB Community Meeting for Knarsdale with Kirkhaugh Parish - a community meeting 27th November, 7:00pm - 8:30pm at Alston Town Hall.

Citizens Advice Northumberland AGM - 11.45am Thursday 5th Dec 2024 - Morpeth Rugby Club

Northumberland Association of Local Councils AGM – Sat 23rd Nov 10am County Hall, Morpeth.

Community Action Northumberland AGM - Monday 18 Nov 9:30am - Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre, Alnwick.

Tynedale Hospice at Home - requesting a donation – will send in January as in previous years.

10. Any Other Business:

Lifesaving Training through NCDC – organiser pleased with the attendance, more attended the Tuesday 7-9pm session than the Wednesday 2-4pm session.

Signs – other signs being displayed on Rights Of Way posts, Clerk to contact NCC re the legality.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 13th January 2025 at 7.30p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.40p.m.