

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KYLOE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025 IN LOWICK VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman: Mr Stephen Biglands  
Vice-Chair: Mr Roger Birch  
Parish Councillors: Mr Derek Eltringham & Mrs M Murray

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs S Henderson, Clerk to Parish

**GUEST:** Kevin Maloney, Community Foundation

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** Colin Wakeling & John Marlish

**APOLOGIES:** None

**Chairman** Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as a true record by Margaret Murray seconded by Roger Birch and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**Capt. C D Leyland Fund** – Kevin addressed the meeting explaining a change within the Community Foundation: The Community Foundation has launched a new strategy, with a refreshed identity, to help meet the most significant needs and opportunities of the North East.

**Community Foundation North East** – previously Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland – is focused on local giving for lasting impact. While the Foundation continues to operate primarily in Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, the new name reflects who we serve and the breadth of our donor base, which now extends across the region, the country and overseas.

The closing balance of our C D Leyland fund stands at £10,650 with currently £10,500 available to spend. Kevin reminded us that 2/3rds of the fund is for the benefit of Kyloe Parish and surrounding areas and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> for others. The grants made to Glendale Trust for the food bank had been returned as it was not used. Grants can be to organisations who would apply direct to the Community Fund, or by donor nominated through the Parish Council. Kevin suggested we could offer a donation to Lowick Village Hall or towards the funding for upgrading the playpark in Lowick. This is something we could discuss at a later meeting.

**North Northumberland MP-** A letter will be sent to Mr Smith regarding the junction of the B6353 & A1, again raising our concerns by the fact there had been three accidents in as many days. Will need to get as much information as possible first either through our police liaison officer PC Purvis or Freedom of Information.

**Parking** – Colin Hardy's reference to the parking in Fenwick being down to NCC will need to be followed up. No further information from Rod Smith of Beal Farm regarding the opening of the car park at the causeway.

**Book Box** – now has plaque on. Chief librarian is Dawn Soulsby. The garden where the box is will now be known as the Community Garden. New owner of the coffee shop, Denise is very keen to tidy it up with planting and painting the fence.

**Radar Speed sign for east end of village** – still trying to co-ordinate everyone

**Norham & Islandshire Neighbourhood Plan ( NINHP )** - Derek has received an 80 page document which he had read finding it very dense and technical. Has heard nothing since.

**Village Survey** – no further action yet

**Provision of Gigabit internet access to residents of Kyloe Parish -**

Derek Eltringham requested a meeting with Sylvia Pringle (iNorthumberland) and Cameron Moir (Delivery Manager, GoFibre); it was held on Monday 12th May 2025.

A spreadsheet was provided that identified all premises in Kyloe Parish and the gigabit installation status for each. In summary there 227 properties identified within Kyloe Parish.

Of these, 141 have been identified as either utilising a fibre connection or able to use a gigabit fibre connection if desired or due to be provided with a fibre connection in a few weeks. (Note: GoFibre - either Ready for Service(RFS) or Inbuild: 61; Open Reach FTTP: 80; plus 5 premises included in a project currently with BDUK agreement. So potentially the figure could be 146)

The number of properties not currently 'in build' or in a plan for FTTP connection to the internet is:  $227-146 = 81$ .

This is 36% of the properties in Kyloe parish.

Kyloe Parish is not the only rural area of Northumberland with gaps in the provision of FTTP, but iNorthumberland do not currently have data for other rural parts of the county.

Building Digital UK (BDUK) is the central government agency with the task of getting gigabit fibre connections to as many properties as it is economically practicable to reach. In practice this means that a target of 98% of premises in England and Wales are to be provided with a FTTP connection to the internet. BDUK still have some funds available and NCC is working with them to aim to achieve this in Northumberland

The criterion for judging which premises should be connected to an optical fibre link is assessed by whether the cost of provision per property is less than or equal to a target cost.

BDUK set a budget spend of £4,500 for rural premises with less than 30Mbps. iNorthumberland currently supplement that by £2,500, giving a maximum spend of £7,000 per property. The availability of BDUK funds is not guaranteed.

Open Reach was stated to be now operating with a 'Type C' contract from BDUK; Type C contracts are supposed to fund "everything that is left". In Northumberland most of the current Type C contracting is directed to southern parts of the county, although iNorthumberland staff are trying to get funding diverted to the north of the county.

It is worth noting that some physical obstacles can reduce the chance of providing a FTTP connection to a property; the most obvious example for Kyloe Parish is the East Coast main line. Cables cannot cross over the top of the railway power cables and Go Fibre have encountered blockages/collapsed ducts under the railway lines. A consequence is that some properties to the east of the ECML may have to be provided with alternative links to the internet e.g. wireless or satellite.

Conclusions:

1) It is self-evident that the cost per premises of providing FTTP, or an equivalent means of accessing the internet at speeds of over, say, 150Mbps will be higher in rural areas than in towns/cities. Given that the numbers of remote rural properties is relatively low the overall cost of raising the budget per property will not add significantly to BDUK's overall spend on the project.

2) Addressing the funding issue will require support of all key stakeholders e.g.

- NCC incl councillors and iNorthumberland
- Other county councils with rural parishes
- BDUK
- MPs

3) Key issues:

- Review of funding budget/property
- Timescales for rollout

**Coffee Shop** - now under new management and known as Beanie Coffee

**Election** – resulting in Colin Hardy being replaced by Patrick Lambert from Norham. Colin Wakeling reported that this had caused problems and all the Norham Parish Councillors had resigned. There will now need to be an election to be paid for.

Colin Hardy will be thanked for all his help and input to Kyloe Parish in his time as County Councillor.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**NCC** – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Third party application to modify the Definitive Map and Statement, through Kyloe Wood, previously consulted on in August 2022.

Parish Council observations / comments:

### ***Kyloe Restricted Byway No 36***

*To upgrade part of existing footpath no 22 to restricted byway status, from a point marked R on alleged restricted byway no 34*

### ***Lowick Restricted Byway No 54***

*To upgrade part of existing public Footpath No 31 to restricted byway status, from a point marked A, at the Kyloe Parish boundary*

*Kyloe Parish Council have no objection to the above proposals, St Cuthberts Way, St Oswalds Way & The Coastal Path are all involved in Kyloe Wood and are regularly used.*

*Upgrading to restricted byway status will allow public to travel on foot, horseback or by non-motorized vehicles ie cycles but rules out quads & 4x4's.*

*As previously stated in a letter dated 28 November 2022, many years ago the roads & tracks throughout Kyloe Wood provided permissive access for its neighbouring properties by kind permission of the owner, Mrs Lyall of Pallinsburn House. The central track from Blawearie through to Detchant Wood was regularly used and from Detchant Wood there were options to reach Greymare Farm, Holborn or the U34. The route R-Q-V would follow this central track but we question the need to reach P.*

NALC – Subscription invoice plus information regarding possible changes to the website provider

### LEAFLETS

**Clerks & Councils Direct** – March & May 2025 Issues 158 &159

**PLANNING** – there is to be an appeal hearing for the glamping pods and shepherds huts at Beal

### **WHP Telecoms Ltd - Ref: Cell no. CS 11531625/TEF 70511**

Proposed Base Station Upgrade at Existing Mast, Fenhamhill Farm, Fenwick, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland TD15 2PL – NGR: 407030, 641245

**Applicant:** Alan Neale, planning consultant (for and on behalf of Cornerstone)

### **Parish Council Comments:**

The Parish Council have no objections

### FINANCE

VAT claim for 2024-2025 for £471.51 has been received

Receipt for hire of hall on 4 March

Glendale Gateway Trust - acknowledgement of our donation of £500 for the book box

**Premium Account** as at 5 May 2025 includes interest **£925.64**

**Community Account** as at 5 May 2025 2169.86

Half annual precept received 700.00

VAT refund 2024-2025 471.51

3341.37

### **Payment agreed at meeting**

Hire of Hall – May meeting 12.00

NALC subs / website hosting 187.88

Newsletter April printing & delivery 26.90

Hose clips for speed sign installation 27.00 253.78 **£3087.59**

### **KPC/ Community Foundation Initiative**

(held within Community A/c) £663.14

**NEWSLETTER** – Colin, although officially retired from the PC stated he is happy to continue producing the newsletter, copy for which to come from Councillors.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Our new County Councillor is now Patrick Lambert (Reform) from Norham. Colin reported that Norham no longer have a Parish Council, everyone has resigned so there will now need to be an election.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Next meeting dates: To be arranged

DRAFT