

DRAFT MINUTES OF KNARSDALE WITH KIRKHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.30p.m. IN KNARESDALE COMMUNITY HALL.

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

Apologies: Cllrs J Styne & 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 11th November 2024 were agreed and signed.

2. Declaration of Interest: None.

3. Matters Arising:

Highway Issues: Unfortunately due to an emergency work commitment the meeting was postponed, organising a convenient date is proving difficult. NCC Highways have been informed of, and will continue to be informed of, all issues as they arise.

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

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. One not working, possibly a new battery required.

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. Keep out signs/fencing need checking.

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: To be installed within the next two weeks and added onto the route for emptying.

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: Advisory actions still to be addressed.

4. Elections:

Polling Day for County Council and Parish Council (if necessary) will be held on Thursday 1st May.

5. Hyperfast GB Project (Fibrus):

Cllr Raine gave an update on the meeting he attended in Alston at the end of November.
Mr Paul Cretney, Fibrus Fibre Ambassador, has asked if he can attend the next meeting to discuss further.
POST NOTE: Next Meeting Monday 17th March commencing at 7.00pm with Mr Cretney.

6. Planning Applications:

None.

7. Financial:

Monies: £13,267.10 (includes £623 ring fenced Transparency Grant).
LESS: Great North Air Ambulance £75.00, Tynedale Hospice £25, Bank Charges £27.00 = £13,151.10
(includes £623 ring fenced Transparency Grant).
Online Banking: Final documentation being collated.

8. Transparency, Open-ness & Accountability:

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

9. Tynedale Local Area Council:

Next meeting – 12th November 2024, only one item Draft Local Transport Plan Programme 20025-26

10. Correspondence:

NCC Introduction to The Wheeled Action Sports Strategic Document.
NCC Northumberland Open Space Assessment draft document consultation ends 14/3/2025.
NCC Northumberland Cycling Campaign & the NECA Transport Consultation.
NCC Second Homes Premium.
NCC North East Field Of Remembrance, Saltwell Park Gateshead – an article to be placed in Local News.
Great North Air Ambulance requesting a donation – Cllrs all agreed to £75.00.
NALC nominations for King’s Garden Party.

11. Any Other Business:

Grass Cutting: – The Council were informed of the contractor’s death. No info on whether or not the contract for 2005 will be fulfilled or it will be necessary to put it out to tender.

Debris in ditch, right hand side, passed communal wheelie bins, liable to cause flooding – NCC Highways to be notified.

12. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.00p.m.

Meeting closed at 8.45p.m.

Signed: Date:

Website: <https://northumberlandalc.uk/knarsdale>