



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | whittinghampc29@gmail.com | 07455 004164

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of WCA Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th February 2026, 7:00pm at the Whittingham Memorial Institute Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Karen Armstrong, David Bateson, Neil Blackshaw, Paul Bradley, Jonathan Clark, Elidh Gardiner, Stuart Gray, James Renner, Brian Wood

132/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bolton, Marsden, and Whincup and accepted.

In the absence of the Chair, Cllr Armstrong (Vice Chair) took the Chair for the meeting.

133/25 Declaration of interests.

None were declared.

134/25 Public Participation

A member of the public expressed an interest in joining the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and advised that they had not received an invitation.

Concerns were raised regarding the timing and effectiveness of street cleaning within the village, particularly during school term times and recent half term.

135/25 Minutes of the Meeting of 20 January 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

136/25 Matters Arising

Cllr Blackshaw provided, for information, a list of second homes within the parish.

137/25 Community Matters.

e) Donation Plans

(Minute 137/25 amended by resolution of the Council on 24 March 2026.)

This item was brought forward.

It was agreed that the allocation of the Donation monies has become urgent. It was agreed unanimously that it be minuted that the Riverside Path should be provisionally prioritised and that the Eslington Estate be asked to agree to the reconstruction of the path as a means of meeting the terms of the Donation. Accordingly it was agreed that the Chair and the Clerk prepare a letter to be sent to the Estate. It was further agreed that if the answer was negative then other options will be pursued.

a) Cast Iron Road Signs

Cllr Gardiner is seeking restoration costings for one sign in order to begin fundraising.

b) Bus Shelter

No update was received regarding the grant application. It was noted that Land Registry

Signed as a true record of the meeting _____ on Date _____



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | whittinghampc29@gmail.com | 07455 004164

matters relating to the land ownership may take up to two years to resolve. Members discussed improving the area around the shelter, including benches and paving.

c) Phone Box

Works have been delayed due to weather conditions. Materials will be lined and painted once conditions improve. Cllr Blackshaw has ordered replacement glass for the panel.

d) Other Parish Projects

The mowing consultation received one response in favour of leaving the area as it is. The condition of the Whittingham noticeboard was discussed and volunteers offered to undertake sanding and varnishing when weather permits.

f) Speeding and Road Safety

Members discussed ongoing concerns regarding speeding, lack of footpaths and highway safety, particularly on Glanton Road and at the A697 junction. The condition of the carriageway was also noted as a hazard to cyclists.

It was agreed to request a road safety audit and to write formally to Highways, copying in relevant representatives, and to seek a meeting. Cllr Clark and the Clerk will progress this matter. It was further agreed to contact neighbouring parishes to explore joint representations.

138/25 Parish Council Administration Matters

a) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Bradley reported on discussions with Eglington Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan lead, and shared details of potential consultants. The first Steering Group meeting has been arranged and consultation work will progress in the coming months.

A query was raised by a member of the public regarding the composition of the Steering Group. It was confirmed that the Council had approved the councillor membership of the group.

b) Parish Council Website

It was resolved to accept the HugoFox quote.

139/25 Governance Documents

a) Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Blackshaw presented a revised draft building on earlier work. In light of the limited parish land ownership, it was noted that partnership working would be required. The item was deferred to the next meeting.

140/25 Financial Matters:

a) Transaction Report

The Transaction Report has been published on the Council's website in accordance with transparency requirements and was circulated at the meeting.

b) Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation to 17 February 2026 was received and accepted.



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

Clerk: Sarah Trushell | whittinghampc29@gmail.com | 07455 004164

c) Payments for Authorisation

The Clerk's wages and Working from Home Allowance (£26) were noted as contractually approved and paid in accordance with the Clerk's contract of employment.

141/25 Items for Information or Future Agenda

Grant policy matters were noted for future consideration.

It was noted that potholes within the parish are worsening and should continue to be reported via FixMyStreet.

142/25 Date of next and future meetings (to start at 7pm unless stated otherwise)

17th March 2026

Signed as a true record of the meeting _____ *on Date* _____