

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KYLOE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
2nd DECEMBER 2025 IN LOWICK VILLAGE HALL AT 7PM**

PRESENT:

Chairman: Mr Stephen Biglands

Vice-Chair:

Parish Councillors: Mr Derek Eltringham & Mrs M Murray & Mr J Dickson

County Councillor: Mr Patrick Lambert

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Henderson, Clerk to Parish

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: None

APOLOGIES: Cll. R Birch, Ben Evans & Kevin Maloney, Community Foundation

Chairman Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as a true record by Margaret Murray seconded by Derek Eltringham and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

Capt. C D Leyland Fund / Community Foundation North East

We have received thankyou's from Bowsden Village Hall & Cancer Cars for our donor nominated grants. Heard nothing from GNAAS, CAB or Lowick Village Hall /Playpark
Closing balance as at 6 November 2025 is £6,570.00

Parking – Stephen contacted Richard suggesting another site meeting might be beneficial. Three have already taken place with Richard, then Will and then Dylan Handyside. Only Richard & Dylan offered feedback regarding the ownership of land we suggested would be suitable where parking could take place. Unfortunately nothing more has been forthcoming from NCC as funding will need to be identified.

Provision of Gigabit internet access to residents of Kylee Parish

Derek had attended a meeting/conference at Charlton Hall by invitation of Sylvia Pringle of iNorthumberland and had arranged for Lawri Stevenson, head of operations for Alncom to attend our meeting regarding the Gigabit Rollout Progress.

Unfortunately he had not turned up but had since contacted Derek apologising for his non-appearance due to pressure of work. He informed Derek that Alncom is now a 'designated' supplier for gigabit rollout programme in this neck of the woods, with OpenReach the other. Go-Fibre have moved their focus back to north of the Scotland border.

Alncom have submitted their plans to BDUK and DCMS who have to authorise the programme. Alncom are relatively confident of approval and he claims that they have already invested in the hardware required for their plan.

As for timing - they hope to start groundworks early in the New Year; he stated that they intend to erect a cabinet by the A1 near Fenwick. But the overall rollout is likely to take over 6 months. Caution: nothing is settled yet though.

Derek repeated the invitation to attend our next PC meeting - 24/02/2026 - and he agree so will be sent a reminder to him nearer the time.

Derek has agreed to act as the first point of contact for Alncom on this subject.

Local Transport Priorities for 2026-2027

1. U34 Beal / Mount Hooley / Fenwick / Detchant

This is a single track road which also accommodates the National Cycle Route 1 (Coast to Castles)

Travelling South on the A1, many Fenwick residents and delivery vans opt to turn right onto the U34 just past Beal Garage as there is the hatching clearly marked on the road where you can wait to turn right. It is felt to be a safer option than the junction of the B6353 and the A1.

The first 150m up to the small lay-by is okay but the surface from there to Mount Hooley is patch upon patch repair and the surface is very poor to the top of the hill past Mount Hooley. The cycle route goes left at Mount Hooley, then right to rejoin the U34, but there is over 300m of poor surface and large pot-holes and a potential danger for cyclists.

Implementing a 20mph speed limit would be welcomed as hikers /dog walkers /animal movements regularly use this road alongside the ever increasing traffic. Residents at Mount Hooley have suggested speed bumps / slow signs.

Resurfacing work also needed on the U34 at Fenwick between the old village hall to the end of the 30 limit sign.

Reason: Safety

3. C16 Lindisfarne Causeway / Kentstone / Old Dryburn

Increasing traffic as drivers seek alternative routes / short cuts to avoid right hand turn at the junction of the A1 & B6353 which is causing concerns for the residents of Kentstone.

Implementing a 20mph speed limit passing Kentstone with signs warning of concealed entrances would be welcomed.

Reason: Safety

3. Signs

Many signs throughout the Parish are in need of refurbishment / replacing

CGR (Community Governance Review) which enables the County Council to review and make changes to the community governance of its parishes and their electoral arrangements. – pre-consultation questionnaire completed for Kyloe Parish Council and returned to County Hall. Correct no. of councillors 7 (therefore need 1 more). Currently warded & would like to remain warded. Currently not grouped and don't want to be. No boundary changes needed. No need to change parishes. Viability – will need to increase the precept.

2026-2030 Corporate Plan which will set the priorities for the County Council. – meeting attended by Derek: *‘I attended the meeting at Belford last Thursday. There were around 20 others there from parishes in the north of the county.*

The format was essentially a Q&A for Glen Sanderson to answer questions from the floor about what could NCC do better, or were not spelled out in the Corporate Performance Report from July 2025. He is clearly well-practised at this type of event and knows many of those present. A set of notes summarising the questions and answers has been promised, so I won't try to duplicate them, and will circulate them when(if) we get them.

Questions and discussion covered the topics that could be anticipated: schools, transport and roads, affordable housing. Highways England did not get an honourable mention! I managed to get the gigabit rollout mentioned.

The Northumberland Local Plan is to be revised early to take better account of housing needs. I'll distribute any documents as and when we receive them'.

Written answer to a question which was posed on the night (sent from NCC)

Question: How much money has been raised from second home council tax and what has this been spent on?

Answer: The Council has raised £6,455,196.68 in additional council tax charges as a result of the second home premium.

Council tax income helps fund all General Fund services provided by the Council, it is not applied to specific projects or service. Details of the Council's income and expenditure can be found in the annual Statement of Accounts.

Notice Board – will be made of oak and hopefully up by Christmas

.gov.uk website & emails – C. Cllr Patrick Lambert offered to get Isabel Hunter to contact the clerk with regard to the .gov.uk website & emails which NCC provide.

CORRESPONDENCE

North of Tyne Local Nature Recovery Strategy draft consultation - open for consultation till 9 January

NCC

- Northumberland County Council is developing a Design Code. The Code will set requirements for developers for the design of future development. The way places are designed and built affects everyone. Where we live, work, and relax can influence how we feel, our health and wellbeing, and our feelings of safety and belonging are the reasons behind a consultation to asking about our neighbourhoods. Find out more and have your say using our Northumberland Design Code Hub website at nland.cc/DesignCode.
- Notice of consultation for a proposal to make a Public Spaces Protection Order for the control of dogs

NALC – Isabel Hunter asking if any Kyloe Parish Councillors are interested in becoming the Norham & Islandshire representative on the NALC County Committee. No takers.

LEAFLETS

Clerks & Councils Direct – November 2025 Issue 162
Glasdon
Bulletin War Memorials Trust

PLANNING

APP/P2935/W/25/3364709 — West Mains, Beal – no further update

New Woodland Creation Scheme at Beal, GR: NU054429 and GR: NU072422 on the Northumbria Coast in site of Lindisfarne.

The scheme is broken down into two compartments, Compartment 2 east of the road and covering 1.4ha. The first compartment sits below Carrow Hill and covers 2.18ha. Both compartments will be planted with mixed native broadleaves which will straddle a Sitka and Norway spruce mix of 50:50. 0.58ha of open space will be left for habitat and landscape benefit, as well as shelter for grazing stock. The owners aim to is to provide biodiversity and ecological benefit to areas of land otherwise unused, with hope of some timber for economic return in the future also.

Both compartments will be protected with 1.2m tubes on the broadleaves and with a surrounding stock fence, with a gate in each. Compartment two will be topped before planting to remove the dense vegetation covering the area. The conifer will be planted at a stocking density of 2500 stems a hectare , and the mixed broadleaves 1600 per ha.

The site does not fall within the Lindisfarne SSSI, and is not covered by any PH, although compartment 2 has Costal habitat PH adjacent

Matthew Gaskell from Edwin-Thompson for R Smith, Beal Farm

Comments:

The Parish Council have no objections

The proposed planting looks balanced with shelter for animals & birds. Cannot see any negative effects onto the NNR

FINANCE

Premium Account as at 2 December 2025 (+ interest)			£931.80
Community Account as at 2 December 2025	3327.80		
Payment agreed at meeting			
Hire of Hall – December meeting	15.00		
Colin Wakeling Aug & Nov newsletters	54.20		
Poppy Wreath	30.00		
Elan City (warranty)	<u>238.80</u>	<u>338.00</u>	£2989.80

KPC/ Community Foundation Initiative

(held within Community A/c) £663.14

Precept for 2026-2027 - Stephen explained that the defibrillator pads are up for renewal in July & August. Councillors agreed that the precept be raised by £100 from £1400 to £1500

A suggestion that defibrillator training should be arranged in the New Year. Stephen will contact Ian Wood.

NEWSLETTER – Need to get details of ‘how’ from Colin

AOB

Footpaths in Fenwick in front of the bungalows and down to the A1 from the layby bench need repair work. Patrick informed us that he is now on the Rights of Way / Footpaths Committee (this may or may not include tarmac paths within villages) so asked that photos be taken & sent to him. Tina had reported them on FixMyStreet in November with the reply from NCC that they are aware of the issue and have instructed work in the area.

Christmas Tree

Tina has asked whether there could be a real Christmas Tree planted in the village. She suggested it could be planted at the western end of the bungalows or where the tree supplied by Ford & Etal every year is displayed. After discussion although a good idea it would not be viable as it would grow too big and require ongoing maintenance and would compromise the grass cutting.

VAS sign on A1 – Rod Begbie contacted NCC Fix My Street

This is a vehicle-activated sign linked to the junction between the A1 and B6353 but it is not in operation. If it were working it may help prevent accidents where vehicles are stationary in the middle of the road waiting to turn right to Fenwick. Could the sign be reactivated? When and why was it deactivated?

Reply from NCC / National Highways

‘The VAS at Fenwick were installed around 20 years ago and have been faulty for some time. Despite this, they continue to display a permanent ‘crossroads ahead’ fixed plate warning signs. Collision levels at this location have been low for many years, meaning there is limited justification for replacing the VAS. Instead we are developing a preliminary design for replacement signage. These will likely not be vehicle activated but will consist of new fixed plate warning signs that comply with current highway standards’.

State changed to: In progress

Signage at Fenwick – Gilly Banyard suggested a sign for crossroad, not T Junction at Fenwick road end.

Reflective Posts suggested by John

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm

Next meeting dates: 24 February 2026 12 May 2026 (AGM)