

**NENTHEAD WARD AGM
MONDAY 28TH MARCH 2022
7.00M NENTHEAD VILLAGE HALL**

MINUTES

Present: Milly Rudd, Zerel Robson, Rafa Canet, Moira Raine, Alex Sawyer, Brian Aves, Maxine Denoual, Ron Robinson, Alistair Robertson, Ian Lyndley, Adam Herdman

Apologies: Alison Clark, Erica Morgan, Claire Driver, Sheila Barker, Laura Seaton

Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary

CHAIR – Brian Aves, nominated Christine Habberjam, 2nd Ron Robinson

Vice Chair – Laura Seaton, nominated by Brian Aves, 2nd Zerel Robson

Secretary – Milly Rudd, Nominated by Brian Aves, 2nd Rafa Canet

Minutes of last AGM

Approved by Christine Habberjam, 2nd Zerel Robson

Minutes from last ward Meeting, 31st Jan 2022

Approved by Maxine Denoual, 2nd Zerel Robson

MATTERS ARISING

Rafa Canet suggested putting minutes of meeting up on Facebook Noticeboard. Agreed this was a good idea!

Generator for Nenthead – Claire Driver still looking into funding for one.

We have a new Nenthead Parish Councillor!– Ian Lyndley, who lives in Nenthead.

Red Squirrel signs – The Council will not pay for new signs, but we can put up existing ones.

The Vicarage terrace / Hillersdon Terrace signs still need sorting out!

REPORTS / UPDATES

1. Ambulance – no report sent in, but discussions continue
2. Coal Authority Water treatment Scheme – Forthcoming meeting on 18th May. Zerel Robson asked whether the Parish Council will uphold the wishes of the community. Milly Rudd said she would write a letter with concerns to be read to the next Parish Council Meeting. Alex Sawyer enquired as to whether the CA will be allowed to have their way at the meeting or whether we should demand more public consultation instead of just the proposed “drop in” session. There was a discussion about the role of the NMCS in the CA’s decision about the location of the Water treatment scheme. It was felt there would need to be more open communication, but there was no NMCS representative at the meeting so the discussion was stopped. It was suggested by Moira Raine that we organise a meeting with the NMCS to discuss the lease of the land to the CA. There was a general discussion that the village should be included in the NMCS decision, as it affects all. Rafa suggested a record of complaint by the village be made. Discussion continued to the recovering ecology of the mine site. Alex Sawyer mentioned that the EA should be concentrating on their aims to clean up agricultural waste, sewage and plastic, according to the new Government guidelines about river pollution. Alistair Robertson suggested the village need some sort of co-ordinator whom people could access with thoughts and concerns – maybe Jackie Carnell? Rafa Canet also suggested we should invite local media and write to MP, asking that they attend the meeting on 18th May. It was felt more people should be informed of all of the issues about this. Maxine Denoual reiterated the need to inform MP, and to communicate to the Parish

Council that Nenthead is against the scheme going ahead. We need a solid case to oppose the CA's plans.

3. Nenthead Shop – report from Brian Aves

Supplies for the shop are still being sourced, there are some difficulties with suppliers. Zerel suggested more fresh fruit and veg as a regular sale, but it was explained that when the shop does supply this, such as supplied by Adam Herdman, people don't always buy it and it goes to waste. It was suggested that more publicity, such as updates on Facebook to let people know the veg is there, might help with this.

The Shop's AGM is on the 19th April, everyone welcome. Any shareholders who wish to view the accounts, please send your email address and Brian will send a copy.

Brian took Scottish Power to the ombudsman over the electricity bill and won!

With price rises all round, and increase in minimum wage, things are not easy.

But a big thank you to our volunteers – Ade Compton, Brian, Kate, Erica, Christine and Jan, without whom the shop would not be able to keep going.

A big thank you to Christine Habberjam for making 161 jars of marmalade!!

4. Village Hall – Christine Habberjam reporting

The hall has been closed much of the year due to Covid. Men's toilets have been damp proofed for the time being. Ladies toilets suspended ceiling has been replaced, and work on the roof to make it waterproof. Some of the windows have been re-sealed. Needs the heating to be upgraded or better insulation.

The Big Breakfast is on 10th April. This is the biggest fundraiser and Covid grant has helped too. Carpet Bowls on Wednesdays at 7.30pm, everyone welcome.

5. The Hive – report from Rafa Canet

It's been a challenging time, but things are building up again with increased events after April – it will open 5 days a week. Funding and volunteers are needed to keep it going.

There will be a monthly quiz night, a music night, and a bistro night. Planning more kids' activities and more events for the community. Anyone with ideas about fundraising, events, and things to keep the place alive are welcomed. With energy price increases there are many challenges, for example, keeping the organ warm. It needs funding as the correct balance of humidity and temperature is needed. Financially, The Hive can manage for another year, after which it will be difficult without further funding.

6. Toilets

Still waiting for quotes. The collection "house" outside has been helpful. Suggested the outside lights should be on timers, and Laura to ask Jon Richards if he could put timers on.

7. NCMS – written report from Sheila Barker

Summary – The first open day in July 2021 has begun a popular and well attended run of open days and group visits. Work on the site by volunteers and paid professionals has been carried out for maintenance and flood damage repairs. There will be stone steps down to the riverbed for viewing geological points of interest and a metal staircase to take visitors up to the rear exit. The fencing round grass areas in the car park is to protect wildflowers from damage from cars "doughnutting". Damage from storm Barra has caused many trees to fall, and NCMS are applying for funding to replace them. The footpaths are blocked by some of these trees. NCMS state these are not public footpaths, but remains of a nature trail put in by NPHT. The area is open access land where anyone can walk at their own risk. First open day is Easter Sunday, and hoping for a "normal" year!

8. Nenthead Community Project Group (NCPG) – Zerel Robson reporting

The group has secured a £5,000.00 grant from the Parish Council. The first fundraising event, a tabletop sale, arts and crafts coffee morning, was successful. There is a raffle, with tickets available in the shop, Morden Garage, information centre and Co-op for £1 each, and Ron Robinson has donated a prize. There is a possibility of a repeat of this every 2 months, and things are moving forward.

9. Recycling Centre – somebody has tidied it up! Bin for thin plastic is unlikely.

10. Nenthead Play Area Association – no time to ask Kim for a report – Planning an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids.
11. Nenthead W.I. - written report from Christine Habberjam.
Started in 1951, The W.I are celebrating their 70th Year (with a year lost due to pandemic). Meetings are now back to normal, with 11 members meeting monthly in Village Hall. There have been visits from other W.I.'s and trips to their meetings. There is generally a day trip in the summer and again at Christmas, and speeches, demonstrations and more at meetings!
12. Miners Arms – Ian Lyndley reported that Dave Raeside and Lissie Sharp are making some progress with the issue of Community purchase of the pub.

A.O.B

Snowplough – Maxine Denoual reported that Nenthead Snowplough will be hit by fuel price increases. Also red diesel can no longer be used which will cause problems.

Email from Maxine Shepherd – Warm Homes in Cumbria – there will be a stall at Fairhill event on 30th April, and again at Alston Gala on 25th June.

Meeting ended 8.44pm

Next Meeting 30th May 2022 7.00pm Nenthead Village Hall