



## ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of Alston Moor Parish Council (AMPC) held on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2024** at 19:00hrs in Alston Town Hall.

### Present:

**Chairman:** Cllr. Raymond Miller (RM)  
**Councillors:** Cllr. Best, Cllr. Bondi, Cllr. Crick, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Edgar, Cllr. Green, Cllr. Grew, Cllr. Hanley, Cllr. Martin, Cllr. Ho, Cllr. Monk, Cllr. Ransom, Cllr. Robertson and Cllr. Robinson.

**Clerk/RFO:** Lindsay Nicholson (LN)

**Also in attendance:** Unitary Councillor Hanley

**Members of the Public:** 3

2024/067	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> None
2024/068	<b>Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation</b> None
2024/069	<b>Public Participation (Timed item 15 minutes)</b> None
2024/070	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council</b> <i>Motion: to authorise the chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. Proposer: Cllr. Davies, Seconder: Cllr. Ransom, Vote: 12 Favour 1 abstention.</i> <b>Resolved: to approve the minutes of the full council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.</b>
2024/071	<b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)</b> Councillors agreed to consider item 2024/084 Parish Council and Charity training under the exclusion of press and public. <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b>  Cllr. Edgar joined the meeting at 19:05
2024/072	<b>Chairs Report</b> None
2024/073	<b>Westmorland &amp; Furness Councillors Report</b> <b>Eden Locality Board</b> Active Cumbria have invested £27,000 into sporting activities at Samuel Kings School. This has enabled archery classes, rugby sessions, soccer session and swimming in Penrith.  Questions were asked about Westmorland & Furness Bus Service consultation. Concern was raised about the length of time that users of the bus are able access

	<p>Carlisle. The service return journey is after 2 hours. Questions were asked if this could be extended.  <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b></p> <p>Cllr Green joined the meeting at 19:13</p>
2024/074	<p><b>Police Report</b>  None</p>
2024/075	<p><b>Progress Reports</b>  <b>2024/075.1 Tyne Willows – Public Footpath onto the Field</b>  A discussion was held about the state of the path and how the issue should be addressed. Cllr. Bondi offered wording for a sign to alert users of the nature of the path.  “Please take care, this path is rough and steep. Level access to Tyne Willows is available from the road towards the station.”</p> <p>Cllr. Robinson offered to remove the concrete waste that is located near the corner with the sub-station.</p> <p><i>Motion: to remove the concrete and erect a sign to alert users of the path.  Proposer: Cllr. Grew, Seconder: Cllr. Monk, Vote: 14 Favour 1 abstention.</i>  <b>Resolved: to remove the concrete and erect the sign.</b></p>
2024/076	<p><b>Reports from Representatives</b>  <b>2024/076.1 Alston Moor &amp; Fellside Place Action Group</b>  No update</p> <p><b>2024/076.2 Alston Moor Emergency Response Group (AMERG)</b>  The next meeting 5<sup>th</sup> of April at 2.00pm  <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b></p> <p><b>2024/076.3 Nenthead Mine Water Treatment Works</b>  The Coal Authority and Environment Agency held a public meeting. The meeting was well attended. Concern was raised that there was very little difference in the information that was presented from previous meetings. Residents expressed that they didn't feel their views were being considered.  <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b></p> <p><b>2024/076.4 Alston Moor Partnership</b>  A meeting was held to consider the future direction of the partnership. It was reported that the group were wanting to look at more projects supporting sustainability. CAfS will partner with Alston Moor Partnership in Great Big Green Week to deliver sessions and information about solar panels.  <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b></p> <p><b>2024/076.5 Nenthead Ward Meeting Update</b>  <b>Miners Arms</b>  It was reported that the share offer would be launched shortly. The group has successfully secured £3,000 from the Plunkett Foundation. An application for funding for the project to be submitted in a few weeks.</p> <p><b>Nent Shop</b></p>

The shop reports that business has been better this year resulting in them breaking even. Electricity bills are being evaluated to see if any running cost savings can be made.

**The Hive**

The Hive closed on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March. A new board had been elected. The café is currently closed but the building is open for events.

**Village Hall**

It was reported that the outside work would progress when the weather improves.

**Community Toilets**

A meeting is to be convened by the chairman.

**Nenthead Community Projects**

The group is seeking a grant for the flowers to tidy and improve the area.

**Recycling Centre**

It was reported that the area has been raised as it is constantly a mess. The garages opposite were also raised.

**Snowplough**

The group is looking for grants to get the v plough restored. The diesel costs have increased which is having a large impact on the overall cost of the service. The group are seeking a grant from Westmorland & Furness.

2024/077

**Planning Applications & Decisions**

**2024/077.1 Applications**

[2024/0445/TCA](#) Old Vicarage Front Street ALSTON CA9 3RE: To fell multistem sycamore growing too close to boundary wall and has dislodged wall.

*Motion: to support the application.*

*Proposer: Cllr. Robinson, Seconder: Cllr. Green, Vote: Nem con.*

**Resolved: to support the application**

[2024/0349/FPA](#) 2 Sunnyside Nenthead CA9 3AE: Erection of stable on hardcore base and associated track.

*Motion: to support the application.*

*Proposer: Cllr. Grew, Seconder: Cllr. Robinson, Vote: 14 Favour 1 abstention.*

**Resolved: to support the application**

**2024/077.2 Decisions**

The following planning decisions made by Westmorland & Furness Council were reported.

Application No.	Location	Brief Description	Decision
<a href="#">2024/0252/TCA</a>	Low Mill House Station Road ALSTON CA9 3HZ	Fell 1no Lime tree and 1no Willow tree - due to close proximity to main house and neighbouring house / boundary walls. Crown dominates plot with excessive shading, storm damage resulted in branch loss and trunk scarring. Low amenity value.	Tree CA No Objection

	<a href="#">2024/0143/FPA</a>	High Fell House ALSTON CA9 3BP	Construction of detached garage and alterations to existing garage to form garden room.	Approved with Conditions																								
<b>Resolved: to receive the information</b>																												
2024/078	<p><b>Digitalisation of Landlines</b> It was reported that BT would be postponing the digitisation for up to 2 years. It was indicated that there have been several cases of vulnerable people being unable to call for assistance via their emergency alert buttons in power outages. BT has agreed to review its policy considering the new evidence. Cllr. Martin felt that correspondence with BT in regard to the mast upgrade should still go ahead. <b>Resolved: to receive the information</b></p>																											
2024/079	<p><b>Accounts</b> <b>2024/079.1 Accounts</b> The following accounts for payment were ratified,</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 779 1169 1084"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Urbaser</td> <td>Commercial Waste Collection</td> <td>£14.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Virtual Landline</td> <td>Parish Council Phone</td> <td>£9.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IONOS</td> <td>Domain</td> <td>£3.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zoom</td> <td>Virtual Meeting Software</td> <td>£15.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HSBC</td> <td>Bank Charges</td> <td>£5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L Nicholson</td> <td>Salary</td> <td>£747.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nest</td> <td>Pension Payment</td> <td>£30.49</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Motion: to ratify the payments.</i> <i>Proposer: Cllr. Bondi, Seconder: Cllr. Robinson, Vote: 14 favour, 1 abstention</i></p>				Payee	Description	Amount	Urbaser	Commercial Waste Collection	£14.50	Virtual Landline	Parish Council Phone	£9.85	IONOS	Domain	£3.59	Zoom	Virtual Meeting Software	£15.59	HSBC	Bank Charges	£5.00	L Nicholson	Salary	£747.08	Nest	Pension Payment	£30.49
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2024/080	<p><b>Correspondence</b> The volume of correspondence was noted.</p>																											
2024/081	<p><b>Social Media Policy</b> <i>Motion: the DPG working group to review the policy for consideration by full council.</i> <i>Proposer: Cllr. Martin, Seconder: Cllr. Davies, Vote: Nem con.</i> <b>Resolved: to refer the policy to the working group.</b></p>																											
2024/082	<p><b>Public Participation Policy</b> <i>Motion: the DPG working group to review the policy for consideration by full council.</i> <i>Proposer: Cllr. Martin, Seconder: Cllr. Davies, Vote: Nem con.</i> <b>Resolved: to refer the policy to the working group.</b></p>																											
2024/083	<p><b>Items for the Next Meeting of the Parish Council</b> Councillors raised the following items for discussion at the next meeting of the Parish Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Steps Nenthead</li> <li>- Hospital Working Group</li> <li>- Save the Ambulance</li> <li>- Warm Hub</li> <li>- Emergency Response Vehicle</li> </ul>																											

2024/085	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting</b>  The next full Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall.</p>
2024/084	<p><b>Parish Council &amp; Charity Training (Closed Item)</b>  The meeting was then closed to the public under Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 at 19:50</p> <p>Councillors discussed the recent training.  <i>Motion: to implement the recommendations of the Local Government Solicitor.</i>  <i>Proposer: Cllr. Miller, Seconder: Cllr. Martin, Vote: Favour 14, Abstention: 1</i></p> <p>The formal meeting items were completed. Councillors continued to discuss other staffing items. The clerk left the meeting at 20.08</p>

**Please note: all Parish Council meetings are open to members of the Public.**

Chair Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_