



ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 8th July 2019 at 7pm in Alston Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs: A. Martin (Chair), D. Athey, M. Denoual, J. Glendinning, A. Green, E. Grew, T. Haldon, M. Hanley, C. Harrison, H. Ho, A. Holt, R. Miller. Z. Robson, L. Seaton.

Apologies: Cllr G. Wright

Absent: none

Declarations of interest: listed under specific agenda items. Cllr Holt 6b/JUL/19 & 6e/JUL/19.

1. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 3rd June 2019 be agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Grew. (9+ 5 abs)

2. Public participation

In answer to a queries, reports will be posted to the website as soon as practicable. The public participation section of the agenda has been moved back to the start of the meeting in accordance with public participation protocol recommendations.

3. Progress Reports

3a/JUL/19 VE Day 75 8 -10th May 2020

Re: 2a/JUN/19 SSAFA (the Armed Forces charity) are inviting councils to register to participate in the VE Day 75th anniversary on 8th May 2020 and over the weekend between 8th and 10th May. A number of activities could be undertaken such as church services and street parties, and pipers from around the world will be encouraged to play Battle's O'er and a specially written tune, VE 75 Years.

Cllr Glendinning reported that there is a lot of information on the national website. Cllr Robson has offered to assist with planning events for Alston, as has a representative from AMBA. No funds have been allocated as yet, but there is time to consider funding, possibly through the district and through the parish precept.

Resolved to register to take part in the VE Day 75th anniversary. Proposed by Cllr Glendinning and seconded by Cllr Miller. (nem con)

3c/JUL/19 Update of 5GRIT/Electric Car Charge Points

Re: 2b/JUN/19 A report on 5GRIT has been circulated. Lancaster University have produced a survey on community views and would like the council to encourage residents to complete it. Details will be posted on the council's facebook page and the report on the council website.

The charge points at Tyne Willows have been used by 6 drivers across 41 charge sessions, and the Cybermoor wireless broadband connections has significantly improved the reliability of the service since it was installed. The range should now be extended to cover more of the playing fields.

It was suggested that the Wi-Fi should have open access as it was too restrictive to have to obtain the code from the gym, as it was not open all hours. Since anyone, including young people, can access the internet from other sites, including the Town Hall, there should not be any greater risk for Tyne Willows.

Resolved that the Wi-Fi at Tyne Willows pavilion should be open access with no password required. Proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Haldon. (nem con)

3d/JUL/19 Request to turn off outside lights at SKS during the evening

Re: 3g/JUN/19 The outside lights have now been turned off at SKS, following initial difficulties in deactivating them. It was reported that the residents who reported concerns to the councillors' surgery were delighted.

4. Progress reports from working groups and council representatives

4a/JUL/19 Alston War Memorial

Beatty's of Carlisle are sending someone from Aberdeen to amend the misspelt name on the war memorial.

There was a request made at the councillors' surgery for the poppy wreaths around the war memorial to be taken down at Easter. However British Legion legislation says the timing to take them down should be made by agreement with the owners, the parish council. The website advises they should remain up all year. Alston has about 20 wreaths, which do not deteriorate, and some people have made generous donations. The concern is that if there is no gap people will not notice the new wreaths, so to take them down in September would be a good compromise.

Agreed that the wreaths would come down in September, and the offer from Cllr Glendinning to take them down was accepted.

4b/JUL/19 Alston Moor Care Alliance & Ambulance meeting report

A report was circulated. North Cumbria Health and Care have put together a strategy for the next five years, and would like the public to let them have their views through a questionnaire. The next health alliance meeting will be in August.

The last two ambulance meetings were cancelled, so there is a concern that the next one should take place. Cllr Grew has e-mailed the officer delegated by the NHS to discuss the ambulance garage, as there had been no response to a request for a site meeting. There is a garage in the hospital grounds, but it was thought to be too small for the ambulance to fit into. The council depot may be a possibility, but the County are involved in a review so no decisions can be made yet.

It was agreed that a meeting should be held between Cllrs Denoual, Grew, Robson, Seaton and Martin.

Action.

4c/JUL/19 Alston Moor Community Plan Steering Group

The notes from the first meeting were circulated. The group aims to tackle the Community Plan in sections, and it was agreed it would be helpful to identify which sections have been pencilled in for the parish council.

Cllr Martin reported that she received a request from the chair of Alston Moor Partnership asking the parish council to support a bid for the High Street Heritage Action Zone for Alston and to become a partner in the project partnership should the Expression of Interest be accepted. The deadline is 12th July so a decision is needed urgently. The background is that Eden District Council were advised of the funding opportunity but were unable to provide the resources to submit the bid themselves so contacted the Partnership.

The bid has three main elements, all with the main target outcome of increasing footfall in the town centre to improve economic viability by regenerating the historic environment. These elements are:

- High Mill: regeneration to include heritage attraction and lettable workspace with car-park to the rear.
- Public realm (Front Street and Market Square – working with the County Council)
- Improving permeation from outlying car-parks (meaning encourage more pedestrians to come into the centre of town) – by developing heritage signage, and possibly information boards/ interpretation panels, and carrying out surface improvements where necessary to create attractive pedestrian routes into the town centre via the Butts, Overburn and the footpath behind the town hall.

Resolved to support the expression of interest to Historic England's High Street Heritage Action Zone.

Proposed by Cllr Hanley and seconded by Cllr Martin. (10+ 4 abs)

Resolved to support sending a representative to a steering group should the bid succeed. Proposed by Cllr Grew and seconded by Cllr Martin. (10+ 4 abs)

4d/JUL/19 Alston Moor Partnership

Cllr Holt reported that he had attended an Alston Moor Partnership meeting, which was not quorate so no decisions were made. The AGM is to be held on 16th July, and there is a real need to attract more directors. He is happy to attend as an observer, but does not wish to become a director, and there is some uncertainty as to whether this is acceptable to the Partnership. Agenda item for the next council meeting. **Action.**

4e/JUL/19 Councillors' surgery

A resident raised a concern about the condition of Alston cemetery, which has been passed to Eden District Council and the Friends of Alston cemetery. There are similar issues with Garrigill cemetery, which has litter, plastic flowers strewn around, dead birds and fallen trees, with the grass cutters making no effort to tidy up. An officer from Eden District Council has agreed to a meeting to discuss the issues.

Another issue concerns the recycling centre as the bins are still obstructing access into the field. A commercial business has been reported to Eden District Council for using the facilities.

5 County Councillor's Report

Apologies from Cllr Driver who sent a written report, which was circulated and noted.

District Councillor's Report

Apologies from Cllr Sharp. Cllr Hanley reported on the following:

Climate emergency – a council meeting is to be held next Thursday, which will discuss the motion that EDC should declare a climate emergency and to work towards becoming carbon neutral along with other ecological measures.

Committee meetings – have been postponed until the autumn. Consideration is being given to reduce the number of scrutiny committees from three to one.

6. Planning applications

6a/JUL/19 19/0313 Full application. Change of use from self-catering holiday cottage to single residential dwelling. Cockabundee Cottage, High Lonning Head, Garrigill CA9 3EY for Mr L. Williams.

Recommended for approval. Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr Martin. (nem con)

6b/JUL/19 19/0366 Full application. Addition of dormer window. High Plains Lodge, Middleton Road, Alston CA9 3DD for Mr D. Walters.

Cllr Holt declared a work related interest.

Recommended for approval. Proposed by Cllr Haldon and seconded by Cllr Grew. (11+ 2 abs)

6c/JUL/19 19/0396 Full application. Proposed installation of additional first floor window in gable end, south facing. Moordale View, Garrigill, CA9 3EB for Mrs F. Gifford.

Recommended for approval. Proposed by Cllr Grew and seconded by Cllr Holt (13+ 1 abs)

6d/JUL/19 19/094 Full application. New porch. Garrigill House, Garrigill CA9 3AB for Mr B. Hollobone.

Recommended for approval. Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr Grew. (13+ 1 abs)

6e/JUL/19 19/0432 Full application. Removal of condition 2 (period of use of site) attached to approval 81/0469. Hudgill Caravan Park, Nenthead Road, Alston CA9 3LY for Mr T. Fletcher.

Cllr Holt declared a work related interest.

Recommended for approval. (4+ 3- 6 abs)

6f/JUL/19 19/0436 Full application. Advertisement consent for 1 part illuminated fascia sign, 1 illuminated logo sign and 4 non-illuminated panel signs. Co-operative Supermarket, Market Place, Alston CA9 3HS for Co-op Food Programme Delivery Orchid Group.

It was agreed to ask for a time extension as the application had just been received and not everyone had had time to view it.

Decision notices

6i/JUL/19 18/0667 Full application. Part retrospective application for erection of polytunnel, proposed sunroom and detached garage workshop and change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden (re-submission of 17/0584). Valley View, Nenthead for Mr & Mrs Baker. Permission granted with conditions.

6ii/JUL/19 19/0250 Full application. Replacement of existing agricultural building with General Purpose agricultural building. Lambsgate Farm, Alston CA9 3LD for Mr & Mrs R. Tebbs. Permission granted with conditions.

6iii/JUL/19 19/0314 Full application. Two replacement first floor timber frame windows. Co-operative Supermarket, Market Place, Alston CA9 3HS for The Co-operative Group. Permission granted with conditions.

6iv/JUL/19 3/18/9001 Establishment of a scheme for minewater treatment comprising construction of an interceptor manhole chamber; provision of transfer pipes; erection of 2no buildings to house, respectively, pumping and odour abatement equipment; creation of 3no. compost based treatment ponds and 2no aerobic reedbed ponds; construction of outfalls; creation of access tracks and a hardstanding areas; and associated development. Permission granted subject to due compliance with conditions.

7. Feedback on Appleby Fair

Letters were received from a resident with a complaint about the travellers' horses on Tyne Willows Playing Fields, as some had been tethered on the pitches and the quantity of horse dung produced during

their stay. Some were also tethered too close to the pavilion, and a couple allowed to roam loose. She also complained that the cut grass had been left to lie on the field. The resident had contacted Eden District Council and been informed that the notice asking the travellers not to tether their horses on the pitches had gone up. She had also spent time on collecting the horse muck from the field, and the community warden has collected 2 big tins of nails left over from burning pallets.

It was reported that the complaint was made because the field was unsuitable for use during an event run by the school, who had used the STRPS site instead. However, SKS are well aware of the situation with the travellers and are partners in the decision that Tyne Willows continues to be offered for use during Appleby Fair, as no suitable alternative site can be found. The grass cut is not straightforward as the Sheepdog Trials wanted the grass left uncut for the sheep. The lack of communication from the gym, meant that no request was made to erect fencing around the pavilion.

Noted that another resident who regularly cut the grass on Blackhouse corner has stopped doing so as a horse stake was left on the site.

Agreed to respond that the council and school are aware that some problems may be caused by the travellers, but they are only present for a short while. **Action CI.**

8. Proposal for the council to alert the appropriate authorities to the issues of noise pollution, speeding and anti-social driving from vehicles around Alston Moor

Cllr Holt reported that he has been contacted by several people asking the parish council to put pressure on the authorities to do something about noise pollution, speeding and anti-social driving. He noticed a big police presence a few weeks ago, and was aware that around 40 drivers were stopped for speeding or noise pollution. It made a difference to drivers' behaviour, and if this could happen more regularly it could make an impact.

Noted that these issues are ones that do not go away, and are a national problem. The police do what they can with limited resources and have tried to encourage locals to help out with speed cameras.

Resolved that the council alerts the appropriate authorities to the issue of noise pollution, speeding and anti-social driving from vehicles around Alston Moor. Proposed by Cllr Holt and seconded by Cllr Robson. (8+ 6 abs).

9. Proposal to invite the police to attend a council meeting to discuss the issue of speeding and anti-social behaviour on Alston Moor

Resolved to invite the police to attend a council meeting to discuss the issue of speeding and anti-social behaviour on Alston Moor. Proposed by Cllr Holt and seconded by Cllr Robson. (8+ 6 abs).

10. Proposal to ask Eden District Council for permission to plant daffodils around the Walton Memorial at Townfoot

This proposal was withdrawn as Eden District Council has already given permission to the resident to plant the daffodils.

11. Appointment of Nenthead and Garrigill representative to Alston United Charities

Resolved to appoint Cllr Robson as the Nenthead representative and Cllr Grew for Garrigill to Alston United Charities. Proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Denoual. (nem con)

12. Appointment of Tyne Willows Pavilion Working Group

It was suggested that a working group might not be needed.

Resolved to appoint Cllr Holt as the parish council representative to Alston Fitness Club.

As the AGM was to be held the next day Cllr Holt agreed to let the gym know about his appointment. He was asked to mention the tyres left on the playing field. **Action AH.**

13. Consultations and Correspondence

13a/JUL/19 Temporary Road Closure

This is for a section of the C3039 Garrigill to Leadgate, near Alston from its junction with the U3117, which is due to commence on 22nd July 2019 for approx. 2 weeks.

13b/JUL/19 CALC training sessions

CALC are considering including some additional training courses in their September programme and would like to gauge interest in them. The options are Managing Trees, Green Spaces, Neighbourhood Planning, Planning responses for local Committee, Agendas and Minutes, Code of Conduct, Harassment and Bullying, Finance and End of Year Audit.

Anyone interested was asked to let the clerk know.

13c/JUL/19 Notices of events/meetings

Alston Moor Partnership AGM – 16th July 2019

Duck race 13th July.

Alston Live 19th -20th July

Nenthead Arts & Visitor Centre Community Celebration – 16th August

13d/JUL/19 Information received

Project update for Nent Hags and Caplecleugh mine water treatments schemes

CALC – legislation to end the toilet tax has entered Parliament as the Non-Domestic Rating (Public Conveniences) Bill.

NALC Legal update on the use of secret ballots. Agreed as an agenda item for next month. **Action.**

14. Administration

14a/JUL/19 Proposal to purchase tablet computers for councillors' use

Agreed to hold over until the next meeting, to allow time to identify suitable equipment. **Action.**

14b/JUL/19 Proposal to look at a communications policy with a view to adopting one

Agenda item for next month. **Action.**

14c/JUL/19 Proposal that the council consider re-constituting the working group that was formed prior to the election in May, which was to look into raising the profile of Alston Moor Parish Council

It was agreed to set up a new group, which would need a name, and terms of reference.

Cllrs Denoual, Hanley, Holt, Holden, Martin and Seaton agreed to join, along with the Town Hall manager.

14d/JUL/19 Accessibility of website regulations – requirement to comply by 23rd September 2020

Information circulated. There are some issues with the website, and it could be part of the working group's task to consider what is needed as part of raising the council's profile.

14e/JUL/19 Proposal to adopt the draft policies on protocol for public participation and working groups terms of reference

Circulated.

Resolved to adopt the policies on protocol for public participation and the policy on working group's terms of reference. Proposed by Cllr Holden and seconded by Cllr Denoual. (13+ 1 abs)

15. Items for next month's agenda/urgent business & the next Traffic Management meeting

Alston Moor Partnership parish council representative

The clerk was asked to set up a meeting of the Volunteer Co-ordinator working group.

The clerk was asked to find out from Eden District Council what the timetable was for weed clearance.

Traffic management – various ongoing issues identified in the TM action plan.

16. Finance

16a/JUL/19 Bank statements

The statements as of 30th June 2019 were as follows:-

Alston Moor Parish Council tr/ac	£71,503.99
Alston Moor Parish Council bus/ac	£12,707.70
Eden Credit Union	£7,008.58

16b/JUL/19 Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were for payment:-

<i>Summary of accounts for payment: -</i>	£1,155.35
<i>Summary of income received since last meeting: -</i>	£44.32
<i>Summary of accounts paid since last meeting: -</i>	£831.93

Resolved that sufficient funds are held in balances for the clerk to be authorised to settle all the accounts listed in appendix 1. Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr Haldon. (12+ 2 abs)

17. The meeting closed to discuss a staffing matter.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed:

Dated: