

ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7pm in Samuel King's School

Present: Cllrs: T. Haldon (Chair), D. Athey, B. Aves, J. Glendinning, P. Godwin, A. Green, R. Miller, E. Grew, A. Hewison, H. Ho, A. Martin, D. Phillips. M. Shepherd.

Apologies: Cllrs: C. Harrison, G. Wright

Absent: none.

Declarations of interest: listed under specific agenda items.

Election of Chair

Resolved to elect Cllr TH as chair. Proposed by Cllr EG and seconded by Cllr JG.

Election of Vice-Chair

Resolved to elect Cllr AM. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr BA.

Election of Committees/Working Groups

Finance Working Group – Cllrs TH, BA and CH (subject to confirmation)

Community Volunteering Working Group – open to all Cllrs.

Election of Council representatives

Alston Moor Traffic Management – held over to next month, as a suggestion is to be put to Cllr Driver, since this is a county council working group, that representatives from each ward are invited to attend. Cllr DP stated that he has stood down as representative from Eden Cycle Campaign.

Alston Moor Community Transport - Cllrs DA and MS

Tyne Willows Management Board – Cllrs RM, EG and JG.

Alston Moor Partnership – the proposal to discontinue representation to Alston Moor Partnership was not carried. Cllr PG was appointed to represent the parish council.

Alston Fitness Club – the proposal to discontinue representation to Alston Fitness Club was not carried. It was agreed to continue with a representative for the next 12 months. Cllr HH was appointed.

Alston Alliance – Cllrs AM and EG were appointed.

Dementia Action Alliance – Cllrs EG and HH were appointed.

Neighbourhood Planning – open to all Cllrs.

1. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 9th April 2018 be agreed as a correct record with the following amendment: 9b/APR/18 the final paragraph was deleted. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr BA (1 abs)

The council agreed to consider the recording style adopted by some councils of just recording resolutions in the minutes, and noting reports. Clerk & chair to discuss. **Action.**

Resolved to e-mail the draft minutes to the council before circulating. (8+ 5 abs)

1a Report from the Public Health Locality Manager, Eden on the Good Neighbour Scheme & discussion on how it might work for Alston Moor

The Locality Manager reported that the Stronger Communities programme has grant funding to set up a Good Neighbour scheme. Kirkby Stephen's is running successfully from their Local Links council centre. (ACT leaflet circulated). It was promoted widely, with the aim of encouraging people who could spare the time to visit and help others, and is open to anyone over the age of 18 and requires a DBS check. The volunteers decide how much time they have to offer.

A grant of £3,000 is available and the parish council were encouraged to apply. The funds can be used as the applicant organisation decides, possibly to pay someone to co-ordinate the scheme, which can operate in a variety of ways. It could for example be managed through a popular shop in the town such as the Post Office, or through the hospital or surgery. It is acceptable for the parish council to apply for the funding and use the money to pass on to another organisation to cover their costs.

There is a toolkit which the manager will e-mail to the clerk.

Agreed to discuss at the next Community Volunteering working group meeting.

2. Progress Reports

2a/MAY/18 Grisedale Croft Flats

Re: 2b/APR/18 The clerk reported that the Chief Executive from Eden Housing would be willing to discuss Grisedale Croft flats with the parish council. It was agreed to invite him to the next council meeting.

Action CI.

2b/MAY/18 Eden Local Plan training session

Re: 8a/APR/18 The training session has been arranged for Wednesday 23rd May at 7pm in Alston Town Hall and is for councillors from Alston Moor and the nearby parishes. Numbers are requested by 17th May. It was reported that the Local Plan is valid but still has to be endorsed.

2c/MAY/18 Coal Authority mine treatment works schemes

Re: 2a/APR/18 A report on alternative treatments for mine waste was circulated, which the clerk followed up with the Coal Authority. A response was received stating that they are aware of the technology developed by a Welsh Engineering company, but along with the Environment Agency remain convinced that a passive compost-based treatment pond scheme remains the most effective and sustainable option.

3. Progress reports from working groups and council representatives

3a/MAY/18 Traffic Management meeting

Notes from the meeting were circulated. One member stated that in his opinion the team working on Front Street are using the wrong base grade of tarmac, which could lift in winter making the road liable to develop potholes.

Resolved to write to Highways to express concern and to ask who will be responsible if the tarmac fails and needs repairing. Proposed by Cllr AH and seconded by Cllr JG. (nem con). **Action CI.**

3b/MAY/18 Community Volunteering Working group

Notes from the meeting were circulated. Due to concerns about holding two meetings in one day it was suggested moving the meeting to the following week.

It was reported that an electronic newsletter has been started up, with people giving consent to be signed up by e-mail to receive regular reports. There were no objections to the request that cllrs sign up en-bloc to receive the newsletter.

3c/MAY/18 Tyne Willows Management Group

Notes from the meeting were circulated. There is still a problem with water flowing across the path in two places on the footpath onto the field besides the Cumberland Hotel. Cllr AG offered to investigate and report back. **Action Cllr AG.**

3d/MAY/18 Report from Alston Moor Care Alliance

A meeting was held a few weeks ago, when the Good Neighbour scheme was discussed and received a positive reception. It was agreed to ask which organisation will be paying for the beds if Grisedale Flats are converted, at the meeting to be held on Wednesday. **Action Cllrs EG/AM.**

3e/MAY/18 Garrigill Ward meeting

The meeting was cancelled as no agenda items were submitted.

3f/MAY/18 Health & Safety Training session

The training event was attended by the town hall manager, a council member and the clerk, who reported that a question had been asked about the Fitness Club insurance. The trainer advised asking the gym to include a sentence in the insurance document to the effect that Alston Moor Parish Council has an interest in the building. This should ensure that should a claim be made the council will be notified.

3g/MAY/18 Dementia Action Alliance

A meeting is to be held on the 26th June for businesses and community group to find out how they can be dementia friendly. It could be something as little as a shop displaying a badge *after undergoing dementia friendly training*. It has the potential to tie in with the Good Neighbour scheme.

4 County Councillor's Report.

Apologies from Cllr Driver.

District Councillor's Report

Cllrs L Sharp and P. Godwin reported on the following:

Appointment of officers and chief executive – the annual election of the council chair and committees took place resulting in very little change. Cllr PG remains on the Human Resources committee, and Cllr LS on the Environment and Economy, and Housing. A thorough process has led to the appointment of a new Chief Executive.

Boundary Commission review – this has been delayed. Noted that Alston Moor is 27% below the population figures for two district councilors, while other areas such as part of Appleby are growing and underrepresented.

Recycling – a meeting was held with Eden District Council to ask for a review of the sites on Alston Moor to see if it is possible to bring in more bins. Currently cans, paper and glass containers are emptied on Tuesdays and plastics on Thursdays. It is hoped to show a video at the school to demonstrate the recycling process.

There continues to be an issue with dumping around the bring sites, and at Alston Primary School. It was suggested this might be happening because residents were asked to bring their rubbish to the school during the bad weather. It can be reported to Eden as fly tipping.

The Nenthead bring site has a rat problem, and rats also come up into the Butts from the Mill Race. If the sites are kept tidy this should reduce the nuisance, but rivers are part of their natural environment, and the council will only deal with rats that enter properties.

Child poverty – Alston Moor has quite a high level of child poverty, and as a result the district council has agreed to include a review of the effect of rural isolation as part of the scrutiny review.

Top chapel progress – the legal process is underway to enable Eden District Council to undertake work to secure and make safe the building and bill the owners.

5. Public open session

None requested from members of the public attending.

6. Planning applications

6a/MAY/18 18/0316 Listed building. Listed building consent for internal and external works and retention of internal and external alterations made. Orchard House, Townfoot, Alston CA9 3HX for Mr & Mrs J & K Reeds and Watson. (Tims Morris Ltd)

Resolved to make no comment. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr DP. (nem con)

6b/MAY/18 18/0349 Tree works. Reduce height of Cypress by 1m: Alston Conservation Area. Grange House, Townhead, Alston CA9 3SL for Mr Michael Collins.

Resolved to make no comment. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr DP. (nem con)

6c/MAY/18 18/353 Tree works. Sycamore (T1): Crown reduce to provide 1 Meter clearance of utility pole and wires. Alston Conservation Area. Highways Depot, Chapel Terrace, Alston CA9 3SP for Miss Emma Chapman, Cumbria County Council.

Resolved to make no comment Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr DP. (nem con)

6d/MAY/18 Request to reconsider recommendation made Apr/18. 18/0225 Full application. Installation of 9m high street pole with one antenna, on concrete base, associated cable and ductwork linking to Leadgate Regulator. Highway verge opposite Leadgate regulator off A686 Leadgate CA9 3BN for Electricity North West Ltd. The planning officer is currently recommending approval, but has spoken to the applicant who said they may be willing to relocate the proposed antenna should the parish suggest a practical location. As discussed last month the clerk suggested the quarry as a potential site, but the agent said that existing overhead lines could mean the build may be impossible. There is reduced ground height, so a taller structure could be needed and the land may be owned by a third party. Highways and the AONB have not objected.

The resident who raised the original objection e-mailed to state that the entrance to the quarry is at the same ground level as the road verge, and that it is likely the track is Cumbria County Council's responsibility as a BOAT (byway open to all traffic).

Resolved to recommend the quarry site as the most suitable location, and to request that the applicant takes steps to find out who owns it. The council's preferred site is the quarry or another location away from the roadside verge. Proposed by Cllr AM and seconded by Cllr TH. (1 abs)

6e/May/18 3/18/9001 Land between Blagill and Nentsberry – proposed minewater treatment scheme

An e-mail was received to confirm that Cllr Driver will be invited to attend a site visit as the local county

councillor. AECOM have addressed some of the concerns raised in relation to the projects particularly over hydrogen sulphide and the parish council were invited to re-consider their response, which was as follows:

'RESOLVED that the parish council held an extraordinary meeting attended by 30-40 residents and received their views on the application. The community fully supports the aim of removing heavy metals from the Nent, however it believes the proposed location, design and operation of the site will cause serious public health risks from the uncontrolled release of Hydrogen Sulphide. The parish council would not want a scheme to proceed unless we have confidence these risks can be removed. (nem con)'

It was pointed out that there are protected species on the site including voles and great crested newts.

Resolved that no change be made to the original resolution, and to add a concern about protected species.

Proposed by Cllr AM and seconded by Cllr BA (1 abs)

Decision notices

i/MAY/18 17/0937 Outline application. Outline application for one log cabin for holiday let purposes. Gatefoot Farm, Garrigill, Alston CA9 3DU for Mr S. Bell. Permission refused.

ii/MAY/18 18/0103 Listed building. Listed building consent for internal alterations. Kearton House, Market Place, Alston CA9 3HS for Alston Wholefoods. Permission granted with conditions.

iii/MAY/18 18/0152 Full application. Proposed new domestic garage. Brookside Cottage, Nenthead, CA9 3NP for Mr K. Bell. Permission granted with conditions.

iv/MAY/18 18/0183 Full application. Reinstatement of shopfront and upper floor windows. Replacement of hardrow roofing tiles with natural blue slate. Blackstocks, Market Place, Alston CA9 3QN for Mr A. Carr. Permission granted with conditions.

v/MAY/18 18/0200 Listed building Listed building consent for addition of gas meter and associated works. Methodist Chapel, Nenthead CA9 3PF. Permission granted with conditions.

vi/MAY/18 18/0221 Full application. Construction of conservatory. Nenthall Cottage, Nenthall, Alston CA9 3LQ for Mr Barry Knight. Permission granted with conditions.

7. Legal agreement footway lights – extraordinary council meeting to be held on Monday 21st May at 2pm

The clerk reported that she was contacted by Eden District Council to say that the lease should be sent out shortly. Members were concerned that they would not have time to read it, if it had to be signed by the 31st May since this was the only way to ensure the parish would be included in the first tranche of improvements.

Resolved to hold a second extraordinary meeting on Thursday 24th May, but if the lease was not available by that date an objection would be made to Eden District Council that the timing was unreasonable. (*Cancelled as EDC have extended the deadline*).

8. Proposal to select options in the draft Standing Orders and adopt a final version

The draft standing orders were circulated earlier. Members reviewed the amendments.

Resolved to adopt the standing orders as amended. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr BA (7+ 6 abs)

9. Proposal to select options in the draft Code of Conduct and adopt a final version

Agreement could not be reached on the wording to be included in the Code of Conduct, over the issue of whether members should be able to stay in the room and vote if they had no pecuniary interest in the agenda item.

Resolved to hold over until the June meeting and to submit suggestions for paragraph 11 to Cllr TH.

10. Entrance to Henderson's Wood, pedestrian access and damage to crash barrier

The clerk reported that a request was made for this to be included on the agenda, as a pedestrian had recently been injured while attempting to access the permissive path. Northumbria Water took the gate off the hinges, during work last year, also causing damage to the crash barrier alongside the road into the wood. This was reported to Spar, who got the gate repaired, but re-set in a different position so that it is now impossible for most people to easily access the site. The clerk reported the recent incident to Spar

and had previously reported a complaint from a wheelchair user who is now unable to enter the wood along the permissive path.

11 Consultations and Correspondence

11aMAY/18 Electric Charge Point- Alston Fitness Club

An e-mail was received from Alston Fitness Club directors stating that discussions with Charge my Street have been ongoing about an electric vehicle charge point at the pavilion. The directors confirmed they are happy to sign up to this subject to agreement from the parish council and confirmation that the scheme is practical on the ground. A site visit is planned for next Wednesday.

They are not seeking to terminate the lease within the first year of a rolling annual agreement with the charging point team.

Resolved to reply to Alston Fitness Club that the parish council has no objection to investigate the use of the pavilion for an electric charge point.

11b/ Charities information leaflet

An e-mail was received from the vicar who is putting together a leaflet about the local charities which offer grants to help people in need. He would like to include the Fairhill Estates Charity and asked permission to do so. The clerk suggested it would be useful to include information from the leaflet on the parish council website.

Resolved to allow details of the Fairhill Estates Charity to be included in the local charities leaflet. **Action CI.**

11c/MAY/18 Notices of events/meetings

Planning training session – Weds 23rd May at 7pm

Alston Moor Volunteering Fair – 7th June 2018

11d/MAY/18 Information received

Police newsletter – May 2018

Update from Coal Authority

Local Council Review – Spring 2018

Clerks & Councillors direct – May 2018

Hospice at Home - Spring 2018

12. Administration

12a/MAY/18 Proposal to accept a 5 year agreement for Zurich insurance

The options for insurance are: 1 year - £3,151.67, 3 years - £3,018.10 or 5 years - £2,863.71

Resolved to accept a five year agreement with Zurich Municipal. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr EG. (nem con)

12b/MAY/18 Proposal to hold council meetings on the Tuesday following a bank holiday

It was pointed out that people stand for election as they will be free on Monday evenings, but might not necessarily have Tuesdays free. The proposal was withdrawn and it was agreed to take no action now, but to re-consider before the next elections.

12cMAY/18 Proposal to withdraw parish clerk's secondment to Alston Moor Partnership

The clerk reported that she would like to stand down as secretary to Alston Moor Partnership, but as she had been seconded there by Alston Moor Parish Council requested permission to withdraw the secondment.

Resolved that the clerk would no longer be required to carry out secretarial duties to Alston Moor Partnership as part of her council duties. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr DP. (3 abs)

12dMAY/18 GDPR

The clerk reported that the parish council has to comply with the new data protection legislation coming in on 25th May 2018. NALC and CALC have provided templates, and a draft policy for staff and councillors has been circulated. This and the public privacy statement will be submitted for approval for next month.

13. Items for next month's agenda/urgent business

None.

14. Finance

14a/MAY/18 Bank statements

The statements as of 30th April 2018 were as follows:-

Alston Moor Parish Council tr/ac	£71,983.08
Alston Moor Parish Council bus/ac	£12,683.80
Eden Credit Union	£7,008.58

14b/MAY/18 Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were for payment:-

<i>Summary of accounts for payment: -</i>	£19,766.50
<i>Summary of income received since last meeting: -</i>	£51,606.57
<i>Summary of accounts paid since last meeting: -</i>	£889.56

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 TH and seconded by Cllr BA (2abs) (nem con)

14c/MAY/18 Internal audit report

The key points were circulated.

Resolved to accept the internal auditor's report. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr AM. (nem con)

14d/MAY/18 Annual pay review and Clerk's contract

It was agreed due to time pressure to hold over until the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed:

Dated: