



ALSTON MOOR ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL (APCM)

Minutes of a meeting held in the held **Nenthead Village Hall**, on Tuesday 7th of May 2024 at 7.00pm.

Councillors Present:

Alice Bondi, Elaine Edgar, Elaine Grew, Michael Hanley, Alix Martin, Raymond Miller, Dee Monk, Alastair Robertson, Ron Robinson; Graeme Ransom; Brian Davies, Holly Ho (arrived 19:14)

In Attendance: Carrie Pillow

Public Present: 3

Annual Parish Council Business

APCM/2425/1. To Consider appointment of *Chairman* for 2024-2025

Resolved Raymond Miller was unanimously voted as chair.

APCM/2425/2. To receive the *Chairman's declaration of acceptance* of office

Resolved Raymond Miller signed the chair declaration of acceptance.

APCM/2425/3. To Consider appointment of *Vice-Chair*

Resolved Ron Robinson was unanimously voted as vice-chair.

APCM/2425/4. To receive *apologies & consider approval of the reasons* given for absence.

Resolved Paul Best, Brian Davies apologies received and approved.

Noted Alan Green no apologies received

APCM/2425/5. To Consider *Committees, working groups & any actions* required.

i. Committee

Development, Governance & Personnel (DGP) – which includes staffing

Resolved as committee members.

Michael Hanley, Alix Martin, Raymond Miller, Dee Monk, Alastair Robertson, Ron Robinson, Alice Bondi, Brian Davies

ii. Group Representatives

AMERG (Alston Moor Emergency Response Group)

Resolved as representatives; Elaine Edgar, Alix Martin, Graeme Ransom, Michael Hanley, Raymond Miller, Elaine Grew

Alston Moor Fitness **Resolved** as representatives, Paul Best, Brian Davies

Alston Moor Partnership **Resolved** as representative Alice Bondi

Alston Moor Traffic Management Group **Resolved** as representatives, Raymond Miller, Elaine Grew, Graeme Ransom,

NWAS Alston Moor Working Group **Resolved** as representatives Elaine Grew, Graeme Ransom

Tree Wardens **Resolved** as representatives, Ron Robinson & Brian Davies

Tyne Willows Management **Resolved** as representatives Alastair Robertson, Ron Robinson, Paul Best

Hospital Group **Resolved** as representatives Elaine Grew, Alice Bondi, Michael Hanley, DEE Monk.

APCM/2425/6. To consider Adoption, Review or updating of policies

Deferred to June meeting, adoption & re-adoption of standing orders, financial regulations & Public participation at parish council meetings.

APCM/2425/7. To review council **Insurance**

Resolved, Insurance quote was unanimously approved.

APCM/2425/8. To approve meeting dates to 2024 / 25

7 th May	2 nd September	7 th January 2025
3 rd June	7 th October	3 rd February 2025
1 st July	4 th November	3 rd March 2025
5 th August	2 nd December	7 th April 2025

Resolved, meeting dates were approved.

*Commencement of the **ordinary business of the council***

APCM/2425/9. Public Participation (Timed item 15 minutes)

This is at the Chair's discretion and no decisions can be made on items brought to the attention of Alston Moor Parish Council under this item.

Presentation re observatory application on the golf club.

APCM/2425/10. To **Note Councillor vacancy** & actions required, following James Crick resignation,

Action to inform elections office at West Moorland & Furness.

APCM/2425/11. To **receive declarations of interest** in items on the agenda.

None

APCM/2425/12. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on

Resolved the minutes of 2nd April 2024 were unanimously approved.

Resolved the minutes of 17th April 2024 were approved, 9 in favour, 2 abstained.

APCM/2425/13. Exclusion of Press & Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

To decide whether there are any agenda items which require consideration for the exclusion of the press and public.

Not required

APCM/2425/14. Chair's Report

To receive for information a verbal report from the Chair

The Chair welcomed the locum clerk Carrie.

APCM/2425/15. Council To Receive Reports (If Any):-

Written reports received will be placed in the appendix of the minutes, verbal reports will not be minuted.

1. Westmorland & Furness District Councillors' Report – In appendix
2. Police Report - In appendix (received post meeting).
3. Tyne Willows Environment Agency Measuring Station - None
4. Nenthead Mines Conservation Society - None
5. Nenthead Pathways - None
6. Digitalisation of landlines in the Parish – Nothing new to report
7. Community First Responders' update. – In appendix
8. Nenthead ward meeting update
9. Hospital Group update – In appendix

APCM/2425/16. To receive reports from **Committees, working groups & consider any actions required**

i. Committee

Development, Governance & Personnel (DGP) – which includes staffing – None

ii. Group Representatives

1. The Alston Place Action Group – None
2. Alston Health Alliance – None
3. Alston Moor Fitness – None
4. Alston Moor Partnership – None
5. Alston Moor Traffic Management Group – None
6. NWAS Alston Moor Working Group – In appendix, plus NWAS response.
7. Tree Wardens – None
8. Tyne Willows Management – None

APCM/2425/17. To Discuss Planning Applications & Consider Response as a statutory consultee.

2024/0553/FPA Observatory – Resolved – No Objections all in favour

Extension of public spaces protection order – Resolved – unanimously object to any expansion.

3/24/9003, Quarry **Resolved** – 9 in favour, one objection, 1 abstain

3/24/9004 & 3/24/9005 Quarry **Resolved** – the council object to have any varying of conditions, that will impact nature conservation of the land & Peat.

APCM/2425/18. FINANCE REPORTS:

a) Current Balance of the Community Account as at 07/5/2024

The reconciled balance of the banks was **noted** at £116218.21.

b) To consider payments for Approval

							3348.3
BP to approve	80	30.04.2024			Neathouse	Employment advice	£1,140.48
BP to approve	1	19.04.2024	15.04.2024	2440	Alston Town Hall	Office Rent	£826.54
BP to approve	32	13.02.2024	06.03.2024	MTB14BB3F0	Garrigill Village Hall	Accommodation	£54.00
BP to approve	40	19.04.2024	19.04.2024	5834	Scribe	Software	£561.60
BP to approve	78	23.04.2024	23.04.2024	864	Collins Gardening & Tree Services	Tree Work	£625.00
BP to approve	75	31.03.2024	31.03.2024	7166	The Books Accountants	Accountant	£48.00
DD To Note	51	17.04.2024	17.04.2024	650795	Virtual Land Line	telephone	£9.85
DD To Note	76	22.04.2024	31.05.2023	37844	Urbaser Ltd	bins	£7.25
DD To Note	8	06.04.2024	06.04.2024	203041386494	Ionos	Internet	£75.59
DD To Note	79	26.04.2024			Zoom	Zoom	£15.59

Resolved the above payments were approved & noted

c) To approve any payments required between meetings.

None

d) To approve Internal auditor

Resolved the council approved the Internal auditor for 2023/24 as Aileen Ellwood

APCM/2425/19. To **note** the status of assets & **consider** and action required.

Tyne Willows Playing Field – Traveller’s – Appleby Fair, Toilets, police, **Action** chair will chase.

Firs Woodland Walk – No Known Issues

Pavilion – No Known Issues

Village Seats – No Known Issues

War Memorial – No Known Issues

Bus Shelter– No Known Issues

Notice Boards – No Known Issues

Defibrillators – No Known Issues

To note any assets to be added to list for monitoring on the next agenda. - ? Foot Lighting

APCM/2425/20. To **Note Correspondence** Received

None

APCM/2425/21. To consider items for the **Next Meeting Agenda**

Bank Mandates
Tyne Willows potholes
Tyne Willows Gate removed.

APCM/2425/22. To consider any Councillor or Officer **Training**

None

APCM/2425/23. Date and Time of Next Meeting

3rd June

DRAFT

Eden Locality Board 24.4.24

Report by Michael Hanley

Chair: John Murray (JM, LD)

1. Public Participation: Jonathan Davies (Clifton Parish Council).

Previously we submitted an application for a 20mph speed limit for Clifton to Cumbria County Council. We see that some other parishes are going forward (to have a 20mph speed limit). Our parish has been campaigning for years, due to drivers speeding through the village. We haven't any support. We would like to know the criteria by which these other parishes were chosen.

2. M6 Lune Gorge Update

Khalid El-Rayes (KER, Senior Project Manager): We are carrying out ground investigation work, below and above the carriageway. We had 10 km of contraflow and we have reduced this to 5 km. We will use specialist gantry cranes. Junction 38 will be affected. We will be going to local parish council meetings to explain the plans. We have contacted local charities (social value contribution of the scheme): donated easter eggs to a charity and a new slide to a playground. Also a career stand at The Lakes School, Workington and civil engineering students were given a tour of the work site.

P Dew (PD, C): Asked why a school in Workington was involved.

KER: We would be happy to reach out to other schools.

JM: We will make sure you have the contacts.

KER: The main construction starts in summer 26. We are working in collaboration with the A66 team, to avoid multiple closures.

M Robinson (MR, I): Asked whether they are working with the Highways Department (WAFC).

KER: Yes, we are.

J Derbyshire (JD, LD): Asked where will the workforce come from and where will they stay?

Other representative : We are working on the accommodation strategy. Some staff will have to be brought in.

3. A66 Peninne Upgrade

Representative: This will improve the local economy and tourism. The plan is to transform all of the A66 into dual carriageway. Construction will start in late 24. Social Value contributions: £11 million to date going to Carlisle Youth Zone, Teachers Encounter, Catterick Garrison Veterans, 150 career events, 85 hours of equality and diversity training, £6 million to business start ups and micro-businesses. There is a 40 mile radius for Social Value. We will be building relationships with local organisations, parish councils and charities. Our contact is nationalhighway.co.uk/ourwork/A66-northern-trans-pennine.

PD: Queried why the money is going to Carlisle Youth Zone. Asked whether any money will going to the local tourist railway.

P Bell (PB, LD): Asked about the accommodation strategy.

Rep: We are looking at that. Holiday lets have been messaging us. We might use people from outside. We might use Centre Parcs.

MR: Asked about the Social Value for Newton Rigg.

Rep: We had a training programme at Newton Rigg costing about £10k.

4. Assets and Capital Programme

James Daplyn (JD, Capital Programme Control Manager) , Alan Murray (AM)

AM: Listed the main assets: 69 schools, 44 toilets, 19 libraries, 11 day centres, 10 residential care homes, 6 leisure centres, 4 county/town halls, 434 pieces of land (woodland, playing fields, playgrounds), 85 car parks, 28 allotments. 4.5k miles of road, 1075 bridges, 56 footbridges. The Capital Programme can act as an independent driver of economic growth. The 2023-24 value is £500 million: Thriving Places: £254m, Thriving Communities: £86m, Adult Services: £14m, Children's Service: £41m.

JD: We are attracting a lot of central (government) funding because the government is trusting us. Voreda House (Penrith) cost £8.3m and is in the final stages of construction. There will be 85% kksavings in energy costs. There will also be the expansion of Beaconside Primary School with a budget of £2.67m. This will be funded from S106 contributions (from housing estate developers). The A592 upgrade will cost £7.45m (Windermere to Glenridding road). There will be an increase in funding of £4.3m for school maintenance. £94.7k will go to a back-up generator for Grisedale Croft Residential Home (Alston). There will be a new heating system at Penruddock Primary School. £2m will go to the Decarbonisation Programme mainly for solar panels and increased insulation at Penrith and Appleby leisure centres and Grisedale Croft. Other Capital Delivery Programmes focus on the Highways Capital Budget, Housing and Housing Renewal.

PD: Asked about the amount of savings made from Voreda House.

AM: It is estimated £11 million over 25 years. We will have to look at the first 12 months. There will be a lot of focus on decarbonisation in the next 10 years.

MR: Asked about investing in solar energy in rural areas.

JD: The council has never built a solar farm before but now we have done it ourselves (as opposed to letting a commercial company do it).

JD: Asked about small patches of land such as road verges and patches between roads and how to know whether the council owns them (as this is a common question from residents).

AM: Discussed trying to sort this out in the next year.

5. WAFC Local Plan

Dan Hudson (DH, Senior Manager, Planning Policy).

The local plan sets out how our vision will change over the next 15 years. It will involve the whole community. What is involved?: sites, environmental and heritage assets. There will be work in the three different areas. There will be significant growth in Barrow. By 2043 there will be a 26% increase in the over 65s (15,800 more), a reduction in the 16-64 year olds by 7.9% (10,400). We will need 10,000 more new people just to stand still. We will need to attract young people. In Eden 13.7% of the workforce works in agriculture compared to 0.6% in Barrow and 1.1% in the UK. Our carbon footprint shows the following CO2 emissions in tonnes per year: residents: 3.5 million, industry: 3.5 million, visitors: 2 million, M6: 1.4 million, agriculture: 1 million. Another problem is Housing Affordability: South Lakes is the most expensive area where houses on average cost 10.1 times average yearly income. Eden comes second at 8.4 and Barrow is 3.7. There is a significant concentration of low quality and energy inefficient housing. We need to listen before we plan (consultations with our residents). We have appointed consultants to look into land use.

M Eyles (ME, LD): Cannot we look at what is not working in the inherited old local plans. New housing developments cause problems in local areas.

DH: In South Lakes they have a different system from Section 106 contributions. It is called the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This system works better.

PD: Asked about giving a lot of the work to consultants.

DH: The government has said that the plans have to be done within 30 months but the government is giving the go ahead to different authorities at different (to avoid all plans having to be assessed at the same time). We will be one of the first to start. Some of the money will be used on consultants but we will do as much as we can in-house. We manage consultants very well.

MR: Our rural areas do need some development to keep them viable. We need to support young people to stay where they are.

DH: There is a difference between strategic planning and what is needed for small communities.

MR: We will need to discuss this in our Alston and Fellside PAG and get you to come and talk to the group.

H Carrick (HC, C): The Local Plan is okay but a lot relies on the national policy and developers. A developer will want to build 80% 5 bedroom houses to maximise his profit.

DH: We have to make sure that what we are asking for is viable, ie the development works financially. I know there are tensions around this. It is a requirement of national policy. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) stipulates what it will cost the developers but this is not the case with S106. The design code will be authority wide but will bring in development depending on the local geography.

G Simpkins (GS, LD): CIL sounds very interesting. Discussed the scenario of the developer coming back and saying the commitment (eg. affordable housing) is no longer viable (as has happened recently).

6. Twenty MPH Prioritisation

Victoria Upton (VU, Traffic Management Manager)

Paper: Prioritisation: depends on several factors: likeliness to improve road safety, improved safety for vulnerable people, ability to encourage and support greater active travel (walking, cycling), local support and deliverability.

Funding: £300k. £200k unspent at end of 2023/24, to be carried forward.

Eden successful applicants: Askham and Helton PC, Crosby Ravensworth PC, Dufton PC, Kings Meaburn PC, Melmerby PC, Nenthead Ward, Orton PC, Ousby PC, Patterdale PC, Ravenstobedale PC, Temple Sowerby PC.

VU: We began the process in December 23. Applications were to be in by mid February 24.

There was a huge response rate. 49 town and parish councils applied for 79 localities. 11 applications didn't meet the criteria. Applications were scored. The TOR (Traffic Order Regulation) needed to be achievable within a year.

PD: There is no guarantee that those not successful in the first round will be successful in the future.

VU: You are right.

M Hanley (MH, L): Pointed out the Nenthead is a ward of Alston Moor Parish Council and not a parish council (listed as Nenthead Parish Council in the paper). Also that it had been agreed at the February meeting of the AMPC that we should apply for a 20mph speed limit for Alston but this application was not listed in the paper. Asked whether it is too late to apply now.

VU: Said she would check whether AMPC had applied. AMPC could apply as soon as possible.

7. Penrith Parking Protocol

Laura McClellan (LMcC, Highways Manager): This project is to improve fairness and improve visitor access. For most residents there will be no change. Considerations are made for trades-people, visitors and carers. On-street parking is under stress and at capacity.

8. Eden Community Budget

N Wright (NW, Senior Manager, Community Services): There will be an additional £50k coming in which will be funding to help households support programme. This gives support of up to £5k. Also £6k will go to each PAG.

9. Safe and Strong Communities

NW: We are focussing on year end budgets and setting up the PAGs (Place Action Groups). There is also a new group to decide on festival grants and we need a councillor to represent the ELB.

MH volunteered and was voted on.

Sue Castle-Clarke: Asked whether it is possible to be flexible about Place Action Group boundaries m

NW: I think we can be flexible.

MR: Can we start to accelerate the work of PAGs? I had a visit from the High Sheriff. He wants to focus on Alston and Fellside. He wants to focus on rural communities.



ALSTON MOOR Police Update for MAY 2024 Parish Council Meeting

CRIME FIGURES Crime figures can be obtained via the Cumbria Police

Website: <https://www.cumbria.police.uk/Your-Area/Your-area.aspx>

Alternatively use the following link: <https://www.police.uk/>

INCIDENTS OF NOTE during the month of APRIL 2024

Burglary & Theft

ALSTON – Shoplifting theft incidents at supermarket - 6th & 8th April

ALSTON – Business Park burglaries – 11th April

ALSTON – Drive off without paying for petrol – 16th April

ALSTON – Clothes stolen from unlocked car – 18th April

Damage

None reported

Sheep & Poaching issues / Wildlife / Suspicious

ALSTON – Suspicious vehicle / persons reported – vehicle made off and intercepted – male arrested for drunk-driving – 11th April

GARRIGILL – Suspicious vehicle with horse box reported – checked out OK – 24th April

Safeguarding Issues

ALSTON – Alarm response to business – false alarm – 5th April

ALSTON – Vulnerable elderly male welfare check – 9th April

ALSTON – Domestic disputes – 16th & 22nd April

ALSTON – Missing person search – 18th & 22nd April

NENTHEAD – Missing person search – 27th April

ALSTON – Suicidal male – 21st, 25th & 27th April

ALSTON – Welfare check – 28th April

ALSTON – Weapons check at domestic address – 25th April

ASB & Neighbour issues.

None reported

Road Traffic Issues.

ALSTON – Male stopped and arrested Drug-driving – 16th April

ALSTON – Report of dangerous driving – 21st & 27th of April

MIDDLETON RD – Serious single motorcycle RTC over the Durham border – Cumbria officers attended to assist Durham – 27th April.

ALSTON – Report of ASB driving (group of cars) – vehicles intercepted and positive action taken – 28th April.

Assault / Violence

ALSTON – Male assaulted in his home by intruder known to him – 18th April

LOCAL POLICE UPDATE METHODS:-

Cumbria Police website www.cumbria.police.uk

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK

Local Police Twitter messages

www.twitter.com/edenpolice

www.twitter.com/cumbriapolice

<https://www.facebook.com/cumbriapolice>

Contact police on 101 or Email: 101emails@cumbria.police.uk

PARTNER AGENCY MESSAGES

Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud reporting centre, takes crime reports from victims of fraud and provides a crime reference number.

This information is then fed to the police's National Fraud Intelligence Bureau to gain a more complete national picture of fraud. Action Fraud also provides a wide range of information about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim.

For more advice or to report a fraud, visit the Action Fraud Website www.actionfraud.police.uk or call.....

ActionFraud
Report Fraud & Internet Crime
0300 123 2040

Community First Responders update.

CFRs. The team now have 7 members all but one active.

Will look at forming a formal committee and organise an inaugural meeting. This will help the team to raise funds for replacement kit and new kits for new members.

We continue to meet every month for training and NWAS updates.

Funding/kit updates Recent email from NWAS regarding the Charity. Now offering to manage each groups funds under the assurances and security of the NWAS charities. To contact the Charity regarding the transfer of our funds.

Kits up to date.

App update: With the removal of some communication lines that use pagers and radios, NWAS introduced a new App to use on our phone instead of pagers. Recent reports show that the App still drops out in certain locations and freezes. The App update should have eliminated the freezing programme problem. But all CFRs are encouraged to report all issues to NWAS so they can record the problem and sort it.

Latest Team Leader meeting in May the update for the eCFR course was discussed.

There has not been a course now for 2 years and Mark Evans was working on a national standard because there was too many variations. This has been going on for 2-3 years and still not at a point that it can be rolled out. Although he felt it would be released soon the members were not confident and Mark could not guarantee any assurances. With this in mind, following a working group meeting regarding the sustainability of our ambulance and EMTs, a statement was released (statement in appendix) by NWAS that quoted that there is a course available for anyone interested in becoming an EMT. This needs further discussion.

Hospital meeting 12th April 2024.

EG/AM/AB/DM/MH Representing the PC and CC /TR from the Practice with a Representative from CHOC (now called Cumbria Health), ZL --- General Manager Community Collaborative department NCIC NHS.

This meeting was a response to the Ruth Lancaster hospital remaining empty, yet could be used for Out Patient purposes if the NHS Trust would comply to requests from the AMPC.

Firstly introductions were made, and then a visit round the hospital viewing all the rooms and spaces as well as facilities remaining and the working kitchen led by the Practice Manager. ZL was not aware of the space nor the such excellent condition of the building--- certainly a surprise. And cleaning daily by a wonderful lady whom also helps out with the adult activity sessions.

A long discussion ensued about the hospital and possible uses going forward, including :--- video out patient links, physiotherapist (one of whom used to come but went back to Penrith , returned to AM only to have to go back to Penrith) , podiatrist, X-rays/ ultrasound scans, community services, nurse led minor injuries.

Practice Manager TR explained how the practice has developed a Mother and baby / toddler morning , and two sessions for adults which seem to have developed into Men on a Tuesday and Ladies on a Wednesday --- lunch being provided and transport. Grant money needing to be obtained for these events now.

District Nurses work out of the Office still at the hospital.

Recently a private ear syringing organisation has been in contact with the Practice to see if it is possible to rent a room at the hospital to carry out ear syringing for people. It will be private but then, it is now all private unless one can get an appointment at the hospital in Carlisle. ZL said she would look into this and get back to TR with rates for a room and the necessary checks for Health and Safety etc....

ZL . Mentioned about an American Company requesting patient volunteers with tissue viability problems in wounds eg ulcerated legs to use new dressings in promoting wound healing. Would the Practice be interested in the research ? TA agreed and ZL said she would contact the Company and put AM forward. One of the hospital bedrooms could be fitted out for the provision of people having the lengthy dressings . (as the Practice does anyway) .

American Company is a group of Health Care Professionals who are available 24/7 for video consultations. They would recommend a type of dressing to be then used. Ideally, having a Tissue Viability Nurse , dermatologist, wound care specialist, and dietician to give an holistic approach to wound management was discussed.

An action plan was needed I.e. what was to happen within a year say, 3 years, 5 years and so on.

Way Forward :--- ZL would look into the hold up of the Video OP appointment system , (equipment seems to be there ,) to see if it was a tech problem . (apparently there's a piece missing , although the Consultants at the hospital seem reluctant to use the technology too)

ZL has spoken to the American Company whom have agreed to add the Practice to their Research programme. Good news !

Physio to return to AM once staffing levels have increased in Penrith

ZL has put DM in contact with a third sector representative from CVS as well as one through NWSA for monies for equipment for CFRs.

Alston / NWAS working group April 2024.

Welcome to new Chair from Healthwatch , now known as People First.

Action Log : --

. eCFR -- ME in charge of updating practice Nationally .Improve locally , numbers of e CFRs, however , there hasn't been an eCFR training course in the North West for two years . There is only one e CFR fully trained on the Moor with 7 CFRs. However, majority of days per week someone is on call. CFRs are working really well.

Question was asked if the GP Practice could help in attending Cardiac Arrests on AM. DM had , had a previous conversation with CH but, as yet they were not in a position to help.

Phone App not working in certain areas , and staff having to use patients phone to contact control, but not when the phone is linked in to the Wi Fi . This is for safety reasons. CFRs are not getting call outs especially in Garrigill. A training video re App can be given to CFRs— NK to look into the matter.

ME / NK to contact SKS again to do “ drop in events “ and to encourage children to go into Health training. Let's shout about CFRs on Alston Moor .

Vandalism reported to a Defibrillator Cabinet —NK to go into school with a CFR / EMT to explain the importance of both.

Review of Emergency Vehicle Trial : --

80 questionnaires were given out to the public over a 6 month period but only 4 responses were returned.

One EMT able to attend a call out when using the emergency vehicle therefore more calls are being attended. That's got to be good !

One out of area EMT was willing to work on AM but NWAS didn't recognise NEAS driving test. RS worked extremely hard in trying to get things moving , but problem with insurance specification. Now person moving out of area.

I Pads have been most welcome by EMTs. Training by SC has also been invaluable.

There are 3 EMTs (Hazel, Steve , John) — — but 2 find it difficult to work more than 1 day per week. Morale -- individuals feel stretched like an elastic band , all are struggling.

There have been issues with the delay in getting the vehicle fixed so call outs have been missed.

Way Forward : --

Where do we go from here ? --

NWAS ,unable to commit to anything given lack of EMT numbers. eCFR course needs to be ratified and accepted then to train existing (CFRs) volunteers in extra modules so they may attend certain emergency categories eg RTC. O

RS and GQ to have discussions with the fire service who have some first aid experience as to whether they can help boost numbers.

? Develop a Bespoke Model for Alston Moor

Emerging EMT and CFR weekly training sessions.

Elaine.

OUR SERVICES

Urgent and Emergency Care
Patient Transport Service
NHS 111



7 May 2024

Alston Response Car Set to Stay

Following the trial of the new Alston response car, the trust is pleased to confirm that this is now to become a permanent feature in Alston Moor.

The car first took to the streets in May 2023 and since then, has been used by the area's emergency medical technicians (EMTs) on 23 occasions, with the majority of these category two 'serious but not immediately life-threatening' incidents. Of all 999 calls from the Alston Moor area, most of them fall into this category.

While the incidents attended to are always supported by an NWS ambulance, the car has the ability to reach patients much quicker, as it allows the EMTs to respond from wherever they are, without having to go and pick up the ambulance that used to be based at the health centre.

Head of Operations for Cumbria and Lancashire, Gene Quinn comments: "This is an excellent community asset and I'm thrilled to see how its been received by the community and contributed to the care of patients ahead of the arrival of an NWS ambulance.

"The EMT volunteers who live in the community have reported back to the working party that they have found the car to be a great asset and so we are delighted to be able to confirm that it will continue beyond this trial period, to serve the Alston Moor community."

The car provides transport for the EMTs whenever they are providing emergency cover and was introduced as part of plans to create a new sustainable model for emergency care for the rural community.

As with the previous ambulance which was also operated by the EMTs based in the community, the car does not use blue lights or carry patients but it's distinctive livery ensures it stands out when responding and carries similar life-saving equipment to our standard emergency response vehicles (including a defibrillator, oxygen therapy and pain-relieving gas), as well as the addition of self-heating blankets. The EMTs are able to attend to the patient providing life-saving care while an NWS ambulance is en route.

The work of the EMTs is exceptional with them giving up their own time to train and respond, as well as being an active voice for the community on the ambulance working group. While NWAS is committed to making the car a permanent feature, it warns that without this dedicated team EMTs from the community this life-saving resource wouldn't be able to operate.

Gene adds: "We started the project with six EMTs and unfortunately this has now reduced to three. We are so grateful to all of them who have put in so much effort on behalf of their community but the reality is we do ideally need a team of at least ten to provide a more effective, sustainable service. We are now looking at ways to increase the size of the team to support this vital response.

"It is an extremely rewarding role - all training and equipment is provided and so we would urge anyone interested in joining the scheme and helping strengthen the community resilience within Alston Moor to get in touch with us."

For more information on becoming a Community First Responder in Alston Moor, email:
Alston.Moor@nwas.nhs.uk

For more information contact Communications on 01204 498306 or press.office@nwas.nhs.uk

Website: www.nwas.nhs.uk | **Facebook:** nwasofficial | **Twitter/X:** @NWAmbulance
| **Instagram:** @nwasofficial