

Website: <http://www.tillside.uk/>

**Minutes of Tillside Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
in Chatton Village Hall Commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Chairman A Macdonald-Smith,  
Parish Councillors: H Ray, M Strother, J Renner, N Petronelli-Stone,  
T Faa-Thompson, I Brown, R Tebay, & D Spours  
County Councillor M Mather  
1 member of the public.  
Clerk I Hunter

**Public Question time:** - None

**Apologies for Absence:** Vice-Chairman H Prytherch  
Parish Councillors R Ord, R Hamilton & A Wrangham.

**Declaration of Interest:** Parish Councillor N Petronelli-Stone declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Planning Application No 24/01211/LBC

**Request for Dispensation:** None

**Community Police:** The Clerk read out the following report:

**Crimes and incidents** – Recorded crimes were in the low single figures this month. None will affect anyone out with the circumstances or involve anyone else in the community. Incident wise nothing to update on and nothing that will impact on anyone's vulnerability either.

**Local matters** – There's been reports of illegal deer stalking in the nearby vicinity in the last couple of weeks. Possible using firearms and or dogs. Can residents please be vigilant when it comes to these types of incidents and report via the appropriate means which includes 999 if found occurring at the time the call is made.

**Community engagement** – Nothing to update on this month.

**Minutes-** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 previously circulated were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda-** None

**Min 2121- Highway/Local Issues- updates**

- **Chatton Bridge-** County Councillor M Mather advised the meeting that the legal agreement is still with Northumberland County Council & Northumberland Estates Legal Departments. The headwall is at Northumberland County Council Powburn Depot and will be installed once all agreements are in place.
- **Chatton Bank-** Parish Councillor D Spours asked County Councillor M Mather if there were any updates of the state of the wall. County Councillor M Mather

replied he had no updates: however, he agreed to chase Northumberland County Council Highways officers again.

**Min 2122- Financial Statement**

- Bank Balance £23949.64

**Min 2123- Receipts**

- Chatton Community Group £ 135.00 Community Gardens- annual rent

**Min 2124- Accounts for Payment**

**Payments made since last meeting**

- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary October
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE – October
- Royal British Legion £ 60.00 Donation- 2 poppy wreaths

**Payments due to be paid**

- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary November
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE - November
- E I Hunter £ 13.02 Expenses

Parish Councillors agreed the above payments.

**Min 2125- Chatton Village Hall -** Parish Councillor H Ray provided the following updates:

- The informal get together with Chatton Village Hall Trustees was not well attended. The Chatton Village Hall Trustees have suggested a more formal get together.
- Chatton Village Hall Trustees would like to discuss resilience planning, suggesting the purchase of a generator and turning Chatton Village Hall into a warm hub. County Councillor M Mather provided a brief update on the Wooler warm hub. Parish Councillor R Tebay proposed that Tillside Parish Council should take the lead on developing an emergency plan. Parish Councillors agreed a separate meeting should be convened to discuss resilience/emergency planning. Suggesting the membership could be 2-3 Parish Councillors + 2-3 Village Hall Trustees. County Councillor M Mather agreed to provide advice and support. The Tillside Parish Council representatives to be: Parish Councillor H Ray  
The Vice-Chairman or Chairman if the Vice-Chairman is unavailable.

**Min 2126- Planning Applications-** Parish Councillors ratified the Parish Council's submissions to the following planning applications

24/03144/AGTRES- Notification of Prior Approval for change of use from agricultural building to residential- Hetton North Farm Wooler Berwick-Upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 2UL. *The majority of Parish Councillors agreed to submit no comments to this planning application.*

24/03191/FUL- Single-storey front/side extension and stables conversion- Chatton Mill Chatton Park Bank Chatton Northumberland NE66 5RA. *The majority of Parish Councillors agreed to submit no comments to this planning application.*

24/02539/VARYCO- Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) on approved application 19/04547/FUL to allow proposed changes to dwelling design for Plot 2 to include additional dormer, removal of gable windows and enlargement of utility window- Land East Of Church Hill Old Road Chatton Northumberland NE66 5PB. *The majority of Parish Councillors agreed to submit no comments to this planning application.*

24/03426/FUL- Proposed alterations and extension to existing Bothy Cottage- The Bothy Wandon Farm Cottages Wooler Northumberland. *The majority of Parish Councillors agreed to submit no comments to this planning application.*

Parish Councillor N Petronelli-Stone did not take in the consideration of the next planning application.

Parish Councillors agreed to consider the following planning application via email as it had only just arrived for consultation.

24/01211/LBC- Listed building consent for Installation of 5no geodesic dome glamping pods with hot tubs. Works include car park, footpaths, water & power supply, waste removal, refuse store and sewage treatment plant- Land West Of Fowberry Tower Chatton.

**Min 2127- Planning Approval**

24/02938/FUL- Change of use to burial ground for 2no people- Chillingham Castle Chillingham Castle Grounds Chillingham NE66 5NJ

**Min 2128- Planning Refusal**

24/02453/LBC- Listed building consent for a new parking area and associated works- Broomhouse Grange West Lilburn Alnwick NE66 5NE

**Min 2129- Correspondence**

- **Resident-Email-** Right of Way issues.
- **NCC-Email-** Information on Who's who & elections
- **Property owner-Emails** – Re new ownership of Hetton Steads Hall. Parish Councillors agreed to invite the correspondent to the January meeting.
- **Wag & Co-** Email- Request for a donation. Parish Councillors agreed not to donate.
- **Carers Northumberland-** Information on Carers Rights Day 21/11.
- **NCC-** Email- Free tree giveaway
- **National Trust-** November Newsletter
- **Healthwatch Northumberland-** Email information Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 30/11

**Min 2130- Remembrance Day 2024-** The Chairman reported that poppy display in Chatton was very good, and proposed that the Parish Council send a letter of thanks to the organisers of the poppy display thanking them for the standard of the display. This was agreed.

**Min 2131- Defibrillators-** Parish Councillors noted that Parish Councillor R Hamilton had purchased and installed a defibrillator at Chillingham.  
Parish Councillors agreed that any Parish Council expenditure over £500 needs to have 3 quotes for Parish Councillors to consider ahead of expenditure.  
Parish Councillor N Petronelli-Stone stated that she was looking to the Chillingham community to fund the maintenance costs for their defibrillator, as Parish Councillor R Hamilton has the local knowledge of the Chillingham community, he should take the lead on the engagement with the Chillingham community  
Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council will not be responsible for the Chillingham defibrillator.  
Parish Councillors agreed the Chairman update Parish Councillor R Hamilton.

**Min 2132- Banking**

- Parish Councillors noted that from 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025, The Bank of Scotland will charge a minimum monthly fee of £4.25.
- The Chairman suggested the Parish Council move the Parish Council bank account to an interest-bearing account at an alternative bank as this type of account is not available at The Bank of Scotland.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Chairman & Clerk undertake research into alternative instant access interest-bearing bank accounts. The Clerk to email Parish Councillors with possible options.

**Min 2133- Parish Council website & email addresses-** The Chairman advised the meeting that the set-up cost for a gov.uk website & gov.uk + 12 email addresses for the Parish Council by March 2025 will be approx. £700 + an annual fee of £400.  
The Chairman provided a summary of the advantage of a gov.uk website & email addresses.  
Parish Councillors debated the proposals and agreed the Chairman undertake further research, as well as the Clerk & County Councillor M Mather investigate if Northumberland County Council are able to provide the require provision.  
The Clerk to check with the External Auditors to see if it is a mandatory requirement for the 2024/25 Annual Audit.

**Min 2134- County Councillor updates-** County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates:

**Police-** The police have agreed to be more engaging with Parish Councils, and have agreed to attend 2 meetings per year with 2 members from each Parish Council within the Wooler Ward, in the hope to share information. The possible dates for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting are 17<sup>th</sup> December or 14<sup>th</sup> January.

There appears to be a positive increase in police responses under the new model.

There is currently a trial on sheep worrying and dog attacks, the Police Wildlife Officer is carrying kits that can collect DNA in the hope to identify the attacker.

**School-** The school reorganisation in the Glendale area appears to be going well, the new design includes a family hub. Northumberland County Council are following procedures throughout the reorganisation process. The budget for the Berwick School Partnership Reorganisation has now been increased to £50M.

**Highways-** Please keep reporting issues on fix my street, as this is the way all issues are recorded.

Northumberland County Councillors have their first briefing for the 2025/26 Local Transport Plan program on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

**Heating- winter fuel payments-** Northumberland County Council Communities Together are available 7 days per week, and have 10 staff available to answer questions and help complete paperwork with residents to help them access any benefit entitlements. The contact details are: email: [NCT@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:NCT@northumberland.gov.uk) or phone [01670 620015](tel:01670620015).

Lesley Robson has started her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Rural Advocacy & Inclusion Officer based at Glendale Gateway Trust. We hope to extend her contract up to 4 years.

**Housing Allocation-** Northumberland County Council Scrutiny Committee will be reviewing Homefinder, it may be redesigned as it is hoped to make it more user friendly.

**Windfarm-** The Middlemoor windfarm can now award grants to groups within Tillside parish.

#### **Min 2135- Budget 2025/26**

- Parish Councillors received an in-year budget update.
- Parish Councillors agreed to start the process of the 2025/26 budget
- Parish Councillors to agree the Clerk obtain a cost for the grass cutting in 2025 ahead of the January Parish Council meeting.
- Parish Councillors agreed to consider any other inclusions they wished to be included within the 2025/26 budget ahead of the January meeting, making the following suggestions/comments.
  - 1- Parish Councillor D Spours suggested the Parish Council add additional grass cutting areas within Chatton, as well as weed spraying.  
Parish Councillors agreed not to increase the grass cutting areas within Chatton. Also, the Clerk to report the weed treatment in Chatton to Northumberland County Council.
  - 2- The Chairman suggested the costs for a gov.uk website & email addresses, may need to be added to the budget.
  - 3- The Chairman stated the Parish Council has a very low Band D precept figure compared with other Parish Councils in Northumberland.  
Parish Councillors noted the current bank balance, as well as being proud of what the Parish Council have achieved whilst keeping the precept low.  
Parish Councillors suggested that the Parish Council look into moving to one Parish Council with no wards instead of a group of 3 Parish Councils + one ward.  
Parish Council R Tebay suggested the Parish Council may need to consider contributing to the future maintenance of the play park.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk prepare a final budget for agreement at the January meeting.

#### **Min 2119- Chatton News-**Parish Councillors agreed to place the following items in Chatton News:

- The contact details for Northumberland County Council Communities Together.
- Reminder about reporting issues on fix my street
- Lesley Robson the Rural Advocacy & Inclusion Officer based at Glendale Gateway Trust.

**Any Other Urgent Business:** None

**Date of the next Parish Council Meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Chairman\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Ch's Initials \_\_\_\_\_