



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

**Minutes of Tillside Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
in Chatton Village Hall Commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Chairman H Prytherch, Vice-Chairman R Ord,  
Parish Councillors: A Macdonald-Smith, N Petronelli-Stone, T Faa-Thompson, &  
M Strother  
County Councillor M Mather  
2 members of the public.  
Clerk I Hunter

**Public Question time:** - None

**Apologies for Absence:** Parish Councillor A Wrangham, H Ray, I Brown, D Spours & G Cutter

**Declaration of Interest:** None

**Request for Dispensation:** None

**Min 2234- Community Police:** The Clerk read out the following report:

**Crimes and incidents**– Nothing of note has occurred or been reported in the parish since the last meeting.

**Local Matters**- Nothing to update in this dept either

In nearby parishes however there's been a couple of farm thefts recently. A quad bike and a trailer were stolen in two separate burglaries although the trailer was recovered. There was also a report of damage to a field which was believed caused by poachers. Just a reminder that if any vehicles are seen in circumstances that appear suspicious then to get in touch via 101 or if appropriate 999. You can also contact our team by going on the website and sending in a web submission if it's just to pass information on rather than something to report at the time.

**Community Engagement** – Nothing to pass on.

**Minutes-** The previously circulated Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were agreed as a true record. The Chairman signed a hard copy.

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

**Min 2235- Northumberland Estates**

- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £374.50 to Northumberland Estates for the annual building's insurance premium for Chatton Village Hall.
- Parish Councillors ratified the issue of the £374.50 invoice to Chatton Village Hall for the annual building's insurance premium.

**Min 2236- Financial Statement –**

- Current A/c £ 1563.59
- Savings A/c Instant Access £ 13039.41
- Savings A/c 95 Days Access £12299.96

**Min 2237- Receipts**

- Chatton V Hall £ 625.00 6-month rent
- Community Gardens £ 145.00 Allotments- Annual rent
- Chatton V Hall £ 374.50 Annual Insurance
- HMRC £ 38.65 VAT refund
- Savings A/c Instant Access £ 9.19 Interest
- Savings A/c 95 Days Access £ 58.25 Interest

**Min 2238- Transfer**

- Current A/c to Instant Access A/c £7,000.00

**Min 2239- Accounts for Payment-** Parish Councillors agreed the following payments

- E I Hunter £ 72.00 Clerk's Salary-October
- HMRC £ 48.00 PAYE- October
- Northumberland Estates £ 374.50 Village Hall- Annual Insurance
- Bank of Scotland £ 8.50 Monthly service charges x2
- E I Hunter £ 72.00 Clerk's Salary- November
- HMRC £ 48.00 PAYE- November
- A Macdonald-Smith £ 60.00 Poppy wreaths
- E I Hunter £ 41.57 Expenses

**Min 2240- Chatton Village Hall**

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public who is also a member of Chatton Village Hall Committee to provide the following update:

- Chatton Village Hall Committee are looking to refurbish the gym area, the main hall & the access, she provided a brief description of their intentions, stating they are currently applying for grant funding for some of the works.  
She asked County Councillor M Mather if he would contact the Treasurer of the Chatton Village Hall Committee Re the access and any highways issues.  
County Councillor M Mather agreed to make contact with the Treasurer of the Chatton Village Hall Committee.

**Parish Councillors reinstated Standing Orders**

- Parish Councillor A Macdonald-Smith spoke to his previously circulated report with options for ways to raise funds for the play area & BBQ area.  
Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Macdonald-Smith email a copy of the report to Chatton Village Hall Committee and provide them with any advice they require.
- The Chairman advised the meeting that the Ellingham Windfarm application for funding to erect a fence on the playing field had been successful on the proviso that the necessary documentation is submitted which includes 3 quotes for the fencing.

The Chairman advised the meeting that he had been in contact with Northumberland Estates as the landowner in relation to the installation of a fence. Northumberland Estates had stated the fence had to be within the playing field and would not be a boundary fence, as the current boundary fence is to remain in situ. Northumberland Estates had requested that the Parish Council draft a letter & agreement for the owners of the properties neighbouring the playing field to sign.  
He concluded that the fence can be removed at anytime by the Parish Council.

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public speak

The member of the public stated as a neighbour to the playing field she objected to the proposals, providing her reasons & comments. As a member of Chatton Hall Village Committee she raised concerns about the proposed roadside fence stating the fence should be placed at the top of the bank as this would be easier for the Chatton Hall Village Committee to maintain.

Parish Councillors reinstated Standing Orders

Parish Councillors agreed:

- 1- The roadside fence would be replaced on a like for like basis, the fence next to the houses will be installed as closed to the boundary fence as possible.
- 2- The Clerk checked the planning permission for the houses re the boundary treatment, and confirmed the planning permission did not state the boundary treatment was to be a fence or hedge.
- 3- Parish Councillor M Strother to check with the Great Northumberland Forest to see if there is available funding for tree planting.
- 4- The Chairman to issue the letter to the owners of the properties neighbouring the playing field, and ask them to sign the agreement.

**Min 2241- Planning Approval**

25/02693/FUL- Residential annex ancillary to main dwelling- Reddishall Chatton  
Alnwick Northumberland NE66 5RA

**Min 2242- Consultations-** Parish Councillors considered and completed the current Northumberland County Council Community Governance Review Parish Pre Consultation questionnaire.

Parish Councillors agreed they would like to explore the removal of the grouping of Tillside Parish Council and change it to 1x Parish Council covering the same area as the grouping currently covers.

**Min 2243- Parish Council website & email addresses**

- Parish Councillor A Macdonald-Smith advised the meeting that Netwise could provide a gov.uk website at a cost of £200 + VAT per year, as well as £360 + VAT per year for the email addresses.  
The Clerk advised the meeting that Northumberland County Council are able to provide a gov.uk website + 10 email addresses for £350 per year + a one off £100 fee to register the domain. She concluded by saying there may be an additional charge for an additional 5 email addresses.

- Parish Councillor A Macdonald-Smith advised the meeting that he had some questions/queries which he had sent to the Clerk.  
Parish Councillors agreed in principle to support the option from Northumberland County Council on the condition the questions/queries raised by Parish Councillor A Macdonald-Smith are satisfactorily answered.
- Parish Councillors to receive an update at the January meeting

#### **Min 2244- Correspondence**

- **NALC-** Email- Invite to AGM 15<sup>th</sup> November
- **Ad Gefrin-** Email- Request from nominations for Community Awards. Parish Councillors agreed to investigate submitting a nomination for a local resident.
- **NCC-** Email- Free tree giveaway.
- **NCC-** Email- Elected members Prevent handbook.
- **Blue Spirit-** Email- Request for a donation.

#### **Min 2245- Highways & Local Issues**

- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the consideration to repair the bus shelter in Chatton until the February Parish Council meeting, to allow Parish Councillors time to investigate what repairs are required.  
Parish Councillor M Strother advised the meeting that the Parish Council organised the painting of the bus shelter a few years ago.
- Parish Councillors considered the issue of the buses driving across the grass at the corner of the grass area and suggested grasscrete could be laid on the damaged area, this would allow the grass to grow through the gaps as well as a hard area to drive over during wet weather.

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public speak

- There is an issue of planting etc being knocked over at this location.

Parish Councillors reinstated Standing Orders

- Parish Councillors agreed not to raise the issue of the damaged grass area with the Bus Operator as the Bus Company have the right to refuse to drive around the tight corner to access the bus shelter. They could state they will only collect passengers who are waiting on the Main road which goes through Chatton.
- Parish Councillors considered and noted the results of the speed survey undertaken in Chatton:
  - 1- The results eastbound were 85th Percentile Speed - 30.2mph
  - 2- The results westbound were 85th Percentile Speed - 28.2mph

#### **Min 2246- Flagpole-**

- Parish Councillors considered the purchase & installation of a parish flagpole.
- Parish Councillors agreed not to progress the purchase of a flagpole as the Parish Council would need to fund the purchase and associated costs.

**Min 2247- Pension provision for Parish Clerk-** Parish Councillors undertook the 3-year review of a pension provision for the Parish Clerk. Parish Councillors agreed to support the Clerk's recommendation that a pension was no value to her due to low level of wages received.

#### **Min 2248- Budget 2026/27**

- Parish Councillors received an in-year budget update.
- Parish Councillors agreed to start the process of the 2026/27 budget
- Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor M Strother contact M Douglas for a quote for the grass cutting in 2026.
- Parish Councillors agreed to start considering any items they wished to be included within the 2026/27 budget ahead of the January meeting as costs may be required.
- Parish Councillors agreed not to renew the NALC subscription for 2026.
- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk prepare a final budget for agreement at the January meeting.

#### **Min 2249- County Councillor updates-** County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates:

**Chatton Bridge-** The drainage works have now been completed; however, the north side of the bridge still needs to be jetted.

Northumberland County Council Bridges Department will be working local farmers to work out how the debris within the arches can be cleared out.

**Recycling-** Every property will receive an additional recycling bin which will take fibrous material & cardboard. The black bin will be emptied every fortnight, then the blue bin & the new bin will be emptied alternatively on the other fortnight. Northumberland County Council will also, start collecting glass at the kerbside.

**Winter preparedness-** Chillingham bank is on the secondary route, however, if it is icy please report the issue on fix my street.

The Chairman raised concerns that some of the grit in the grit bins is hard. County Councillor M Mather replied report the issue on fix my street stating which bins contain hard grit.

**Dualling A1-** Northumberland County Council continue to lobby National Highways about the dualling of the A1 as it is having an impact on the condition of the A697 because drivers are using the A697 to avoid the A1. National Highways have stated they might commence some safety works in 2029-30.

**Highways-** Northumberland County Council are investigating the purchase of average speed warning cameras for villages along the A697.

Ford bridge will be closed for 12 weeks which will have an impact on the 266 Bus Service as diversions will be in place.

Northumberland County Council have agreed that Parish Councils under a Service Level Agreement can use streetlights to power speed warning signs & defibrillators. Northumberland County Council are currently working on an estimated budget of £26m for the 2026/27 Local Transport Plan which is £9m less than last year.

Central Government will not release all budget figures for 2026/27 until Christmas. Parish Councillors raised concerns that the reflectors on the white bollards at Bellshill are not working.

Councillor M Mather replied report the issue on fix my street

**Defibrillators-** NEAS is providing funding for the purchase of defibrillators, if you know of any locations requiring a defibrillator.

**Bus Services-** North East Combined Authority have provided funding for improving Bus Stations, yellow boxes at Bus Stops etc, and have now invited Northumberland County Council to submit more applications for bus improvements.

**Education-** Northumberland County Council are building a case to educate more SEND children within Northumberland and wherever possible provide a local

provision. In some cases, an alternative provision of education out with a school environment may be more appropriate.

**Min 2250- Chatton News-**Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk provide the following updates for the Chatton News:

Chatton Bridge-The works are now complete, thank you to County Councillor M Mather, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland Estates & local landowners.

The Parish Council are considering making a nomination to the Community Awards.

An update from the Chatton speed survey.

A thank you to the volunteers who erected the poppy netting in Chatton for Remembrance Day.

**Any Other Urgent Business.**

**Min 2251- Barmoor Windfarm-** Parish Councillor T Faa-Thompson advised the meeting that the next panel meeting to consider applications will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> November

**Date of the next Parish Council Meeting:** 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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

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