

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 23RD SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.30PM IN GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Cllrs W Robson, Mrs A Lawson, Prof M Petrie and Dr W Brittain
2 members of the public.

0925.01 **Apologies for absence** received from County Councillor Mrs V Jones.

0925.02 **Declarations of interest.** None

0925.03 **Minutes** of the meeting held on **22nd July 2025** having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true record.

0925.04 **Items arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2025.**

- a) Planning application 25/01079/COU – Change of use to caravan park. Minute 0725.04b refers. It was noted that this application had been removed from the planning portal as it was invalid.
- b) Hallington Mill. Minute 0725.09a refers. No action has been taken.
- c) Alncom. Minute 0725.09d refers. Alncom hope to be active by 10th October 2025.
- d) Parish Council Chairmans' Meeting. Minute 0725.09e refers. Cllr W E Robson had attended this meeting on behalf of Whittington Parish Council. This meeting confirmed that smaller Parish Councils have a number of common issues dealing with Northumberland CC.

0925.05 **County Councillors Report.** Cllr Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting.

0925.06 **Planning Matters**

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
25/02238/FUL	East Side Farm, Bingfield	Single storey porch extension to southwest elevation and single storey utility extension to north east elevation. GRANTED
25/02951/VARYCO	Land at North East of High Baulk Farm, Great Whittington	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on approved application 23/02711/VARYCO in order to replace the approved proposed site plan with a revised proposed site plan to incorporate a minor amendment to the approved access driveway position.

0925.07 **Finance/Administration**

- a) Accounts for payment. Payments were reviewed and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the items of expenditure on the list, previously circulated.
- b) To update signatories on Bank of Scotland account and consider transferring account to Unity Trust bank. Unfortunately, Bank of Scotland had not actioned the application for internet banking as they have not updated the signatories. Before the Parish Council can consider transferring the bank account to Unity Trust, the signatories need to be updated. Forms have been completed to add Cllrs W E Robson and Prof M Petrie and remove

several obsolete signatories. Once this has been actioned the Parish Council can consider transferring the account to Unity Trust Bank.

- c) To consider donation to Sport Tynedale. It was AGREED to send a donation of £100 to Sport Tynedale.

PAYEE	DETAILS	NET AMOUNT	VAT	GROSS AMOUNT	REF
Bank of Scotland	Bank account charges	6.75		6.75	DD
Bank of Scotland	Bank account charges	4.75		4.75	DD
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	240.00		240.00	10970
H M Revenue Customs	PAYE	60.00		60.00	10971
Mrs A Senior	Postages/travel expenses	22.95		22.95	10972
Great Whittington Village Hall	Hall rent – September 2025	15.00		15.00	10973
Sport Tynedale	Grant aid	100.00		100.00	10974
Income					
Northumberland CC	Precept	3500.00		3500.00	08.09.25

0925.08 Great Whittington Village Hall and the village environment.

- a) **Village Hall.** The hall has had a very successful summer and have hirings on a regular basis. Highlights performances have been sold out and the National Theatre screenings have been going well. The summer BBQ was also a great success. Recent improvements carried out include; new flooring and fire doors. There has been an overspend of £1000 this year due to the improvements. The final element of the solar panel project has been completed with the installation of the smart meter. The hall is now operational as an Emergency Hub.
- b) **Vehicle Activated Signs** appear to be working well. The branches had been trimmed back from the sign near to the Village Hall. Thanks to Cllr W E Robson for removing the branches etc.

0925.09 To receive Councillors reports and Highway matters.

- a) **Abandoned Car.** There has been a damaged car at the junction with the Military Road for a number of weeks. This will be reported to Northumberland CC.
- b) **Roadside Verges.** Concerns were expressed around the planting on a verge in Great Whittington obscuring sight lines. Cllrs will inspect and agree the action to be taken.

0925.10 Invitation for Town and Parish Councillors to attend a meeting with Northumberland County Council re Budget and Corporate Priorities. Cllr S Gregory will attend this meeting.

0925.11 To consider priorities to be submitted to the Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2026-2029. After discussion, it was AGREED to submit road safety measures on A68 for inclusion in the LTP.

0925.12 To consider response to Northumberland County Council's county wide Community Governance Review. It was AGREED that the Clerk would complete the response on behalf of the Parish Council.

0925.13 **Alncom.** Representatives from Alncom are to attend the next village coffee morning and will chat to anyone who is interested in signing up.

0925.14 **Date of next meeting** – The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18th November 2025** at 7.30pm in Great Whittington Village Hall.