

ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in Women's Institute Hall

Monday 17th November 2025

Councillors J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillors: P Barton, J Robson, H Shaw, K Thornton

Also in attendance: 4 Residents

Apologies: George Brown and Pam Lamb

67/25 Questions from Parishioners

A resident finds it extremely difficult to understand how a fully approved holiday park now exists beside the village despite no planning application ever having been submitted for a campsite. He feels the recent proposal to extend the campsite stated that the extension related to an "already approved site", but no formal approval appears ever to have existed. Historically, the site operated only under Camping & Caravanning Club (C&CC) exemptions (5 caravans + 10 tents). If a full application had originally been made, he believes it would likely have faced objections. The amended application, which was later approved, also limits operation from 1 April to 31 October. Concerns were raised about compliance with a resident observing 3 vans on site on 1st November, indicating that activity continued beyond the allowed dates.

A resident also identified two structures that have not been moved in 2 years, suggesting they may be functioning as static buildings. A newly constructed road raised concerns about permanence of static unit and landscape damage. To look into whether static structures on site require separate planning consent ACTION: Deb Wilson

68/25 Minutes

To approve the Minutes of the Monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th October 2025.

52/25 Fence

This item is to be carried forward to next months agenda.

53/25 Speed watch

A new date is to be rearranged with the police to 'borrow' speed gun for use in Ulgham

58/25 Fly tipping

An increase in fly tipping has been observed over the past fortnight, including additional incident on Cockles Road. All cases have been reported.

There is no further information has been received regarding the burnt-out car, which remains in situ

RESOLVED: the minutes be approved

69/25 Planning

- (i) Kirk Field Banks, Campsite - GRANTED

70/25 Neighbourhood Plan/Village Survey

To date, we have received 23 online responses and 36 paper responses, giving a current return rate of 34%. The original deadline of 23rd November has been extended to 5th December due to the low response rate. Reminder notices will be displayed on the parish notice board and posted on Facebook. The raw survey data will be made available at the next Parish Council meeting.

A resident raised a question regarding the accuracy of our data analysis, specifically concerning one sensitive question. In keeping with our commitment to openness and transparency, we will make all data available for review by anyone interesting in verifying the accuracy of the data input.

71/25 Community Governance Review

Documents were shared on 22 September and 24 October, and a video was received earlier today. Thank you to Karen for condensing the information, which made it easier to understand what is being requested.

The review is focused on whether parish arrangements should be changed in any way. The form, which included eight questions, was completed at the meeting, to be formally submitted before the deadline of 30th November.

72/25 Civility and Respect document review

Details were shared by Cllr Shaw on 24th October. The review is linked to a new White Paper aimed at tightening standards, introduced in response to concerns about councillor safety. The Council expressed its support for the review.

73/25 Blue plaque for Luke Clennel

Historic England have stated they will aim to notify nominators on the outcome of their applications by the end of January 2026

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/national-blue-plaque-scheme/make-a-nomination/#next-steps>

74/25 Correspondence

- (i) Email: Northumbria Police - monthly update. Crimes and incidents were reported during the period 6th October - 3rd November 2025, including theft from farms, the police re unable to disclose further information.
- (ii) Email: NCC, Winter Services Preparedness and Resilience Report including commitment to maintaining safe highways, swift responses to changing weather and ongoing winter resilience planning .
- (iii) Email: Neighbourhood Services - graffiti has been chemically treated, currently awaiting jetwash to fully remove.

- (iv) Email: Resident has raised concerns about poor acoustics in the WI Hall, particularly impact those using hearing aids.

Cllr Scott advised of scams happening locally:

- A women acting as a distraction for accomplices to commit theft
- Individuals offering to clean roofing, linked to cheque fraud
- The Forge has reportedly been broken into again, causing concerns that it is attracting undesirable activity in the village

75/25 Reports from Ulgham Village Groups

- (i) UVA - a huge thank you to everyone who helped make our firework night a success. Special thanks to Gareth and his team for being present and assisting throughout the event. Upcoming activities, Christmas Rendezvous - Xmas eve and New Year's eve - Film day. Apologies for the temporary closure of the toilets during the movement of hot soup.
- (ii) Meadows - nothing to report
- (iii) UCBS - nothing to report

76/25 Accounts for Payment - to authorise payment of the following:

Nothing to report

77/25 Reports from Chairman and Members

Cllr Robson

Discussion around security cameras - challenging due to privacy concerns - questions around funding and practical difficulties in monitoring and enforcement. Decrease in fly tipping noted in Longhirst when camera signs were installed - to consider putting signs up in the village, costing of signs to be explored .ACTION: Deb Wilson

Cllr Barton

It has been rumoured that someone has bought the forge and intends to 'bulldoze the building in the new year'. Discussion around whether to pursue listing the building followed due to it being the historic blacksmith site. Agreement was to make initial enquiries but to await the outcome of the village survey before any action is taken.

Apologies from Paul for next month

Cllr Shaw

Parish Notice board is in need of refurbishment/renew. ACTION: Cllr Scott

Cllr Scott

1. Dog fouling - Stickers have been sourced and will be placed around the village
2. Windfarm meeting last Monday, grant funds to spend on local communities.
Funds were allocated to 6 projects, others were asked to reapply to the next funding round.

78/25 Date of next meeting

Monday 15th December 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in the WI Hall.

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