

MELDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Miss Dee Smith

Email: meldonparishcouncil@gmail.com

NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Parish Council to be held in the Dyke Neuk, Meldon at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th September 2024 for the purpose of transacting the following business. Members of the public and press are invited to attend.

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Announcements

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to advise Council of any Declarations of Interest appertaining to the following agenda items.

4. Public Participation Time

Members of the public present may address the Council at this point on the agenda. The Council reserves the right to respond or debate the issue at a later date.

There are no public questions on this occasion.

5. Police Update

6. Northumberland County Councillor Update

7. Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 10th July 2024

To approve the above minutes of the Meeting held on 10th July 2024 (see appendix A).

8. Matters arising from previous Council meetings

There are no matters arising on this occasion.

9. Town and Country Planning Act 1990

There are no planning applications to consider on this occasion.

10. Financial Matters

Members are provided, for information, with a payments & receipts list and budgetary report up to 31st August 2024 (see appendices B & C).

11. External Audit: 2023-2024

Members are advised that no issues were raised during the above audit.

12. Defibrillator – Molesden

A verbal update will be given on the night.

13. Highways

a. To discuss any highways issues raised at the meeting.

b. Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2025-2026

Members are asked to consider the top three highways and transport priority issues for Meldon (see appendix D).

c. Bus Service Improvement Plan

Members are asked to consider the above plan (previously emailed to all members).

14. Environmental & Climate Change Issues

a. To discuss any issues raised at the meeting.

b. Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan

Members are asked to consider any comments to the above plan (see appendix E).

15. Annual Joint Town & Parish Council Autumn Conference

Members are advised that the above conference takes place on Thursday 3rd October at County Hall, Morpeth. There will be a Marketplace with refreshments available from 5pm where council representatives will be able to meet officers from various departments of the Council.

A single conference session runs from 7pm to 8pm. The Council may book two delegates to attend.

16. Any Other Urgent Business

Members are asked to consider any other urgent business.

17. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Members are asked to consider the date of the next meeting

Yours sincerely

Miss Dee Smith
1st September 2024

MELDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY 2024
AT 7.30PM IN DYKE NEUK, MELDON

Present:

Councillors: G Sanger (Chairman)
A Lloyd
H Waddington
J Garnett
A Frankland
P Herzberg
A Driver

Clerk: Miss D Smith

Apologies: None

One member of the public and two officers from Northumbria Police were also present.

19. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and addressed the uncertainty surrounding the new government's impact on regional matters.

20. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations on this occasion.

21. Report from the Police

The police reported the following:

- Safeguarding advice has been sent out regarding quads and other vehicles stolen in the north west area;
- Encouraging residents to sign up to Northumbria Police Northumbria Connected website;
- Speed cameras/Speed Watch can be used to help with the issue of speeding vehicles;
- Northumbria Police now has a motorbike unit and drone teams;
- Rural crime team will look at poaching issues;

- A message will be communicated through the Farmwatch system regarding concerns related to tractor driving in the area.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

22. Report from the County Councillor

There was no update on this occasion.

23. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 8th May 2024

Members were asked to approve the draft minutes of the above meeting.

RESOLVED

That the above minutes, a copy of which has been previously circulated to each member, be approved and signed as correct by the Chairman.

24. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

25. Parish Council Vacancy

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council. A local resident, present at the meeting, expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

Members unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Terry Garnick to the vacancy of Councillor. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

26. Town and Country Planning Act 1990

There were no planning applications to consider on this occasion.

27.

Financial Matters

Members were provided, for information, with a payments and receipts list and budget report up to 30th June 2024.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

28.

Defibrillator - Molesden

Councillor Lloyd reported that signage has been installed and she is checking the defibrillator on a regular basis. Training is still to be arranged.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

29.

Highways

- a. The Chairman advised that some major improvements have been made to the issues in the parish.
- b. Members were asked to consider the top three highways and transport priority issues for Meldon.

RESOLVED

- a. To write to NCC Highways and thank them for the work that has been carried out, and to request an update on the timeline for the remaining issues.
- b. To also request a site meeting with NCC Highways.

30.

Environment & Climate Change Issues

There were no issues to discuss on this occasion.

31.

Pigdon Update

There was no update on this occasion.

RESOLVED

To remove this item from the agenda.

32.

Any Other Urgent Business

- a. Members asked when the bench in Meldon will be fixed. The Clerk advised that she has contacted the supplier and it should be done as soon as possible.
- b. Councillor Lloyd advised all members of a new publication: Building Tomorrows Rural Communities – A Design Guide. A copy will be sent to every town and parish council in England.
- c. The Chairman highlighted areas of concern and development under the new Labour government, specifically grey belt areas, offshore windfarms and the change of use for unused farm buildings.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

33.

Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th September 2024.

APPENDIX B - FINANCIAL LIST

Payments

Date	Payment Method	Supplier		£ p
30.06.2024	Bacs	Unity Trust	Bank Charges	18.00
26.07.2024	Bacs	HMRC	PAYE July 24	15.00
26.07.2024	Bacs	Miss Dee Smith	Salary July 24	60.00
25.08.2024	Bacs	HMRC	PAYE August 24	15.00
25.08.2024	Bacs	Miss Dee Smith	Salary August 24	60.00

MELDON PARISH COUNCIL

Budgetary Control Report 2024/2025 up to 31.08.2024

	2024/2025	Spend at 31.08.2024		Expected
	Budget	sub-total		turn out
	£	£	p	£
Balance brought forward at 1st April 2024	3,043		3,043.03	
Add Receipts				
Precept 24/25			1,172.50	2,345
VAT Reclaim			464.78	
	0	0.00		0
Receipts to date				0
Sub-total	3043.03		4,680.31	2,345
Deduct payments				
Clerk's Salary		375.00		
Workplace pension		0.00		
Travel Expenses		0.00		
Administration		0.00		
IT/Website/DPA		75.00		
Insurance		0.00		
Internal Audit fees		70.00		
NALC Subscription		94.20		
Other Subscriptions/minor grants		0.00		
Other grants LGAct 1972 s. 137		900.00		
Election costs		0.00		
Contingencies		0.00		
Projects		0.00		
Defib		307.60		
Bank charges		18.00		
VAT paid		53.52		
Payments to date		1,893	1,893.32	
Balance in hand per cash book			£2,786.99	2,345
Cash at Bank 31.08.24			2,786.99	
less unrepresented payments			0.00	
Add income not yet credited			0.00	
Agreed to cash book balance			2,786.99	

Notes

Unrepresented Payments	Cheque no.	£ p
		£0.00

Earmarked Balances	b/f	c/f
Commemoration Projects		0.00
Advertising		£1,000.00
Working balance		£1,786.99
Total		2,786.99

Meldon Parish Council

Priority	Feedback
30mph speed limit in Pigdon	Pigdon does not meet the minimum criteria for a 30mph speed limit because there is only a small amount of development over a short distance. Average speeds in Pigdon are generally below 30mph, which suggests the existing road layout is leading to lower speeds.
Extra bend warning signage in Pigdon	This has been included in the LTP Programme. ✓



Northumberland County Council

Northumberland Local Transport Plan (LTP) Capital Programme

Town and Parish Council notes for Guidance

Criteria for LTP Schemes

Introduction

Each year we prepare a capital programme of works in line with the long term LTP strategy. The long term Northumberland LTP strategy has been replaced with the North East Transport Plan (NETP).

Significant work goes on throughout the year to develop this programme from existing known issues and from collected data.

As part of preparing the annual LTP capital programme we like to know what your top three highways and transport priority issues are for your area, so that they can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Capital Programme.

Requests for improvements and maintenance received from the local community over time are recorded in the Directory of Requests database held by the County Council. Details of the requests that have been made within your area throughout the year are provided to assist in consideration of potential priorities.

When submitting priorities, please give as much information as possible, including the location and the reason for the priority, i.e., what is the issue that needs to be addressed? (e.g., pedestrian safety, speeding traffic). In each case it is the "issue" that is assessed, not any proposed solution.

The requests are assessed by officers in Technical Services. Our assessment criteria are aligned with those of the NETP.

The priorities submitted are discussed with County Council Members in the autumn for their comment before the final draft programme is developed and presented to the Local Area Councils for final comment (usually in February), prior to the final approval of the LTP capital programme in March.

The LTP programme is capital funding. It cannot be used for revenue funded schemes, such as public transport services or pothole repairs or general maintenance. Requests for new or improved bus or rail services will therefore be forwarded to the Public Transport Team who liaise with operators, (public transport infrastructure, e.g. raised kerbs at bus stops, is eligible for LTP funding). Routine maintenance requests such as pothole filling or ditch clearance will be forwarded to the relevant Highway Area.

We would note that as the demand for schemes significantly outweighs the funding available it is impossible to approve all the requests that we receive in the annual programme.

Requests are assessed against the following criteria:

- a) Overcome Inequality and Grow Our Economy
- b) Carbon Neutral Transport
- c) Healthier North East
- d) Appealing Sustainable Transport Choices
- e) Safe, secure network.

Other Criteria:

- f) Part of a package of measures
- g) Community Priority
- h) Attracts External Funding or Synergy with other projects

Scoring

- 2 = contributes to the criteria
1 = makes some contribution
0 = no contribution

The potential cost of schemes is also considered when developing the programme. For instance, the total funding provided annually by central government for LTP highways improvements is approximately £1.7m. Given the wide spread of improvement projects for road safety, cycling and walking, speed reduction, junction improvements etc it is unlikely that individual schemes requiring significant funding will be included in the annual LTP capital programme (eg major junction improvements, extensive cycleways)

Integrated Transport (Highway Improvement) Schemes

Integrated Transport schemes provide improvements to the existing highway network. They can include improvements to footways and cycleways, pedestrian crossings, road safety schemes, dropped kerbs, bus stop improvements, junction improvements, improvements to signs and road markings, speed management and changes to parking restrictions. The below provides some further information on some of these issues.

- Safety Schemes are assessed according to the number and severity of personal injury accidents from Police records.
- Speed management requests will be first discussed with the Police to consider any necessary enforcement intervention and may, if appropriate, be subject to a formal speeding survey before being considered for inclusion in the programme.
- This authority has a set policy for the introduction of local speed limits, which is based on national guidelines provided by the Department for Transport. This is predominantly based on road environment and the length and density of frontage development sufficient to justify the limit. The minimum requirement is for a distance of 600 metres of continuous frontage development.
- The County Council does not fund speed limit interactive signs. These are usually funded through Members Local Improvement Scheme allocations or by Town or Parish councils' contributions with agreements necessary to ensure Town or Parish Councils are aware of their commitments to fund the future costs of management and maintenance of these signs.

- ROSPA national guidance recommends that 20mph zones only be considered in residential areas and streets or in urban environments with a significant pedestrian interaction. 20mph zones should not be considered on strategic routes or through routes.
- When a request for a pedestrian crossing facility is received and is felt to be feasible for consideration a pedestrian/vehicle (PV2) survey is carried out for a two and a half hour period in the morning and afternoon, during school term. The survey involves recording the traffic flow and pedestrian crossing flow over a 50m length either side of the proposed crossing point. The policy adopted by the County Council is that where sites return a PV2 value of 0.2 or higher the provision of a crossing facility will be investigated further (this is dependent on funding being identified for the scheme and the location being suitable for introduction of a pedestrian crossing). However, where the PV2 value is below 0.2 the site is considered inappropriate for such a facility and no further investigation takes place.
- Northumberland County Council does not fund Resident Permit Schemes through the LTP. Although we receive regular requests for the introduction of Resident Permit Schemes as a means easing parking pressures in residential areas these are usually funded through Members Local Improvement Scheme allocations or by Town or Parish councils' contributions. The primary aim of a 'Resident Permit Parking' scheme is to protect residents, who live adjacent or close to settlement centres, from external parking pressures. They generally do not solve the majority of resident parking issues and in many circumstances create further ongoing problems. It should be noted that there is no right to park on a particular part of the highway and the only legal right a driver has is to pass and re-pass.
- Issues concerning traffic regulation (e.g., parking restrictions) are also considered as part of this annual review, rather than on an ad hoc basis throughout the year. This enables county wide priorities to be established.

Roads, Bridges & Public Rights of Way Maintenance

- The road, footway and bridge maintenance programme is developed largely from condition surveys. Foot/cycleway maintenance is prioritised from condition surveys, and on lengths where a lot of reactive maintenance work has been carried out and/or complaints from the public have been received.
- Public rights of way schemes are identified by the Countryside Access Team following consultation with path users. Works focus on meeting the Council's statutory duty by repairing flood damage or river erosion and improving the surface and drainage of damaged and well used paths in popular walking/riding areas.

Should you have any queries, officers will be happy to provide advice as necessary. Please contact highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk or contact Tel: 0345 600 6400



Northumberland County Council

To all Town and Parish Councils

Your ref:
Our ref: LTP 2025-26
Enquiries to: Highways Programme
Email: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk
Date: 27th June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2025-26

We are starting the process of preparing our Local Transport Plan (LTP) Capital Programme for 2025/26. As part of this process, we would like to know what the highways and transport priority issues are for your area. This will assist with programme development and ensure that no issues are overlooked.

The annual LTP capital programme is a programme of interventions designed to achieve the objectives of the North East Transport Plan (NETP).

The NETP provides a transport strategy for the seven local authorities in North East England, (Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, and Sunderland), and is centred on connecting people to good employment opportunities and generating economic growth, while enabling the region and its people to move to healthier and more sustainable ways of travel. Our criteria when assessing priorities submitted is aligned with those of the NETP.

Your input on issues which you consider are a local priority is valued and assists us to develop an LTP Capital Programme that reflects local needs. As I'm sure you will appreciate, it isn't possible for everyone's priorities to make it into the final agreed programme, but all eligible priority issues you submit will be considered against the criteria, and those with the highest ranking will be considered for inclusion in the Programme.

To assist you in deciding your priorities:

- Guidance notes are enclosed with this letter.
- Also enclosed is a record of requests contained in our 'Directory of Requests' Database relating to your area. Please note this is simply a record of requests previously received and not proposals. This is included for your information only.
- Any relevant issue can be submitted as a priority even if it is not on the Directory of Requests.
- Previous years priorities can be re-submitted.
- Due to the large number of submissions received, a maximum of 3 priorities will be considered per parish.
- Inclusion on a combined list of priorities for consideration does not imply that a scheme will be successfully included in the capital programme.

You are asked to submit your priorities by email to highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk before **Friday 27th September**.

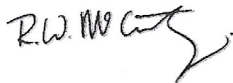
Finally, I would also like to confirm that the LTP Capital Programme for 2024/25 has now been approved and is underway. If you submitted priorities for consideration for the 2024/2 programme, feedback on these is enclosed with this letter. Copies of the delegated decision report and appendices detailing the approved programme for 2024/25 can be found under LTP Programme on the following webpage <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Highways/Transport-policy/Transport-plan.aspx>.

Highways Programme



Should you have any queries when it comes to submitting your future priorities, officers will be happy to provide advice as necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Robin McCartney
Highway Infrastructure Manager