

CORBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CORBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY 2026 AT 19:00 IN CORBRIDGE PARISH HALL

PRESENT: Cllr W Clouston, Chairman of the Council together with Cllrs A Berrington, J A Shackleton, Ms C Burns, N M Oliver, J Burdon, D Crompton, J M Hodgson and S Ahmed.

0126.01 RESIDENTS present raised several issues, which are listed along with any action to be taken.

- a) Speeding on Newcastle Road. Several residents attended the meeting to express concerns over the speed of traffic on Newcastle Road and the effect it has on the residents of Carrsfield. Cllr Oliver advised that the Parish Council has submitted the reduction of speeding on Newcastle Road to the LTP Programme for a number of year. He advised that it was accepted in the LTP programme several years ago but then rolled into the 20mph zone scheme. Unfortunately, Newcastle Road/Carrsfield was not included in the 20mph despite pressure from the Parish Council and County Councillor. Data had been collected from the speed sign on Newcastle Road and it showed the 85th percentile speed as 33.8mph which is too low for police enforcement action. It was noted that the Parish Council and County Councillor had submitted speed reduction measures on Newcastle Road as their top priority for the 2026-29 LTP programme. The LTP priorities are currently being assessed and scored and Cllr Oliver is hoping to hear the outcome shortly. Cllr Oliver will contact the residents of Carrsfield once a decision has been made and advise of next steps. Community Speedwatch Schemes were discussed, and Cllr Oliver is to mention the speed of traffic on Newcastle Road when he speaks to the Police Inspector. Leaf litter and blocked gulleys on the south side of the road were reported by residents and Cllr Oliver will report this to NCC. The north side of the road had been cleared several weeks ago.
- b) Cycle Lane – Corbridge Cemetery. Concerns were expressed regarding parking at the cemetery once the new cycle lane is constructed as visitors to the cemetery will not be able to park on the roadside. Northumberland CC is still designing the scheme in this area, and the Parish Council awaits the information as to how the scheme will work. The issue of the gates at the cemetery being locked was discussed. This can be overcome.

0126.02 Apologies for Absence received and accepted from Cllr C Turner

0126.03 Declarations of Councillors' Interest. Cllr N M Oliver declared an interest in item 0126.07 (Planning Applications) as a member of Northumberland County Council's Planning Committees.

0126.04 To approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th December 2025. The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2025 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

0126.05 Update on progress from the previous meeting held on 17th December 2025.

- a) Stanners Wood. Minute 1225.05b refers. Northumberland County Council will be in touch in February to arrange some road planings.
- b) The Coigns. Minute 1225.05d refers. It was RESOLVED to obtain quotes for cleaning the area and repointing works.
- c) Town and Parish Council Conference. Minute 1225.11b refers. Cllrs J M Hodgson and D Crompton will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.
- d) Public Toilets. Minute 1225.13 refers. The Parish Council had previously expressed an interest in taking over the public toilets. Since then, NCC had changed their policy however they are now willing to discuss the possibility with the Parish Council. NCC has a refurbishment budget for public toilets, and the Parish Council would expect the toilets to be brought up to standard

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before considering taking them over. It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would progress this with Northumberland County Council.

0126.06 Finance/Administration

- a) Accounts for payment. It was RESOLVED to approve the items of expenditure on the list, previously circulated. [See appendix A]
- b) Budget Report 2025-26 up to 31st December 2025. It was RESOLVED to accept and approve the Budget Report up to 31st December 2025.

0126.07 Planning Applications. It was RESOLVED that the decisions of the Planning

Advisory Group be accepted in accordance with the list circulated. [See appendix B]

0126.08 Planning Decisions. The planning decisions received since the last meeting were noted. [See appendix C]

0126.09 Reports

- a) Chairman's Report. The Chairman provided a verbal update on recent Parish Council matters.

- i. Market Place. The Parish Council had received requests from Highways Dept and Archaeology requesting further information. The Highways Dept advise that the block paving is not acceptable along the Middle Street section of the Market Place due to the potential maintenance issues. There are some technical issues around the disabled bays near the Kings Oven and access issues around the proposed Lych Gate triangle. A resident had provided a swept path analysis, and this area will need to be modified to allow access. Tim Speed, the highways consultant, is currently liaising with Highways to resolve these issues. He had also advised that there should be no left turn at the pant however he expects there to be no increase in traffic through Front Street. It is hoped the revised plans will be submitted before the next meeting.

Cllr W Clouston and the Clerk had met with the Assistant County Archaeologist who advised that test pits will be needed to establish the depth of existing surfacing and modern deposits and the depth, nature, extent, date and significance of surviving archaeological remains. It is expected that the cost of the test pits will be extensive however quotes will be obtained from archaeological contractors. Cllr W Clouston had asked Cllr N M Oliver to establish if there is any possibility of funding from NCC. Cllr Oliver will look into this.

- ii. NALC Legal Advice. The request for legal advice had been submitted to NALC however a poor response had been received pointing the Parish Council to the NALD website resource area. Cllr N M Oliver had spoken to the officer from Northumberland ALC and Cllr Oliver is to send some additional information to hopefully get a more detailed response. If the response is unsatisfactory then a specialist solicitor will need to be found.
 - iii. Formal complaint. A formal complaint had been received regarding 'Unlawful interference with Corbridge Market Place'. The clerk and chairman will prepare a response by 23rd February.

- b) County Councillor's Report. Cllr Oliver gave a verbal update on County Council matters affecting the Parish.

- i. Right of access – Barclays Bank Building. The owners of the Barclays Bank building had contacted Cllr Oliver regarding their right of way along the strip of land alongside the building. Cllr W Clouston confirmed that there are no interferences with this right of way on the proposal plans for the Market Place.

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- ii. Local Transport Plan. The priorities for the LTP 2026-29 should be finalised in the next few weeks.
- iii. Car Park. The legals are progressing and NCC has confirmed that it will be built this year.
- iv. Active Travel Cycle Lane from Hexham to Corbridge. There are still some issues to resolve around Dilston due to opposition from the residents. NCC Officers are preparing a report addressing concerns raised by local residents. NCC had applied for funding to extend the current route to Corbridge Station. Cllr Oliver has expressed concerns over this extension and is meeting with NCC officers to discuss.
- v. Boathouse area litter bin. The damaged litter bin in the boathouse area has been replaced with a larger freestanding litter bin.
- vi. Wheatsheaf Hand Car Wash. Numerous complaints had been received by Cllr N M Oliver and the clerk regarding the Wheatsheaf Car Wash which is now closed. Unfortunately, the car wash did not have the appropriate permissions to operate and was being operated over the public right of way. Water run off was also causing issues in the area especially during the recent freezing temperatures.
- vii. Dropped Kerbs. This has not yet been progressed however NCC does have a budget to carry out this work. Areas identified include The Crofts and Synclen Estate.
- viii. Skatepark. Northumbrian Water has still not vacated the site. No progress can be made until the site is clear.
- ix. Street Lighting. Cllr Oliver is currently pulling the information together for the scheme. Once this has been finalised, he will obtain a quote from NCC for the work.

0126.10 To receive updates or issues raised by councillors.

- a) Overhanging Tree at Abbeyfield. The large beech tree in the grounds of Abbeyfield is still overhanging the pavement/highway. Cllr N M Oliver had reported this to the tree officer at NCC however that department at NCC is under resourced and work will not be carried out for some time. It was AGREED to write to Abbeyfield and request that work is carried out on the overhanging tree.
- b) West Cheynes Public Right of Way. The public right of way from Stagshaw Road to West Terrace is very overgrown. The handyman has been instructed to clear this area when the weather improves.
- c) Manhole Cover. The manhole cover on the corner of Newcastle Road and Appletree Lane is breaking up. This had been reported on Fix My Street however is not NCC responsibility. This has now been reported to Northumbrian Water.
- d) Policy on the closing of retail units. Cllr J Burdon asked if Northumberland CC have a policy on the closing of retail units. Cllr N M Oliver will investigate and give an update at the February meeting. It was noted that any change of use from retail to residential would need planning approval which would come to the Parish Council for comment.

0126.11 To consider addition of yellow cross hatching to existing loading bay in Market Place. Unfortunately, cars continue to park on the 'Loading only' area in the Market Place. It was suggested that yellow line hatching would improve the situation. It was RESOLVED to install yellow line hatching (up to a cost of £800). The clerk will ask Coupeline to carry out this work. It was also noted that Grants Bakery now has 4 A boards between the planters. It was felt this is excessive. Cllr N M Oliver will contact them to discuss.

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0126.12 To consider quote from CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) to restore a heritage signpost at Aydon. It was RESOLVED to accept the quote of £1000 to restore the fingerpost at Aydon.

0126.13 Co-option to fill one vacancy. There is one vacancy for a councillor. This will be advertised and put on the agenda for the February meeting.

0126.14 Opportunity for residents to comment on any issue raised. Residents were given the opportunity to comment on any issue raised during the meeting. The following matter was noted:

- a) Dropped Kerbs. It was noted that dropped kerbs are also needed on the north side of Main Street.
- b) Ladycutter Lane Parking area. There is an area on Ladycutter Lane where cars park on the verge. This area needs attention and Cllr N M Oliver will check to see if this is official highway.

0126.15 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 19:00 in Room One of Corbridge Parish Hall.

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APPENDIX A

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – 28th JANUARY 2026

Payee	Description	Gross payment	VAT	Net	Payment method
Corbridge Community Partnership	Contribution towards Warm Hub	2874.60		2874.60	BACS
Rentokil Initial	Washroom services	485.97	80.99	404.98	DD
BT Plc	Parish Hall WIFI	119.64	19.94	99.70	DD
EE	Mobile phone / WIFI contracts	74.16	12.36	61.80	DD
Engie	Parish Hall gas supply	720.94	120.16	600.78	DD
H M Revenue and Customs	PAYE January 2026	1629.12		1629.12	BACS
TW Pension Fund	Pension contributions – January 26	1155.06		1155.06	BACS
Corona Energy	Electricity – Cemetery chapels	131.95	6.28	125.67	DD
Engie	Parish Hall electricity supply	289.85	13.8	276.05	DD
Everflow	Parish Hall water rates	19.91		19.91	DD
A Curtis Window Cleaner	Bus stops and Parish Hall	90.00		90.00	BACS
Agilico Technologies Ltd	Photocopier maintenance contract	47.62	7.94	39.68	DD
Grenke Leasing Ltd	Photocopier lease	144.00	24.00	120.00	DD
Anglian Water	Water rates – allotments	143.98		143.98	DD
Northumberland CC	Groundworks contract	15870.21	2645.04	13225.17	BACS
Anglian Water	Water rates – Cemetery	35.73		35.73	DD
Unity Trust Bank	Bank charges	13.20		13.20	DD
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges	6.60		6.60	DD
Staff Wages	February 2026	4190.46		4190.46	BACS
Lloyds Bank Multipay Card	Monthly card fees	6.00		6.00	CARD
Glasdon UK Ltd	Litter bin – Boathouse area	418.08	69.68	348.40	CARD
Ryobi UK Ltd	Battery for floor scrubber – P/Hall	99.99	16.67	83.32	CARD
Robinson Landscape Design	Amendments to planning application plans	946.80	157.80	789.00	BACS
J P Westall Ltd	Boiler service – Plot 109	93.60	15.60	78.00	BACS
J P Westall Ltd	Boiler service – Plot 111	93.60	15.60	78.00	BACS
J P Westall Ltd	Boiler service – Plot 110	93.60	15.60	78.00	BACS
J P Westall Ltd	Boiler service – Plot 66	168.50	28.08	140.42	BACS
Forvis Mazars LLP	Limited Assurance Review 2024-25	804.00	134.00	670.00	BACS
Peter Rodger	Corbridge Matters – Graphic design	420.00		420.00	BACS
Robson Print	Corbridge Matters Issue 87	2206.00		2206.00	BACS
J F Walton & Son	Handyman/Parish Hall supplies	117.29	19.55	97.74	BACS
Bishops Garage Ltd	Fuel	6.34	1.06	5.28	CARD
Total		33,516.80	3,404.15	30,112.65	

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INCOME RECEIVED – JANUARY 2026

Reference	Detail	Amount	Date
Tenant	Social housing rent – Plot 109	411.67	02.01.26
Tenant	Social housing rent – Plot 66	411.67	02.01.26
Tenant	Social housing rent – Plot 110	411.67	02.01.26
Plot 19	Allotment rent	40.00	05.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	1080.00	05.01.26
Plot 25	Allotment rent	40.00	05.01.26
Children's Party	Parish Hall Hire	48.00	06.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	270.00	06.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	180.00	07.01.26
Plot 4	Allotment rent	30.00	07.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	90.00	07.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert	360.00	08.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	270.00	09.01.26
Children's Party	Parish Hall Hire	48.00	12.01.26
Tenant	Cemetery Lodge rent	600.00	12.01.26
Plot 16A	Allotment rent	40.00	12.01.26
Plot 29	Allotment rent	40.00	12.01.26
Plot 18	Allotment rent	30.00	13.01.26
Plot 30	Allotment rent	40.00	13.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert renewal	180.00	15.01.26
Plot 17	Allotment rent	30.00	16.01.26
Choir	Parish Hall Hire	22.00	16.01.26
HMRC VTR	VAT reclaim – December 2025	767.84	16.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert	270.00	16.01.26
Tenant	Social housing rent – Plot 111	411.67	19.01.26
Tynedale Christian Ministries (736)	Parish Hall hire	1872.00	19.01.26
Plot 7 (737)	Allotment rent	30.00	19.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge matters advert renewal	45.00	19.01.26
Cemetery Fees (738)	Burial fees	905.00	20.01.26
Plots 28 & 34 (739)	Allotment rents	80.00	20.01.26
Dilston WI	Parish Hall Hire	11.00	20.01.26
Plot 20	ALLOTMENT RENT	40.00	20.01.26
Plot 23	Allotment rent	40.00	23.01.26
Children's Party	Parish Hall Hire	48.00	23.01.26
Plot 22	Allotment rent	40.00	23.01.26
Plot 16	Allotment rent	40.00	26.01.26
Karate (740)	Parish Hall Hire	40.00	26.01.26
Event	Parish Hall Hire	75.00	27.01.26
Bridge Club	Parish Hall Hire	384.00	27.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert Renewal	180.00	27.01.26
Gardening Society	Parish Hall Hire	48.00	28.01.26
Advertiser	Corbridge Matters Advert Renewal	90.00	28.01.26
Art Group (Tuesday)	Parish Hall Hire	220.00	28.01.26
Plot 31	Allotment rent	40.00	29.01.26
Zumba	Parish Hall Hire	128.00	30.01.26
Total		£10,478.52	

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APPENDIX B

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR CONSIDERATION ON 28TH JANUARY 2026

REFERENCE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS
25/04530/FUL	Two storey side extension with kitchen reconfiguration	1 Synclen Avenue, Corbridge
26/0002/PRUTPO	Tree preservation order: Reductions to be made to Yew Tree	1 Whitegate Cottages, Aydon Road, Corbridge
26/00003/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order application: Fell T6, T7 and T8 Ash Trees	10 Craggside, Corbridge
26/00146/FUL	Front and rear extensions to single storey bungalow and alteration of existing window openings	14 Crofts Way, Corbridge

APPENDIX C

PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED ON 28TH JANUARY 2026

REFERENCE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
24/04062/FUL	The works proposed are limited to the vestry roof and surrounding walls where new flashings are to be installed. A damaged cast iron hopper and downpipe will be replaced to match the existing in appearance, profile and colour to accommodate the new roof height. St Andrew's Church, Market Place, Corbridge	GRANTED
25/03807/FUL	Proposed single store extension providing a family room Dene House, Howden Dene Farm, Newcastle Road, Corbridge	GRANTED
25/03993/FUL	Change of use and erection of boundary fence to secure dog walking compound and associated car parking and access for public use. Plantation on C246 East of Aydon, Corbridge	GRANTED
25/04432/MAST	Notification of prior approval for the removal of existing 15m high monopole supporting 2 no antennas along with existing equipment cabin to be removed and the replacement of a 17.5m high monopole supporting 4 no antennas, 2 no 300mm transmission dishes, along with 1 no equipment cabinet and ancillary development there to including 10 no Ericsson Radio System (ERS) and 1 no GPS module. Telecommunications Mast Land North of Stagshaw Business Centre, Stagshaw Road, Corbridge	GRANTED
26/00002/PRUTPO	Tree Preservation Order: Reductions to be made to Yew tree. 1 Whitegate Cottages, Aydon Road, Corbridge	GRANTED