

Matfen Parish Council
Ward 1 – Fenwick, Ingoe, Ryal. Ward 2 – Matfen

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in Matfen Village Hall on Monday 21st March 2016 at 7.00pm.

Present: Mr Robin Douglass, Chairman of the Council together with Mr Frank Robson, Mrs Ann Gregory-Smith, Mr Keith Irving, Mr Stuart Mills

In Attendance: Jo Bramley (Clerk) and County Councillor Mrs V Jones

0713. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Chris Austin

0714. DECLARATION OF INTEREST. None

0715. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25th January 2016. It was proposed by Cllr R Douglass, seconded by Mrs A Gregory Smith and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.

0716. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT. Cllr Mrs V Jones gave a verbal update on matters relating to Northumberland County Council.

- a) **NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL.** NCC will be moving their headquarters to Ashington.
- b) **CORE STRATEGIES.** This has been delayed, will be published in May and a decision will be in spring 2017.
- c) **VERGES.** These have been contracted out.
- d) **INGOE SPEED LIMIT.** The Highways Inspector is to come and look at the roads, as he doesn't know the area. Speed limit could be set at 30mph, as there are streetlights or an advisory of 25mph.
- e) **REORGANISATION OF SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP.** This will be changing to a two-tier system and closing Ponteland Middle School.
- f) **AREA MEETING.** The next meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall, Ponteland on 12 May 2016. Notice will be sent with more information.

0717. MATTERS ARISING

- a) **MATFEN VILLAGE HALL.** Minute 686a refers. Decision deferred to the next meeting.

0718. FINANCE

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Mr R Douglass, seconded by Mrs A Gregory Smith and AGREED accounts on the list attached be paid.

Payee	Detail	Cheque Issued	VAT	Net of VAT	Cheque Number
Mel's Cleaning	Public toilet cleaning	48.00		48.00	100886
Mel's Cleaning	Public toilet cleaning	32.00		32.00	100887
Mel's Cleaning	Public toilet cleaning	32.00		32.00	100888
Miss J M Bramley	Clerical Services	359.07		359.07	100889
Matfen Village Hall	Rental	10.00		10.00	100890
No. 74 Bus	Donation – Sat pm service	600.00		600.00	100891

0719. CORRESPONDENCE. All correspondence received since the March meeting 2016 had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all councillors.

0720. MR MURRELL. Traffic going up to church passes his house using the public road. **Action: County Councillor V Jones to follow up and try to get a 'No through road' sign.**

0721. SALLY LAWSON EMAILS. Sally Lawson emailed to raise a couple of issues within the village of Ingoe. One referred to cars and delivery vans damaging the bank and village green and the other was about the possibility of kerbing the corner of the green and the western point of the small green. **Action: Clerk to email Ms Lawson informing her these are not in the remit of the parish council and have been passed to NCC.**

0722. INFORMATION ITEMS.

- a) CAN eNews – proposed organisation changes
- b) NALC eNews – March 2016
- c) Clerks and Councils Direct – March 2016

0723. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

All outstanding planning applications are listed on each agenda.

Planning Application Reports				
Reference	Applicant	Address	Description	Decision
15/03629/FUL	Mr P Mofitt	Vallum Farm, East Wallhouses	Change of use from agricultural storage unit to light commercial storage/warehouse/distribution use including works to form new front elevation to open fronted agricultural unit and two storey office	GRANTED

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			space to be created inside new facility	
15/04024/OUT	Mr T Wallace	Field south of fell pasture and east of village green	Change of use to residential (C3 use) by the erection of 1 no dwelling house	REFUSED – Application appealing
15/04172/FUL	Hexham & Northern Marts	Land at Fenwick	Construction of grain store with new access track	GRANTED
16/00059/VARY CO	Mr & Mrs Muir	1 Fenwick Cottages	Variation of condition 2 approved plans relating to planning appln 14/02736/FUL – Subdivision of existing residential curtilage and erection of a single dwelling and detached double garage	WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT

0724. VILLAGE ISSUES

- a) **RYAL ISSUES.** Mr Thirwell seems to be storing kindling on the common land and there is a hole in the wall that looks like access to the wood. **Action: Clerk to write to Mr Thirwell asking him to repair the wall.**
- b) **PLAY AREA – INGOE.** A number of residents had contacted the Parish Council both for and against the proposed play area in Ingoe. It was suggested to write to the residents of Ingoe, include a plan (to scale) of the proposed play area and ask for their final responses in time for the next meeting. **Action: A Gregory-Smith to organise A4 plan and Clerk to send letter.**
- c) **HIGH HOUSE FARM BREWERY.** There have been a significant number of complaints about the noise from the brewery. **Action: Clerk to contact NCC.**
- d) **MOLES.** A mole catcher has been contacted and he will come and sort the issue out when he has time.
- e) **MATFEN VILLAGE TIDY UP.** Robin Douglass has contacted Philip Dixon Landscaping and received a quote to tidy up the bus shelter, clear paths and kerbs. **Action: Clerk to contact him to ask him to do the work.**
- f) **DANGEROUS TREES.** There are some dangerous trees in and around the village and need to be made safe. **Action: J Bramley to contact NCC.**
- g) **BRIDGE.** We are still looking into the issue painting and repair of the bridge and have written to Northumbrian Water and are waiting for their response. It is not in the remit of the Parish Council and under no circumstances should anyone paint or make repairs on the bridge. **Action: Clerk to contact Mrs Miller informing her of this.**
- h) **SIGNAGE.** A Gregory-Smith has contacted Northumberland County Council regarding a road sign that has fallen down but has no response. **Action: County Councillor Mrs V Jones to follow this up.**
- i) **DEFIBRILLATOR.** We will write to the residents asking for two volunteers to be the responsible person and have training to use the defibrillator. Once we have two volunteers then we can contact The Stephen Carey Fund to arrange purchase, installation and training. **Action: Clerk to write to residents.**
- j) **MATFEN TO RYAL ROAD.** Mr & Mrs Scott raised the issue of cars parking on the pavement and obstructing the road. This is not in the remit of the Parish Council and it was suggested that Mr & Mrs Scott contact the police, PC Lee Davison, when the cars are parked on the road. **Action: Cllr R Douglass to discuss with Mr & Mrs Scott.**
- k) **HEXHAM COURANT.** There are some planning applications are being listed in the paper under the wrong village. **Action: Clerk to contact NCC requesting new map of Parish and the Hexham Courant asking the to list them correctly.**

0725. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR. Minute 0695 refers. Chris Austin has been co-opted on to the Parish Council but sent apologies for this meeting. **Action: Clerk to contact C Austin welcoming him and to send an information pack.**

0726. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The next meeting and Annual Parish meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 31st May 2016 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

Signed as an accurate record _____ Chairman