

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

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Matfen Village Hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Stuart Mills (Chairman) of the Council, together with Mr Frank Robson, Mrs Ann Gregory-Smith & Mr Keith Irving

**In Attendance:** Jo Bramley (Clerk)

**0819. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –** Mr Chris Austin, Mr Hugh Murphy & County Councillor Mrs V Jones

**0820. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** None.

**0821. RESIDENTS.** Residents present raised the issue of the travellers that stopped in Matfen on the way to Appleby. A resident has seen the devastation that they leave at Melberby. There can be some aggravation from those travellers that have a drink. Residents didn't choose to live in Matfen to look at travellers on the green. There were two sets of travellers at Matfen, they didn't tidy up after themselves. Residents don't want this to be a regular stop for them and are concerned that they may spread the work among themselves. The question was asked about the legal status regarding travellers? The police have no reason to move them on if they are doing nothing physically wrong. What can be done to prevent them turning up next year? Mr S Mills appreciated everyone coming to the meeting and voicing their concerns. He pointed out that the parish council are not legal experts however he had contacted Northumberland County Council and there is a person specifically in post to deal with this issue. Mr S Mills will contact this gentleman and arrange for him to come to Matfen to discuss this issue with residents. We will try and arrange this for September. A letter will go out to all residents informing them of date and time. Another resident asked if we were clear on what we can and can't do with the village green, can stakes be put around or boulders? The parish council will look into this also. A resident also asked if Matfen Estates owned the garden as the hedge is overgrown. It dangerous as you cannot see the road. **Action: Mr S Mills to contact Northumberland County Council & Mr K Irving to speak to Matfen Estates regarding the hedge.**

**0822. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017.** It was proposed by Mr S Mills, seconded by Mr F Robson and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.

**0823. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.** County Cllr Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting.

**0824. MATTERS ARISING**

- a) **PUBLIC TOILETS.** Mr S Mills has had a look at the toilet and agrees they are in need of a refurb. **Action: K Irving to get some quotes & Mrs Gregory-Smith to talk to a possible replacement cleaner.**
- b) **NOTICE BOARDS.** 3 new ones are needed. **Action: Clerk to ask Mandy to drop the notice board off at the village shop if possible. Mr K Irving to look at getting 3 new parish notice boards.**
- c) **LAND TO THE EAST OF RYAL CHURCH.** Mr H Murphy has been in direct contact with Stephanie at Northumberland County Council and they have informed the resident responsible that a planning application must be submitted for planning permission and the parish council will review the plans and comment accordingly. Mr Kelly thanked Mr Murphy for his progress and also mentioned that there seems to be fewer cars on the village green which is a positive step and there seems to be slightly less bits of mess on the horizon. Mr Kelly also mentioned that the dog has reappeared and are leaving their mess on the green and wandering around.

**0825. FINANCE**

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Mr S Mills, seconded by Mrs A Gregory Smith and AGREED accounts on the list attached be paid.
- b) **ASSETS.** **Action: Clerk to find out our legal obligations in to maintaining our assets.**

| Payee                    | Detail                           | Cheque Issued | VAT   | Net of VAT | Cheque Number |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|------------|---------------|
| Matfen Village Hall      | Rental – July 2017               | 10.00         |       | 10.00      | 100947        |
| Miss J M Bramley         | Clerical Services                | 411.02        |       | 411.02     | 100948        |
| Northumbria Pest Control | Moles – Matfen Village Green     | 210.00        | 35.00 | 175.00     | 100949        |
| Playsafety Limited       | Annual Play Inspection           | 159.60        | 26.60 | 133.00     | 100950        |
| Viking                   | Stationery                       | 70.24         | 2.37  | 67.87      | 100951        |
| Philip Dixon Landscapes  | Matfen village tidy up & repairs | 480.00        |       | 480.00     | 100952        |

**0826. CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the May 2017 meeting had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all councillors.

**0827. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

All outstanding planning applications are listed on each agenda.

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| Planning Application Reports |           |         |             |          |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------|----------|
| Reference                    | Applicant | Address | Description | Decision |
| NONE.                        |           |         |             |          |

0828. **VILLAGE ISSUES.** The wall opposite the Estate Office is in bad repair and looks dangerous. **Action: County Cllr V Jones will speak to NCC to get them to look at it & Mr K Irving to speak to Matfen Estates.**

0829. **ANY URGENT BUSINESS.** None.

0830. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 26 September 2017 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

Signed as an accurate record \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman