

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 30th November 2015 at 7.00pm

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

In Attendance: Mrs Mandy Senior (Clerk)

- 0680. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –** County Councillor Mrs V Jones
- 0681. PRESENTATION BY DAVID WILSON FROM THE STEPHEN CAREY FUND – DEFIBRILLATOR.** The Stephen Carey Fund was started in July 2012. They have two main suppliers; one for the defibrillators and one for the cabinets. Each comes with a ten year warranty. Once the equipment is purchased it becomes the property of the Parish Council however The Stephen Carey Fund will provide support. The equipment would need to be insured by the Parish Council. The installation is arranged by SC Fund. Total cost would be under £2000. The cabinet requires electricity and there is a key code lock on the front of the cabinet to gain access. Warm air circulates in the cabinet if the temperature falls below 5 degrees. It is a 24/7 public access device. The units are registered with the NE Ambulance Service and should a 999 call be made you would have to be within 500m of the cabinet to be sent to use the defibrillator. The SC fund provides training and it would be up to the Parish Council to raise awareness of these sessions which last for 2 hours. It costs approx £25 per year on electrics, every 5 years a new battery would need to be purchased £150, pads last 3 years £30 each and are one use only and the unit comes with 2 sets of pads. The unit is self checking however the SC fund asks for 2 community guardians (maintenance checkers) to check the unit once per fortnight to make sure all is well.
- 0682. PRESENTATION BY CUNDALLS RE PROPOSAL FROM MATFEN ESTATES.** Matfen Estates are looking to provide accommodation for families and larger groups and intend to submit a planning application early in the New Year for 30 single storey 2-3 bed lodges with associated parking on the Clare Wood Road to Whittington Mill. The access road will need to be improved and discussions are taking place with NCC Highways. The lodges will be made of timber, low energy, low carbon and sustainable. They will be modern buildings, lifted off the ground which will encourage ecology to grown around them. Each building will have a steep pitch roof and vertical timber cladding. There will be an energy centre on site and wood from the estate will be used to create energy for the site and heating of the lodges. The site will sit in woodland, screened with established trees and new bodies of water will be created on site. The area will be landscaped and mounded between lodges so they will not overlook each other. An underpass will be created for access from the hotel to the site. Plans of the site and lodges were available to view. Concerns were expressed of the impact on the community.
- 0683. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** None
- 0684. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28th September 2015.** It was proposed by Cllr S Mills, seconded by Mrs A Gregory Smith and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.
- 0685. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting.
- 0686. MATTERS ARISING**
- a) **MATFEN VILLAGE HALL.** Minute 669c refers. Quotes had been obtained for replacement windows. Last year's accounts are still awaited which Mrs A Gregory Smith hopes to bring to the next meeting. A decision will be made at the January meeting as to the level of contribution by the Parish Council..
 - b) **REPAIRS TO BUS SHELTER/PLAY AREAS/NOTICE BOARDS.** Minute 669e. Various work had been completed however there are still some outstanding jobs. **Action: Cllr R B Douglass to provide Cllr K Irving with a list of outstanding work and Cllr K Irving to arrange the repairs.**
- 0687. FINANCE**
- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Mrs A Gregory-Smith, seconded by Mr S Mills and AGREED accounts on the list attached be paid.
 - b) **TO AGREE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2016/2017.** To be deferred to the January meeting.

Payee	Detail	Cheque Issued	VAT	Net of VAT	Cheque Number
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	287.27		287.27	100870
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	71.80		71.80	100871
Mrs A Senior	Expenses (Postages, telephone, travel)	137.35		137.35	100872
Mrs A Senior	Play area inspections	75.00		75.00	100873
Hexham Courant	Job advert	150.96	25.16	125.80	100874
RBL Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Wreath	30.00		30.00	100875
Mel's Cleaning	Public Toilet cleaning	32.00		32.00	100876
Matfen Village Hall	Rental	10.00		10.00	100877

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Mel's Cleaning Co	Public Toilet cleaning	32.000		32.00	100878
P Urwin	Repairs/maintenance	268.00		268.00	100879

0688. CORRESPONDENCE. All correspondence received since the September meeting 2015 had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all councillors.

0689. MATFEN PIERS JUNCTION. Plans received from Northumberland County council showing proposals for improving safety at the Matfen Piers Junction by clearing vegetation to improve sightlines and upgrading the warding signs to make them more visible. It was proposed by Cllr S Mills, seconded by Cllr Mrs A Gregory Smith and AGREED to support Northumberland County Council's proposals.

0690. MR KELLY'S LETTER. Letter received from Mr Kelly outlining the various issues in Ryal. The letter will be acknowledged and discussed at the January meeting.

0691. INFORMATION ITEMS.

- a) CAN eNews – November 2015
- b) NALC eNews – October/November 2015
- c) Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2015
- d) War Memorials Trust – Newsletter
- e) Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East Newsletter Autumn 2015

0692. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

All outstanding planning applications are listed on each agenda.

Reference No	Location	Description	Decision
14/03900/MRV EIA	Mootlaw Quarry Matfen	Review of Old Minerals Permissions (ROMP) under the provision of the Environment Act 1995 in respect of application C/91/D/514 (Proposed extension to existing limestone quarry with restoration to agriculture woodland and wildlife areas on 152 ha of land.	Decision awaited
15/01417/REN E	Land west off Harrogate Hill, Matfen	Erection of single Tozzi Nord Victory 24-60 (60kw) wind turbine off 34m to blade tip and associated infrastructure	Decision awaited
15/02318/FUL	1 High House Cottages	Construction of two storey rear extension (porch) and change of use of agricultural field to create parking and garden space	GRANTED
15/02319/FUL	3 High House Cottages	Single storey side and rear extension (porch) and change of use of agricultural field to create parking and garden space	GRANTED
15/02004/OUT	Field south of Fell Pasture	Outline application: Change of use to residential (C3 use) by the erection of 1 dwelling house	REFUSED
15/03413/FUL	Butcher Hill Farm	Conversion of existing stone barns to 2no residential dwellings. Extension to farmhouse. Construction of stable block and ancillary buildings. Change of use of field to rear to be used as ménage	Decision awaited
15/03629/FUL	Vallum Farm	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 2 storey office space to be created inside new facility	Decision awaited

0693. VILLAGE ISSUES

- a) **RYAL ISSUES.** Email received from Matfen Estates advising that they will be replacing the existing surface of the unauthorised track across Ryal Village Green with a plastic reinforcement mesh system through which grass can grow. The work will be carried out in Spring 2016 when conditions are suitable for sowing grass seed. It was agreed that the width of the track should be one cars width with parking for 2 cars, one behind the other. Once this has been agreed the Parish Council will contact Northumberland County Council for their agreement. **Action: RB to advise Matfen Estates.**
- b) **PLAY AREA – INGOE.** A number of residents had contacted the Parish Council both for and against the proposed play area in Ingoe. The whole plan will be revisited after a meeting with the residents on site on 6 February 2016 at 10.30am.
- c) **INGOE GRASS VERGES AND VILLAGE GREEN.** Email received requesting protection of the vulnerable corners on the village green and also the fork on the road in the middle of Ingoe due to the number of delivery vehicles churning up the grass. **Action: RD to contact the resident involved.**

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- 0694. APPOINTMENT OF CLERK.** It was noted that interviews would be held on Monday 14th December from 10.00am. Mrs Senior to contact the applicants to arrange.
- 0695. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR.** Cllr J Telford has resigned from the Parish Council and therefore there is one vacancy. A resident of Ingoe had expressed an interest. **Action: RB to contact the resident.**
- 0696. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting is to be held on Monday 25th January 2016 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed as an accurate record _____Chairman