

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Matfen Village Hall on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Present:** Mrs S Greaves, Chair of the Council together with Mr Frank Robson and Kevin George

**In attendance:** Mrs Mandy Senior (Clerk)  
3 residents

### 0923.01 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS IN RELATION TO MATFEN PARISH.

- a) **Ryal Issues.** Residents of Ryal attended the meeting to give an update on the issues with the unauthorised compound. The application for the Certificate of Lawful Development has been refused. The applicant has 6 months in which to appeal. Northumberland Council County considered that insufficient evidence has been submitted to conclude the operations on site have been carried out in excess of 10 years prior to the date of the submission of the certificate of lawfulness application. A further discussion took place over the application by Northern Powergrid to replace several spans of open wire which would include connecting electricity to the compound. It is unclear if this installation will now go ahead as the Certificate of Lawful Development has now been refused. The Parish Council AGREED to email the Planning Enforcement Officer supporting the objections of the residents in Ryal to the application.

0923.02 **APOLOGIES** received from Cllrs J Dempsey and J Barber and County Councillor Mrs V Jones.

0923.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

0923.04 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023.** It was proposed by Cllr F Robson, seconded by Cllr K George and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.

0923.05 **ACTIONS TAKEN FOLLOWING THE MEETINGS HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023.** None

0923.06 **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL ONE VACANCY.** Deferred to the November meeting.

0923.07 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting however sent the following report.

- a) **Local Transport Plan.** 30mph for Fenwick is progressing well and there are no issues with signage etc. Standing Stones was due for final completion on 21 September 2023. Matfen Piers – a site visit was planned for early September.
- b) **Fix My Street.** The new app/website 'Fix My Street' has been very successful and residents are being encouraged to use it as there is a much better monitoring process and reports go back directly to the person reporting.
- c) **Fly Tipping.** Northumberland County Council is robust on prosecuting where there is identification. This can also be reported via 'Fix My Street'.
- d) **Bus Route 74.** Bus drivers from the Hexham depot will be striking from Saturday 30 September to Friday 6 October 2023.

### 0923.08 FINANCE

- a) **Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr F Robson, seconded by Cllr K George and AGREED accounts on the list attached be paid.
- b) **To consider request from Matfen PCC for financial support towards repairs to the churchyard.** It was AGREED to make a contribution of £500 towards the repairs to the churchyard.
- c) **To consider financial support to Sport Tynedale and Citizens Advice.** It was AGREED to make a contribution of £100 to Sport Tynedale and £100 to Citizens Advice.

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Payee	Detail	Cheque Issued	VAT	Net of VAT	Cheque Number
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	520.32		520.32	BACS
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	130.00		130.00	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Play area inspections	75.00		75.00	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Postages/travel	78.00		78.00	BACS
Matfen Village Hall	Hall rent – September	15.00		15.00	BACS
Matfen Cricket Club	Grass cutting – play area	60.00		60.00	BACS
Matfen Cricket Club	Grass cutting – play area	60.00		60.00	BACS
L Paterson	Public toilet cleaning July 23	37.50		37.50	BACS
L Paterson	Public toilet cleaning August 23	62.50		62.50	BACS
Matfen Cricket Club	Grass cutting – play area	60.00		60.00	BACS
Sport Tynedale	Grant aid	100.00		100.00	BACS
Citizens Advice Nland	Grant aid	100.00		100.00	BACS
PCC of Matfen	Grant aid	500.00		500.00	BACS
<b>Income</b>					
Northumberland CC	Precept Payment	6000.00		6000.00	08.09.23

0923.09 **CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the July meeting had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all councillors.

- a) NALC – weekly eNews
- b) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive’s Monthly Bulletins
- c) Community Action Northumberland – monthly CAN eNews
- d) Northumberland County Council – Free tree scheme
- e) Northumberland County Council – Climate Change Newsletter

0923.10 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

Reference Number	Address	Description
23/02866/VARYCO	Land to North of Kearsley Farm, Ingoe	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 22/03990/FUL to allow an increase to the eaves height by 300mm to the living section of the dwelling and alteration of the facing material of the living section of the building to a natural stone cladding.

0923.11 **VILLAGE ISSUES AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS.**

- a) Northumberland County Council Free Tree Scheme. It was AGREED to order the native harvest pack for planting in Matfen and Ingoe. The clerk will arrange.
- b) Complaints from neighbouring Parish Councils regarding Airport Noise. Cllr J Dempsey, although unable to attend the meeting, had given a detailed summary of airport operations and the fact that the flight path corridors have not changed in at least the last six years. It was AGREED that aircraft noise does not pose a problem to residents in Matfen Parish and therefore the Parish Council would not be supporting the objection of the neighbouring Parish Council.

0923.12 **TO DISCUSS THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE TORNADO AIR CREW WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN PLAN CRASHES IN THE LAST 45 YEARS INCLUDING THE CRASH AT INGOE IN 1999.** An email had been received from Martin Wintermeyer, an RAF Tornado navigator who is undertaking memorial activities to remember Tornado aircrew that were killed in the last 45 years. Two of these crew were killed in a crash near Kirkheaton on 14 October 1999. It is hoped that a memorial can be installed near the site and the gentleman had been in touch

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with the landowners who are happy to explore this possibility to find a suitably accessible site to install a memorial. It was AGREED to contact Mr Wintermeyer and offer the support of Matfen Parish Council in any way we can.

0923.13 **CONCERNS OVER THE CLOSURE OF THE BLACK BULL, MATFEN.** Numerous concerns had been raised by residents over the closure of the Black Bull. The Black Bull had been registered in July 2013 as an asset of Community Value however this had now expired. It was AGREED to complete the application form to re-register the Black Bull as an asset of community value.

0923.14 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.00pm in Matfen Village Hall.

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