

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MATFEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 AT 7.00PM IN MATFEN VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cllr K Mavin, Chairman of the Council together with Cllrs F Robson, S Greaves and J Dempsey

**Also present:** Mrs Mandy Senior, Clerk to the Council

0323.01 **Apologies for absence** received and accepted from Cllr J Barber and K George.

0323.02 **Declarations of Interest.** None.

0323.03 **Residents** present raised the following matter and where relevant they are listed together with the actions that will be taken, if required. In due course, if necessary, reports will be made back to the Council.

- a) Ryal village. Two Ryal residents attended the meeting regarding the field North of Ryal Church. Planning Enforcement have been notified of the various activities being carried out onsite, however it was felt that a site meeting would be beneficial. Further works have been carried out onsite which further suggests that the area is to be used as a glamping site. The residents will contact the Enforcement Officer to request a site meeting and the Clerk will also contact him for an update and to request the same.

0323.04 **County Councillors Report.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones was unable to attend.

0323.05 **Minutes** of the meeting held on **31<sup>st</sup> January 2023** were approved and signed as an accurate record.

0323.06 **Actions taken** following the meeting held on **31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.**

- a) **Ingoe potholes.** Cllr S Greaves advised that NCC had filled the potholes which had been marked up.
- b) **Community Plan.** Unfortunately, we had missed the deadline for the Northern Powergrid funding however Cllr K Mavin had applied through a new funding stream via CAN. An application had been submitted on behalf of the Village Hall for £1000. There is a funding day in Stannington Village Hall on 11 April 2023. Cllr K Mavin and Rachael Dempsey from the Village Hall are to attend to gain further information/help in applying to the Lottery Fund to update the toilets and purchase a generator.
- c) **EV Charging Points.** There had been no response from residents regarding the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Points in Matfen Village. No further action will be taken.

0123.07 **Finance/Administration**

- a) **Accounts for payment.** The accounts for payment were approved for payment, having been previously circulated.

Payee	Details	Gross payment	VAT	Net Payment	Payment method
Netwise UK Ltd	Website hosting package	396.00	66.00	330.00	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	572.52		572.52	BACS
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	130.00		130.00	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Postages/travel expenses	207.63		207.63	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Play area inspections	75.00		75.00	BACS
Matfen Village Hall	Hall rent – March 2023	15.00		15.00	BACS
AJGIBL	Insurance renewal	575.82		575.82	BACS
East Tynedale Community Forum	Contribution towards running costs 2023-2024	30.00		30.00	BACS
L Paterson	Public toilet cleaning Jan/Feb	100.00		100.00	BACS
Unity Trust bank	Bank account charges	18.00		18.00	DD
ICO	Data protection registration fee	35.00		35.00	DD

**MATFEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Ward 1 – Fenwick, Ingoe, Ryal. Ward 2 - Matfen**

Income					
HMRC VTR	VAT refund	135.51		135.51	22.03.23
Unity Trust Bank	Bank account interest	35.09		35.09	31.03.23

- b) To consider signing up to the Civility and Respect Pledge including adoption of the updated Model Code of Conduct and Dignity at Work Policy. After discussion it was AGREED to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge and adopt the updated Model Code of Conduct and Dignity at Work Policy.

0323.08 **Correspondence and information items.** All correspondence since the January meeting had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all Councillors.

- a) Matfen Hall – Rights of Way. Email received from a resident expressing concerns regarding access through the hotel grounds. Matfen Hall owners have restricted access through the hotel grounds since they took over. This had been discussed previously by the Parish Council and Cllr K Mavin had met with the new owners last year to discuss the situation. Unfortunately, as this is private land the owners are entitled to restrict access to hotel guests only. He also expressed concerns that several trees had been sprayed with orange paint, perhaps indicating that they are to be felled. As this is private land, it is a matter for the landowner. Cllr K Mavin is to contact the resident to discuss.
- b) Northumberland Association of Local Councils – Weekly eNews  
c) Community Action Northumberland – Monthly CAN eNews  
d) National Association of Local Councils – Weekly Chief Executive Bulletins  
e) North of Tyne Combined Authority. No NTCA Precept on Council Tax.  
f) Northumberland County Council. Climate Change Newsletter  
g) Northumberland County Council Climate Change Team – Carbon Literacy Project Webinar – Toolkit Course.

0323.09 **Planning Applications.** It was AGREED to accept the details of the Planning Applications and decisions made by Northumberland County Council in accordance with the list circulated.

Reference No:	Address	Description
22/04253/LBC 22/04252/FUL	Farm buildings, Fenwick Towers, Fenwick	Listed building consent for conversion of barn to residential accommodation with small extension. <b>WITHDRAWN</b>
22/03990/FUL	Land to North of Kearsley Farm, Ingoe	Conversion of former poultry building to create 3 no dwellings, 3 no sewage treatment plants and access tracks. <b>GRANTED</b>
22/03471/VARYCO 22/03473/VARYCO	Matfen Hall, Matfen	Variation of condition 2 on approved application 22/00432/LBC & 22/00431/FUL in order to use amended drawing numbers which reflect design improvements and therefore an optimum solution for development (Amended description 20/10/2022) <b>GRANTED</b>
23/00926/FUL	Matfen Piers, Corbridge	Installation of biomass boiler to enclosure rear of barn
21/01328/FUL	Fenwick Towers Cottage, Fenwick	Detached garage, gym and bedroom suite with glazed link. <b>WITHDRAWN</b>

0323.10 **Village Issues and Highways Matters**

- a) **To consider response to Fenwick 30mph consultation.** As the Parish Council had requested the 30mph limit to be included in the 2023-24 Local Transport Plan Programme, no further response is required. A letter had been sent to the properties in Fenwick that will be affected.

- b) **To consider planting a tree for the King's Coronation.** The Village Hall had signed up for the Coronation Big Lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> May. A tree will be planted at the start of event. It was AGREED to plant a native species tree on the village green to commemorate the King's Coronation. Advice will be sought from Liz Bishop as to the species of tree to plant and permission to plant the tree on the village green will be sought from Matfen Estates.

0323.11 **Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.00pm in Matfen Village Hall.