

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Matfen Village Hall on
 Tuesday 25th July 2023**

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

In attendance: Mrs Mandy Senior (Clerk)
 3 residents

0723.01 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 landowner has now applied for a Certificate of Lawful Development, Existing use of whole site as storage yard at Land North of all Saints Church, Ryal. Residents of Ryal have submitted evidence to Northumberland County Council that the compound has not been in use for 10 years. Northumberland County Council will determine if the evidence can be proved. It was noted that a planning application had been submitted by Northern Powergrid for the proposed replacement of several spans of open wire overhead line at Land North of All Saints Church, Ryal which will feed various houses and also access to the compound. It was agreed to contact Northumberland County Council to report the burning of various rubbish on the site.
- b) **Woodland Creation Scheme.** The Parish Council had received a woodland creation proposal for Matfen Estates. The proposal involves planted approximately six hectares of broadleaf woodland in two locations in the Matfen Parish. The grid reference for the larger site is NZ 042 709. These new woodlands will be created in line with UK Forestry Standard requirements.

0723.02 **APOLOGIES** received from County Councillor Mrs V Jones.

0723.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

0723.04 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30th MAY 2023.** It was proposed by Cllr F Robson, seconded by Cllr J Dempsey and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.

0723.05 **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL ONE VACANCY.** Deferred to the September meeting.

0723.06 ACTIONS TAKEN FOLLOWING THE MEETINGS HELD ON 30th MAY 2023.

- a) Wildlife camera. Minute 0523.14a refers. The Parish Council is still to purchase a camera for monitoring dog fouling on the Sports Field. A suitable camera will be purchased in due course.

0723.07 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.

Payee	Detail	Cheque Issued	VAT	Net of VAT	Cheque Number
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	520.52		520.52	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	118.30		118.30	BACS
Matfen Village Hall	Hall rent – July	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
Unity Trust Bank	Bank account charges	18.00		18.00	DD
Matfen Cricket Club	Grass cutting – play area	60.00		60.00	BACS
J C Accountants	Internal audit fee	42.00	7.00	35.00	BACS
Playsafety Ltd	Annual play area inspection	180.00	30.00	150.00	BACS
Income					
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Account interest	34.28		34.28	30.06.23

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

0723.08 **CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the May 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) Galbraith – Woodland Creation Proposal, Matfen

0723.09 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

Reference Number	Address	Description
22/04644/FUL	Mootlaw Farm, Ryal	Conversion of existing barn into one two-bedroom dwelling house with associated amenity space. GRANTED
23/02030/FUL	Land Southeast of the Courtyard, Matfen	Proposed erection of holiday dwelling with associated access and residential garden

0723.10 **VILLAGE ISSUES AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS.**

- a) Post Office Van. An email had been received from Slaley Parish Council regarding the unreliability of the Post Office Van. Although the van had not visited Matfen for several weeks due to the van being off the road, an email had been received to advise.
- b) Jubilee Garden Hedge. Cllr Mrs S Greaves had met with Matfen Estates Manager to discuss the cutting back of the hedge. This had been carried out and it was agreed that the hedge would be cut back in Spring 2024.

0723.11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7.00pm in Matfen Village Hall.

Signed as an accurate record _____