

## 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 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Stuart Mills (Chairman), Mr Keith Irving (Vice Chairman), Mr Frank Robson & Mrs Ann Gregory-Smith

**In Attendance:** County Councillor Mrs Veronica Jones & Jo Bramley (Clerk)

Mr & Mrs Kelly (Ryal residents)

Mr Bathurst (Matfen resident)

Mrs Mills (Matfen resident)

**0878. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr Chris Austin & Mr Hugh Murphy

**0879. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** None.

**0880. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018.** It was proposed by Mr S Mills, seconded by Mr K Irving and AGREED to accept the minutes as an accurate record.

**0881. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.**

- a) **ROADS.** There is a lot being done. Burnside Road has had some repair and is better. Rural roads have really suffered through lack of money. Trying to rectify the problem but bad weather delayed the work. Roads between Ryal and Great Whittington have had big patches repaired.
- b) **CONSULTATION ON SCHOOLS.** This is now going out for formal consultation in the Corbridge area.
- c) **POST 16 TRANSPORT.** Transport for teenagers to travel to school in this area is now free.
- d) **GREAT NORTHUMBERLAND EXHIBITION.** Free entertainment across Northumberland runs for 56 days from 7 July. See Northumberland County Council website for details on events.

**0882. MATTERS ARISING**

- a) **TRAVELLERS.** Mr Bathurst raised the issue of the travellers and their use of the green. He has no issue with travellers, just the use of the green. Mr Bathurst feels that a village green is not suited for this purpose particularly as it is a central point of the village that is surrounded by houses and a place for children and residents to use and enjoy. Can the travellers be placed somewhere else? Mr Bathurst feels that the Liaison Officer should enforce no use of the village green. Mr Mills has spoken to the Liaison Officer and the summary of his conversation is that the travellers don't have to talk to the Liaison Officer and tell him what or where they are planning to do. Mr McDonald happened to hear that they would come to Matfen and they will be here for 2 nights. The travellers have found that Matfen is en-route to Appleby; it is an easier journey for their horses and they like it here. There are 2 courses of action, one is a court order to have them evicted from the land which can take 4 days to a week the other is an injunction that you can get prior to them coming and it has to be served on an individual not a caravan. The travellers were looking at trying to rent a field for the horses but that doesn't mean they would park their vans on the green. The Parish Council will keep the lines of communication with the Liaison Officer what the feedback and feelings of some of the residents are. The Liaison Officer is communicating with Matfen Estates and the travellers throughout the year but Mr Mills made it clear that the travellers don't have to communicate and tell the Liaison Officer anything. The Liaison Officer can only suggest, not enforce the travellers to stay at alternative sites. Mr Mills also mentioned the option to block off the green completely would need the landowners approval and could result in the travellers forcing their way through it. Mr Bathurst is concerned that the numbers will grow each year. The Parish Council will feedback to the Liaison Officer that some of the villagers were disappointed in the fact that the travellers have come back and are on the village green. Mr Mills to keep the balance feels that the camp is very tidy, for now.
- b) **NOTICE BOARDS.** Notice boards have been ordered.
- c) **LAND TO THE EAST OF RYAL CHURCH.** Mr Kelly raised the planning application refusal and thanked the Parish Council for their assistance. Mr Murphy will continue to watch progress on this matter and to give feedback when he has any updates. Mr Kelly has spoken to Mr Murphy regarding the other piece of land (the horizon) and Mr Murphy is waiting to hear back from the council about this. Mr Kelly felt NCC have been very slow in progressing these issues and hopes that the Parish Council will continue to assist to help keep them from being forgotten.
- d) **DOG ISSUE AT RYAL.** Mr Kelly raised the dog issue they are having in Ryal. There are two dogs roaming around the village, one belongs to Mr Kelly's next-door neighbour and the other probably belongs to Mr Morrison's friend, Roger. The dogs are chasing cars and have got into the field and are chasing the sheep. County Cllr V Jones informed Mr Kelly to contact the police about the sheep worrying. **Action: Clerk to contact the dog warden.**
- e) **MATFEN PLAYGROUND.** Will look into getting together a plan of what is needed/wanted, funding from Community Chest and/or Capitol Money. **Action: A Gregory-Smith to forward Komplan details to Hannah & S Mills to discuss with Hannah.**

**0883. FINANCE**

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Mr S Mills, seconded by Mr F Robson and AGREED accounts on the list attached be paid.

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Payee	Detail	Cheque Issued	VAT	Net of VAT	Cheque Number
Matfen Village Hall	Rental – May 2018	10.00		10.00	100970
Miss J M Bramley	Clerical Services	425.01		425.01	100971
Miss J m Bramley	Expenses	149.65	22.99	126.66	100972
NALC	Subscription 2018/19	131.81		131.81	100973

**0884. CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the March 2018 meeting had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all councillors.

**0885. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

All outstanding planning applications are listed on each agenda.

Planning Application Reports				
Reference	Applicant	Address	Description	Decision
17/02737/COU	Mr Les Morrison	2 North Side, Ryal	Retrospective change of use from agricultural land to storage area for agricultural machinery & the formation of a soil bund.	REFUSED
18/00620/FUL	Mrs J Troidahl	Land West of Grey Stones, Waldrige Cottages, Ingoe	Erection of single dwelling with associated access & residential curtilage.	REFUSED
18/01449/FUL	Mr And Mrs I & L Andreyeva	1 Fenwick Cottages, Fenwick	Proposed single and two-storey extension to existing cottage.	Awaiting decision
18/01476/FUL	Mr Andrew Kane	South Fens Cottage, Fenwick	Replacement of existing outbuilding with new larger single storey outbuilding.	Comments by 30 May 2018
18/01501/FUL	Mr & Mrs Dawson	11 East Close, Matfen	Extension adjacent to garage to create lobby/utility area, removal of windows and creation of new external doorways to improve the relationship of garden with kitchen/ dining space, improve internal layout and convert garage into reception room. Erection of a detached double garage.	Comments by 8 June 2018

**0886. VILLAGE ISSUES.**

- a) **INGOE STREET LIGHTING.** Minute 851a refers.
- b) **MATFEN VILLAGE GREEN.** Action: Mr K Irving to ask P Dixon to mend patch on village green before 7 July.
- c) **BONFIRE NIGHT EVENT.** Mr K Irving stated that he would not be assisting in the organising of the Bonfire event this year. He felt sad that no thank you letters had been sent to the people that had supported the event last year.
- d) **MISSING DRAIN COVER IN MATFEN.** Action: County Cllr V Jones to action replacement.
- e) **MATFEN PIERS JUNCTION.** Mr S Mills raised the issue of the sign at this junction is still in the hedge after an accident in the bad weather in March. Action: County Cllr V Jones to action replacement.
- f) **DAMAGED SIGN POST, MATFEN:** Mrs A Gregory-Smith requested that the signpost on entering village be replaced entirely. The post is rusting and the sign keeps falling off. Action: County Cllr V Jones to organise replacement.
- g) **MATFEN LAMPPOSTS.** The lampposts are covered in algae & are looking unsightly. Who cleans/maintains them? There is also concern that the old streetlights in the village could be replaced with the street lighting upgrade that is taking place. Action: County Cllr V Jones to contact neighbourhood services & enquire about street lighting replacements.

**0887. ANY URGENT BUSINESS.**

- a) **RYAL, INGOE & MATFEN VERGES.** Action: K Irving to ask Philip Dixon to give a quote to tidy up Matfen verges & Mr F Robson will look at Ryal verges.

**0888. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

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