

Matterdale School Foundation

A meeting of Matterdale Parish Council as trustee of the above took place on **Monday 9th January 2023**, after the Matterdale Parish Council meeting that evening.

Present: Cllr. McAlpine (in the Chair), Cllrs Lloyd, Dobinson, Mrs Wilson, Harrison, Shaw, Firth, Mrs Gore, Mrs Beaumont and Mrs Bray. **In attendance:** the Charity's Clerk, Mr Brown and Mr. Phillips as Clerk to the Parish Council. 1. **Apologies accepted:** Cllr Holder.

2. The **Minutes of the meeting on 14th November 2022** were approved as circulated and signed as a true record.

3. Cllrs. Gore and Bray **declared** their **interest** as trustees of Matterdale Community Association; also Cllrs McAlpine and Harrison as members of Matterdale PCC.

4. Matters Arising: Proposed Housing by the Knotts, Matterdale

There remains a national problem concerned with the **directive on nutrient neutrality** (one reported estimate suggests that c100k new houses are held up while the problems created by the direction introduced in about March 2022 are addressed). Mr Brown spoke to Mr Winter on 19th December 2022; Mr Winter is in touch with Mr Martin Fawcett; he was due to pass to Mr Fawcett that night the documents Mr Fawcett requires (believed to include the details of the proposed drainage arrangements submitted for planning approval) and expected to be able to meet Mr Fawcett on site early in 2023.

Mr Brown had rung Mr Winter earlier in the day to ask if the meeting has been arranged and in general what progress has been made towards finding the charity a solution but had as yet had no response. Mr Winter believes that LDNA will have extra money to provide staff time aimed at resolving the various problems the nutrient neutrality directions have caused to the planning process in the National Park. The suggestion that planning consent should be issued, with the means of compliance a reserved matter is, Mr Winter, had said "not welcome".

It was reported that Matterdale Parish Council is encountering similar problems and the Clerk was asked to contact Maddie Teasdale to see if the Matterdale Parish Council are anywhere near finding a solution. Tree planting recently carried out elsewhere in the Parish area might lead to a solution, it was suggested.

Evidence of the numbers of sheep who grazed the Knotts site would not be on record, the Clerk believes.

5. Finance

5.1 Mr Brown reported that the **balances** were £901.23 at Nationwide Building Society (Notice to withdraw the balance has been given to expire on 20th March 2023), £10,259.51

at Cumberland Building Society (deposit account) and £4,884.63 in the current account there. The closing balances at Skipton Building Society and Penrith Building Society have been transferred into this account.

5.2 Investments via the Flagstone platform (excluding any interest added) were as follows:- Cambridge & Counties Bank Ltd £73,893.64, Santander International £73,893.64, First Global/BFC Bank £73,893.64 (notice to close these three investments has been given to expire 23rd February 2023 with a view to reinvestment at better rates of interest, 4% for a 12 month term and 4.22% for a 18 month term being currently available)

Since the last meeting, £80,000 has been placed with Hampshire Trust at 4.46% on a 12 month term and £78,073.76 with Aldermore Trust on a 12 month term at 4.45%.

6. New Education/Community Building and other community provision

The Chairman tabled his report, as attached. He will make a short report for publication in the Matterdale section of "Ullswater Together".

He, with Cllr Gore and the Clerk, had met on 21st December 2022 to review what might be possible alternatives to the building designed by 2030 Architects. The Clerk was asked to follow up Jane Newport's suggestion by meeting with Matthew Nielsen of Greystoke Design and Build. He had contacted Mr Nielsen and, as asked, had supplied to Mr Nielsen the planning reference for the permitted building. Mr Nielsen had asked for Mr Bushell's costing for that building; the Clerk had not yet got a meeting date agreed but hoped that Messrs McAlpine, Gore and he could meet Mr Nielsen to provide him with a preliminary explanation of our requirements and to see if a suitable design could be provided within the cash available. If there was some hope that Mr Nielsen's firm might be able to provide this, then the Clerk would hope to invite Mr Nielsen to make a presentation to the full Council (perhaps at its March meeting).

There might be scope for a much less expensive building, which would open the way for part of the cash held by the charity to be used as a fund to provide grants for education. It was agreed that a good deal of further discussion on this aspect would be needed at a later date. Cllr Beaumont reported that various small education funds operating locally were seeking to join forces.

7. Correspondence or other business

The Clerk has applied to **Eden Community Fund** for the balance (£1,500) of the grant towards the feasibility study for the proposed new Education/Community Centre.

8. Next meeting: 6th March 2023 following the Parish Council meeting at Matterdale School Room.

D. L. Brown