

Matterdale Parish Council

Draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting which took place on **Monday 17th May 2021** at Watermillock VillageHall .

Present: Cllrs Lloyd (in the chair), McAlpine, Shaw, Crofts, Mrs Beaumont, Firth, Holder, Mrs Gore (from item 14 of the Parish Council Agenda), Harrison, Mrs Bray, Mrs Wilson and Mr Dobinson. **In attendance:** Mr B Clark and the Clerk, Mr Brown.

Annual Parish Meeting

1. No **apologies** had been received.
2. There had been no Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 (so no **minutes** required).

3. Matterdale School Foundation- Clerk's report

3.1 New Education/Community Building.

The planning consent for development of the Recreation Field had been granted and 2030 Architects instructed to progress the detailed design work; tenders were expected to be sought later in 2021. Some fundraising would be required to fund what is proposed.

3.2 Land adjacent to the Knotts, Matterdale.

The further information required by LDNPA had been furnished and a decision on the application to build four new homes was anticipated in the short term.

3.3 Thanks were due, to the steering committee in particular, for all Councillors' work over several years on both these projects.

4. Parish Council-Chairman's report

Cllr Lloyd reported that there had been **three vacancies filled** in the past twelve months: the Council had welcomed Emma Bray, David Harrison and Claire Beaumont.

The Council had worked very hard during the year and Councillors had given their time to be involved in many initiatives. The number of **planning applications** considered and the work of the steering group had added to the work load, for which **he thanked all Councillors** who had played their part. **He thanked the Clerk** also for his work during a very difficult year for Council administration due to Covid-19.

5. There was **no other business**.

Annual Parish Council meeting.

1. There were **no apologies** to record.
2. There were no changes to Councillors' **declaration of interests**.
3. **Cllr Lloyd was re-elected Chairman.**
4. **Cllr Crofts was re-elected Vice-Chairman.**
5. **Mr Brown was re-appointed as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.** His pay was fixed at £15 per hour. He is expected to require 10 hours a month on Council duties and 10 hours a month as Clerk of Matterdale School Foundation. It was agreed to review his work load later in the year, as he expects that in 2021/22 the hours required may exceed the total of 20 hours owing to the impact of the new Education/Community Building on his working time.
6. **Planning committees** were appointed: for the Watermillock area, Cllrs Lloyd (in the chair), Shaw, Mrs Beaumont, Firth, Holder and Mr Dobinson; for the Matterdale area Cllrs McAlpine, Gore (in the Chair), Crofts, Harrison, Bray and Wilson.

As the Accounts were in course of preparation and owing to the length of the agenda items **7-13 inclusive and item 15 on the Agenda were deferred** to a subsequent date.

14. It was agreed to amend the contribution required in dealing with any **Freedom of Information Act** requirements from £5 per hour to £15 per hour.
16. The **minutes** of the Parish Council meeting on 12th April 2021 were approved and signed as a true record.
17. **Matters arising**
 - 17.1 It was agreed that Eden District Council consent should be sought to enable the **grant** of £5,000 paid to the Council in 2013 to be used to assist the funding of the new Education/Community building.
 - 17.2 The Clerk is to remind Mr Trelease that **new fence posts and wiring** are required at **Dockray Village Green**.
 - 17.3 Cllr Harrison will press the stint owners of **Matterdale Common** to re-instate the posts marking the recreation area; he may need to find out from archives at Carlise where the ten posts were previously.
 - 17.4 The Clerk has provided notices deterring **dog fouling** to Matterdale Councillors for display at and on the minor road out of Dockray.

17.5 Cllr Firth asked the Council to approve his proposal that safety at Stybarrow Crag should be accepted as the no1 priority for use of the £7.44m fund available for work on **A592 safety**. This was agreed.

17.6 The Clerk reported that the **two orienteering events** in May would bring in a total of £165 for use of the Recreation Field. Mr M Potter had expressed concern that the event might have affected his stock, as he had not been warned about the Borderliners event.

18. Finance

The Clerk reported that the **current balances** were HSBC Bank plc £5,050.04cr and Skipton Building Society £66,362.86.

Expenditure was approved: to CALC for the annual subscription £150.00, to Watermillock Village Hall for meeting fees £48.00, to BHIB Insurance for the insurance renewal £277.17 and to CALC for the annual subscription to Local Council Review £17.00.

19. Planning.

19.1 Watermillock Planning Committee members had attended at **Wreay Mansions** at the request of Ms S Bunting for a pre-application site meeting. That had prompted c15 objectors, who owned part of Wreay Mansions (or Wreay Lodge), to contact the Clerk to put their case against any housing on the former tennis court there (one of them also raising questions of the Clerk under the Freedom of Information Act 2000).

The objectors had been given the opportunity of a Zoom meeting with the committee immediately following the site meeting, at which their spokesman put to the Council the substance of the objections.

In view of the substance of the objections, in particular the proposed development's impact on the landscape, the Clerk had asked the applicant to arrange a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and a computerised representation of how the proposed housing (one dwelling for Ms Bunting and family and one affordable home on the site) would appear in context.

The Council were assured that the committee had expressed no opinion on the merits of the application; that had been made clear to both sides. The Clerk was asked to add to a future Council agenda the question of whether pre-application site meetings should be arranged if on a future occasion an applicant sought such a meeting.

19.2 The Clerk reported on report on various **Planning Applications (all 7/2021)** namely :-

Matterdale Planning Committee:-

3078 **New School (aka Hope Springs), Matterdale-** application for amended access door for the proposed ancillary office and studio building: no objection.

3033 **Hollin House, Dockray-**rear extension: no objection.

3043 **Finkle Laithe, Matterdale End-** extension at rear: objection lodged.

3036 **Dodds Lea, Dockray-**garage conversion: objection lodged.

Watermillock Planning Committee:-

3031 **Land south of Bennett Head-**new agricultural buildings: objection lodged.

3042 **Fellside Knotts, Watermillock-**modifications to existing house: no objection.

20. Highways

No issues were raised

21. Training opportunities

Councillors were referred to the CALC website; Cllr Harrison is to attend a course on planning matters.

22. and 23. Items re **Internal Audit** adjourned.

24. Correspondence and Other Business

24.1 Cllr Shaw had raised with LDNPA the work done to **trees** adjacent to the highway north of Bennett Head. The complaint was reckless tree surgery to a number of trees there. He had been informed that a tree preservation order could not be made and LDNPA were unable to take any action.

24.2 Mr C Gaskell has offered to repair **Parish bench seats** on Folly Lane and beside the road on the bend above Watermillock Church. He will not charge for his time but asked £150 to reimburse him for the cost of materials. This offer was gratefully agreed.

24.3 It was agreed not to allow **a link re Universal Credit on the Council website.**

24.4 The Clerk reminded Councillors that the government **consultation on rural broadband** closes on 11th June 2021.

24. 5 Matterdale Community Association had asked permission to use the Recreation Field for a **village event on the weekend of 10/11 July 2021**. It would arrange event insurance. Cllr Gore was advised that the Council had no objection.

25. Future **meeting dates** were agreed as follows:-26th May for items adjourned as above and 5/7/21 (both 7.00pm at Watermillock Village Hall).

D. L. Brown