

## Matterdale Parish Council

Draft minutes of the meeting which took place at 7.00pm on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022** in Matterdale Church Room.

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs Gore (in the chair), Lloyd, McAlpine, Holder, Harrison, Crofts, Mrs Bray, Mrs Beaumont, Mrs Wilson, Dobinson and Firth. **In attendance:** Eden District Cllr Mrs Derbyshire, the Clerk and County Cllr Hughes.

1. **Apologies accepted:** Cllr Shaw (away on holiday)

2. The **Minutes** of the meeting on **4<sup>th</sup> July 2022** were approved as circulated (but amended, in the third paragraph of item 9, to delete “has been stifled by one of the landowners whose approval was crucial” and inserting “not possible at the present time”) and signed as a true record.

### **3. Exclusion of Press and requests for public participation/open forum**

3.1 No members of the press or public had sought to participate in the meeting.

3.2 There were no notified public questions relating to Parish Council business.

### **4. Declarations of interest by Councillors/ requests for dispensation.**

4.1 No Councillors needed to update their declaration.

4.2 None declared any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

4.3 None declared any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

4.4 The Clerk reported that no dispensation had been sought or granted.

### **5. Matters arising from previous minutes:-**

5.1 The Council had agreed to buy an “**Honesty Box**” inviting donations towards the maintenance of the Green from those using the car park by Dockray Green. Cllr Gore had pursued this but had second thoughts, as a report of vandalism elsewhere had reached her; it was agreed to review the principal of this proposal when mobile reception there would allow a QR code to be used and donations made other than in cash,

5.2 The **footpath between Dockray and Matterdale Church** has been cleared of overgrowing vegetation; the **collapse by A592** reported at the last meeting is now protected by a warning barrier.

5.3 **Ullswater Together for Oct/Nov 2022** is likely to be produced and distributed in the Parish before the next meeting. The Clerk has taken on responsibility for the Watermillock news and Cllr Bray for Matterdale news.

5.4 The **Recreation Field** will be used as a car park for **the Orienteering Event on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022**; neighbouring graziers have been informed.

5.5 The Clerk still awaits response from Mr P Harrison to the draft **grazing licence** for the **Troutbeck** land sent to him (and the agreed fee); he will chase Mr Harrison. The availability of grazing on Council land at Troutbeck, Rushmire and the Recreation Ground for 2023 is to remain noted on the Council website.

5.6 **A592 closures** from now until 23<sup>rd</sup> December are likely to inconvenience many residents and businesses but the proposed closing of sections of the road from 8am to 5pm are particularly troubling in relation to Glenridding surgery and Patterdale school. The outcome of consultations last week is not yet clear. The Clerk was asked to raise the Council's concerns with the contractors.

5.7 **Dockray Village Green** has been cut already but not on the Council's instructions. Local opinions differ as to whether to let the grass grow uncut during the period of summer growth as intended in 2022. The policy will need to be reviewed in early 2023; in the meantime the Council's control of the Green will need to be reasserted by an appropriate note in Ullswater Together. The fence having been cut (again without Council authority), work is required to stabilise the fencing (but access direct from the parking area should be maintained).

5.8 The grass by the Council **seat at Matterdale End** needs cutting; it is not clear if the area is Council owned.

5.9 Cllr Bray reminded the meeting that the **footpath near Greenrow and Greenbarn** had been wrongly diverted; the Clerk will need to press LDNPA for action.

## 6. Finance

6.1 The Clerk reported on the **state of the Council's accounts** (HSBC £7,587.87cr: Skipton Building Society £66,396.04).

6.2 The Council approved expenditure as follows:-£12.80 HSBC bank charges, £20.00 to Matterdale PCC for use of the meeting room, £112.46 for an advert in the Herald advert for a new Clerk, £576(PC) and £288(Recreation Fund) to the Clerk for his half year salary and £144 and £72 respectively for PAYE thereon, £58.80 to T W Relph & Sons Ltd for the new stop tap fitted in the Recreation Field and £500 to Judi Allen for SITU services.

6.3 Expenditure in the year to date in **comparison to the annual budget** for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 included repairs of £150 (budget £200) and £989.08 paid from the Recreation Fund for grass cutting and fencing at Dockray Green. Also the SITU payment (from the related grant) and the advert costs referred to above are outwith the 2022/23 budget.

7. The Clerk reported on **Planning matters**, including committee reports (7/2022 unless otherwise stated):-

3055 Windrush, Hutton John, annex to house-granted with conditions.

3044 Gowbarrow Old Hall, WM, refurbishment, infill extension and water treatment plant- and 3047 Gowbarrow Old Hall, WM, water treatment –granted.

3074 Lyulph’s Tower, WM, new windows-granted.

3101 Wreay Farmhouse, WM, revised proposals for alterations- to be referred to a special meeting of the Council.

3086 Tast Barn (formerly Fox Hill) referred to Matterdale Planning Committee.

3097 Ulcat Row Farm extension referred to Matterdale Planning Committee.

3106 Gillsrow House, Troutbeck alteration and extension referred to Matterdale Planning Committee.

## 8. Standing Orders

The updated **Standing Orders** to take account of April 2022 amendments to the NALC recommended form as circulated to Councillors were adopted with immediate effect.

## 9. New Clerk

The Clerk reported that Becx Carter had been interviewed and offered the position but had decided not to take it. **Mr Nick Phillips** (clerk to Kirkoswald and Hayton Parish Councils) had applied for the position. It was agreed that he be interviewed by Clls Gore, Holder and Firth and offered the position (subject to satisfactory references) if thought fit.

10. For **training opportunities** Councillors were referred to the CALC website.

## 11. SITU

Cllr Firth reported that the proposed “open road day” has been deferred to a date in March 2023.

## 12. Correspondence.

12.1 Mrs Helen Holland had asked for Council support for her **Ten Thousand Daffodils** project. If the funds can be raised to cover the cost of production of the proposed 10,000 daffodils (intended then for sale following display at Lowther Castle), it is intended that the sale proceeds benefit four charities. Cllr Bray declared an interest as Another Way is expected to be one of the four.

The Clerk advised that it would be unlawful to apply Parish Council funds to help finance the project (it would be ultra vires). The Council were happy to declare its support as a suitable community project; it was recommended that Mrs Holland apply to Crr Hughes who has discretion to apply £1,800 in County Council grants in his constituency. £300/£500 pounds is the amount of any grant usually, he said, but he advised early application. It was also felt that Cumbria Community Foundation may be able to provide a grant.

12.2 There was no objection to the proposed **Tree Preservation Order No 453 at Castlehow Close, Watermillock**, on which the Council had been consulted by LDNPA

13. **Other business**- it was agreed that a Council dinner be considered for March 2023, by which time the new clerk is expected to have been in place for nearly six months.

14. **Next meeting**-7.00pm on **14<sup>th</sup> November 2022** at **Watermillock Village Hall** was agreed.

D. L. Brown