

Mitford Parish Council

Draft Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday 1st July 2026

At 7.30pm in Mitford Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: M Sharp (Chairman)

Michael Jeans

Eric Dodd

Ted Rodger

Apologies: Dee Smith (Clerk)

Matt Skillen

Carole Burn

19/26 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

20/26 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Rodger declared a personal interest in agenda item 14:
Village Hall - Trustee

21/26 **Public Participation Time**

There were no public questions on this occasion.

22/26 **County Councillor Update**

There was no update on this occasion.

23/26 **Police Update**

There was no update on this occasion.

24/26 **Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2026**

Members were asked to approve the above minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of 20th May 2026, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the

Chairman.

25/26 Any matters Arising from Previous Council Meetings

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

26/26 Financial Matters

Members were asked to note the payments below. Members were also provided with a budget report up to 25th May 2026.

DATE	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT
01.03.26	Widescope	£252.00
08.03.26	G Christie – Feb 26	£75.00
15.03.26	March 2026 Clerk Salary & HMRC	£225.00
15.03.26	Clerk Travel Expenses 25/26	£36.00
11.04.26	G Christie – March 26	£154.00
11.04.26	M Davies - Flags	£38.96
19.04.26	April 2026 Clerk Salary & HMRC	£225.00
25.04.26	Widescope	£373.80
10.05.26	G Christie – April 26	£168.00
10.05.26	T Bell – Internal Audit 25/26	£70.00
15.05.26	May 2026 Clerk Salary & HMRC	£225.00
25.05.26	Zurich Insurance 26/27	£426.93

RESOLVED

a. Members noted the above payments and budgetary report up to 25th May 2026. It was also agreed to reallocate £3000 in the Warm Hub Resilience EMR towards the Village Hall generator enclosure.

Parish Issues(i) Land rear of Mitford allotment

Councillor Sharp advised members that a site visit with Eco North has been provisionally arranged for 13th July 2026. Eco North is interested in carrying out the design and support work for the willow spiling and have given a provisional price of £1k/metre. There are no other local suppliers with expertise in the area, therefore, Councillor Sharp will also look at national suppliers as well as speaking to Wallington Estate who have carried out willow spiling on their land.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

(ii) Piramel Bus Shelter

Councillor Jeans reported that the funding for the bus shelter has been approved. Northumberland County Council are in the process of finalising a grant funding agreement between themselves and the Parish Council. Costs of the bus shelter will be reimbursed upon completion of the work and submission of supporting evidence. Concerns were raised that due to the time it has taken for this process, the costs of the bus shelter may have risen.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

Town & Country Planning Act 1990

Members were asked to consider planning application 26/000421/PREAPP – N1 Golf Centre, Ponteland Road, Morpeth: Creation of a new 2-tiered driving range, new clubhouse building, including reception, administration place, equipment hire and food and beverage facilities and padel facilities.

RESOLVED

Members agreed the following comment:

Subject to the information available at this time, the lighting from the proposed development should not be overly obtrusive.

29/26

Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan Review

Members were advised at present, there are too many unknowns, including what will be included in Northumberland County Council's draft Local Plan and the definition of Green Belt.

Members also discussed the costs of the plan review.

RESOLVED

- a. Information duly noted.
- b. To allocate £750 provision for the Plan review. This will be a yearly provision for 3 years.

30/26

Highways

(i) Land Slippage B6343 (Abbey Mills)

Members were advised that Mitford Road should be reopened on or around 10th July 2026 and High House Road on 14th August 2026.

Hedge cutting and footpath repairs along High Ford and Abbey Mill will be carried out as part of the recommissioning. Hedge trimming along St Leonards Lane and Spital Hill will also take place at the same time.

The verges and potholes on the Mitford Steads Road need repairing along with the reinstatement of the speed calming measures on Spital Hill. These will be passed to the project team on site.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

(iii) Gateway Features

Members were advised that Northumberland County Council are currently working through the Traffic Regulation Order for extending the 30mph speed limit extension in Mitford village, and this will likely be in place after the summer. They anticipate the gateway feature work will be scheduled around this time.

Councillor Dodd advised that he is still awaiting a site meeting at Tranwell Woods regarding the proposed speed indicator device.

RESOLVED

- a. Information duly noted.

- b. To chase up Northumberland County Council regarding the site meeting at Tranwell Woods.

31/26 Village Hall

Councillor Rodger advised members that the AGM took place last week and there is a change of Chair. A number of sub committees have also been created.

The fridge in the village hall has been replaced, and discussions took place about creating a Warm Hub Community Plan. The use and interest of the hall have increased.

Discussions also took place about the village hall accounts.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

32/26 The Village Warden & Other Environmental Matters

There were no issues to discuss on this occasion.

33/26 The Parish Council Website

Members were advised that the website is working well and is up to date.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

34/26 Any Other Urgent Business

There was no other urgent business on this occasion.

35/26 Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 2nd September 2026, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

