

Mitford Parish Council

Draft Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 8th January 2026

At 7.30pm in Mitford Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: M Sharp (Chairman)
Michael Jeans
Eric Dodd
Carole Burn
Ted Rodger

Apologies: Dee Smith (Clerk)
Matt Skillen

76/25 Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

77/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

78/25 Public Participation Time

There were no public questions on this occasion.

79/25 County Councillor Update

There was no update on this occasion.

80/25 Police Update

There was no update on this occasion.

81/25 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th November 2025

Members were asked to approve the above minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of 6th November 2025, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved and signed as a correct

record by the Chairman.

82/25 Any matters Arising from Previous Council Meetings

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

83/25 Financial Matters

- a. Members were asked to approve the payments below. Members were also provided with a budget report up to 31st December 2025.

DATE	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT
07.11.25	G Christie October 25	266.00
16.11.25	November 25 Salary & HMRC - Clerk	£225.00
01.12.25	ICO – DPA registration 25/26	47.00
08.12.25	G Christie November 25	£133.00
17.12.25	December 25 Salary & HMRC - Clerk	£225.00

RESOLVED

Members approved the above payments.

- b. Precept 2026/2027

Members considered the precept for 2026/2027.

RESOLVED

To levy at precept of £9961.00 on Northumberland County Council for 2026/27, a rise of 3% on 2025/26.

84/25 Parish Issues

- (i) Land rear of Mitford allotment

Councillor Sharp advised members that he is still awaiting a response from the Environment Agency regarding permits and advice from the geomorphologist. The Environment Agency had previously advised that a group of trees growing out of the bank

immediately upstream could be pulled down into the river and pinned into place to break up the water, and this would not require permitting.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

(ii) Piramel Bus Shelter

There were no further updates on the bus shelter.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

Councillor Jeans to chase up with Northumberland County Council.

85/25 Town & Country Planning Act 1990

There were no planning applications on this occasion.

86/25 Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan Review

Members were advised that no further funding is available from central government, however the review will continue. Guidance has been requested from Northumberland County Council.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

87/25 Highways

(i) Speed Strips – Mitford Village

Councillor Sharp advised members that a speed survey has been requested and accepted by Highways.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

(ii) Land Slippage B6343 (Abbey Mills)

Members were advised that the potholes on Spital Hill are due to be filled on Saturday 10th January 2026. Highways have been

informed about the blocked gullies and drainage issues on the hill.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

(iii) Gateway Features

Councillor Sharp advised members that after a site meeting with Northumberland County Council, site placements have been agreed. Councillor Dodds advised that the gateway feature at Tranwell Woods has not been installed as agreed and the 30mph is in the incorrect place.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

Councillor Jeans to provide speed data for the next meeting in March 2026.

88/25

Village Hall

Members were advised that the hall continues to be active and funds are steady. The hall roof is not in a good condition and requires work.

A discussion took place regarding the operation of the present heating system in the village hall as it is often unreasonably cold.

The solar project work is to commence later in January.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

It was agreed that the parish council authorised the village hall to lease out the roof area of the hall to Northumberland Community Energy Limited (NCEL).

89/25

The Village Warden & Other Environmental Matters

Members discussed creating a plan for communicating actions should some sort of emergency occur in the parish.

RESOLVED

Councillors Sharp and Rodger to look at creating a parish plan.

90/25 The Parish Council Website

Members were advised that the website is working well with minutes of meetings being posted on the same day as received. New photographs are still required for the website.

Members were advised to activate their specific parish council email addresses as soon as possible.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

91/25 Any Other Urgent Business

Members were advised that a request has been received from the Morpeth Historical Society to site two benches, in memory of two of their past Chairmen, in Mitford.

92/25 Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th March 2026, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.