

**Mitford Parish Council**  
**Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**  
**At 7.30pm in Mitford Village Hall**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** M Sharp (Chairman)

Eric Dodd

Michael Jeans

Carole Burn

Matt Skillen

Ted Rodger

**Clerk:** Dee Smith

**Apologies:** None

Northumberland County Councillor Glen Sanderson was also present.

39/25      **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

40/25      **Declarations of Interest**

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

Councillor Skillen declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 (i):  
employed by Mitford Estates

41/25      **Public Participation Time**

There were no public questions on this occasion.

42/25      **County Councillor Update**

Councillor Glen Sanderson gave the following update:

- Traffic lights to be installed at St Leonards Lane on 8<sup>th</sup> September;
- Budget process commencing, public meetings with Town and Parish Councils have been arranged to feed into the process;
- Free parking to remain in Town Centres.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

43/25

Police Update

There was no update on this occasion.

44/25

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Members were asked to approve the above minutes.

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

45/25

Any matters Arising from Previous Council Meetings

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

46/25

Financial Matters

- a. Members were asked to approve the payments below. Members were also provided with a budget report up to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

DATE	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT
17.06.25	June 25 Salary & HMRC - Clerk	£225.00
26.06.25	Donation VE Day – Mitford JPCC	£200.00
27.06.25	Village Hall Grant	£1000.00
05.07.25	Gavin Christie June 25	£269.00
05.07.25	Widescope – Website	864.00
17.07.25	July 25 Salary & HMRC - Clerk	£225.00

**RESOLVED**

Members approved the above payments.

b. External Audit 2024-2025

Members were advised that no issues were raised during the above audit.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

47/25

Parish Issues

(i) Land rear of Mitford allotment

Councillor Sharp advised members that he has met with an advisor from the Environment Agency who specialises in natural remedies for erosion of riverbanks.

Two options were discussed: willow spiling and tree hingeing. It was noted that the willow spiling option will necessitate a bespoke permit owing to the height of the bank. Mitford Estates will assist with the tree hingeing, using trees from further upstream.

Advice from the Environment Agency is being chased up due to the presence of white-clawed crayfish in the river.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

(ii) Piramel Bus Shelter

A discussion took place about a replacement bus shelter opposite the Piramel factory. There is funding available from Northumberland County Council for the shelter.

**RESOLVED**

To go ahead with the bus shelter using funding from Northumberland County Council. Councillor Jeans to obtain costs.

To contact Piramel and ask them if they can maintain the shelter.

48/25      Town & Country Planning Act 1990

There were no planning applications on this occasion.

49/25      Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan Review

There was no update on this occasion.

**RESOLVED**

To contact Morpeth Town Council and ask them what they are doing about funding.

50/25      Highways

(i)      Speed Strips – Mitford Village

Members were informed that no response has been received from Northumberland County Council regarding the siting of speed strips.

**RESOLVED**

The Clerk to chase up the speed strip again with Highways.

(ii)      Land Slippage B6343 (Abbey Mills)

Members were advised that traffic lights will be installed at St Leonards Lane on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted

51/25      Village Hall

Councillor Rodger advised members that the solar panels on the roof are going ahead and the village hall committee are checking with the insurers that they are happy with the work. A generator is to be installed and a location for the generator is being identified.

More activities are planned in the hall including the village fair, McMillan Cancer fundraising event, craft fair and a performance from the Northern Theatre Group on Halloween.

An application for lottery funding was unsuccessful; however, another application is being submitted to include more events in the hall.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

52/25

The Village Warden & Other Environmental Matters

Members were advised that a tidy up of the village will take place on Friday before the village fair. It was reported that the 30mph sign on the approach to Spittal Lane is obscured and the cut through to the Plough needs cutting back.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

53/25

The Parish Council Website

Councillor Dodd advised members that the new website is up and running. New photographs are still required for the website.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

54/25

Email Address

- (i) Members were advised that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026, all Parish and Town Councils must have a gov.uk email or similar authority owned (rather than gmail, Hotmail etc) address.

**RESOLVED**

To seek a quote from Widescope.

- (ii) Members were advised that HCI data will cease to be a registrar for gov.uk domain names by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. A quote from Widescope was received for £130.00 for 2 years.

**RESOLVED**

To go ahead with the above quote.

55/25

Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2026-27 to 2028-29

Members were provided with an update from Northumberland County Council regarding the above programme. Members were asked to consider any road improvements needed in the parish.

**RESOLVED**

To submit the following:

- (i) The C152 road is full of joined up potholes. These potholes have been previously addressed, however, keep reappearing. The road needs resurfacing.

- (ii) The Mitford Steads road (C149) was badly damaged during the dam construction. Mitford PC understood that this road would be repaired, however, it never was and has progressively gotten worse.

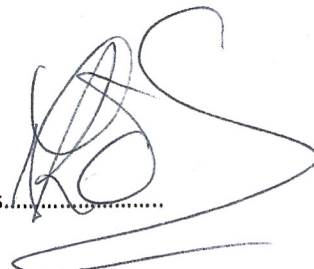
56/25 Any Other Urgent Business

There was no other business on this occasion.

57/25 Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'KOS' with a long horizontal flourish underneath.