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MINUTES OF THE MITFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting for Mitford was held in the Village Hall, Mitford on Monday, 9 May 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors Mrs Alison Young, Mrs Esther Ridley, Mrs Sheena Hudson, Ted Rodger, Mike Sharp and Matt Skillen

Mr Keith Stephen (Village Hall Management Committee)

County Councillor Glen Sanderson

Two Parishioners

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Mike Sharp, presided and welcomed everyone.

Apologies were given from Stephen Rickitt (Clerk)

Vera Filer was awarded a Freedom of Mitford Parish certificate for her many years of service to the village in various capacities. She said she was honoured and gratefully accepted it.

1: Minutes of the last Annual Meeting

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 1 May 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2: Report of the Chairman covering the activities of the Parish and County Council followed by any questions

2.1 There were no annual meetings in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid so the Chairman’s Report this time covers 3 years. The Chair went through the various items in his report (which is attached) and thanked everyone for their hard work. The report was accepted by the meeting.

2.2 County Councillor Glen Sanderson gave his report. He commented on the ‘Land Grab’ by Morpeth Town Council which came out in favour of Mitford Parish Council. He stated the review on Storm Arwen was under way and praised the staff at Northumberland County Council (NCC) for their hard work. A review was also under way with regards to parking in Craster and Seahouses as there are problems with tourists visiting the areas. He also stated £48m has been put aside to build houses for rent and part ownership. An extra £2.3m has been ring-fenced for road repairs, £50k for the Climate Change Community Fund which people can access online, £70k for the Jubilee Fund but as there have been over 200 applications NCC has made an extra £15k available. He stated there will be 4,000 jobs created at British Volt when it is fully operational. Councillor Mike Sharp asked whether Village Halls should provide refuge in the event of another ‘Storm Arwen’. This will be looked into. Cllr Matt Skillen asked if new properties could be provided in rural communities (affordable housing) but Councillor Sanderson said this would be subject to available land.

2.3 Report on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee

Keith Stephen gave his report on the various activities taking place in the Village Hall which have increased this year - these include Pilates, Table Tennis, various Dance Classes and Children’s Parties.

The Committee is currently chasing up quotes for AV. (Copy of report attached)

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman

Councillor Glen Sanderson, Keith Stephen and the two parishioners left the meeting