

MITFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the rising of the Annual Meeting on Monday 9 May 2022 in the Village Hall, Mitford

Present:

Councillors Mrs Alison Young (Chair -presiding), Mrs Esther Ridley, Mrs Sheena Hudson, Ted Rodger, Mike Sharp and Matt Skillen

Apologies for absence - S E Rickitt (Clerk) – Actions by the clerk are marked SER

1: Election of Chairman

Cllr Mrs Alison Young was elected as Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year

2: Declaration of acceptance of office

The declaration of office was completed

3: Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Mike Sharp was elected as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year

4: Chairman's opening remarks

Cllr Mrs Young welcomed everyone and thanked Cllr Sharp for the many years he has acted as Chairman. She also thanked the Clerk for all his efforts and hopes he gets well soon. Cllr Mrs Ridley has expressed her intention to stand down and will confirm this in writing to the Clerk. It was agreed Cllr Rodger will take her place as the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee

5: Coronavirus

Nothing to report

6: Police Report

Nothing to report but Cllr Skillen stated that a member of the Rural Crime Team would be willing to come along to one of the Parish Council meetings to give a talk

7: Report from County Councillor

See Annual Meeting minutes

8: Minutes of the meetings held on 4 April 2022

The minutes of the meetings held on 4 April 2022 were approved and signed by the Chair

9: Any matters arising from the minutes

9.1 The Committee approved the purchase of two dwarf cherry trees. **Action Cllr Mike Sharp**

9.2 It was agreed the Jubilee flag would be flown for the duration of the Platinum celebrations. **Cllr Sharp will repair the pole.**

9.3 Five-ten trees to be obtained through NCCs Climate Change Community Fund and planted on grass verge east of flyover, subject to approval **Action Cllr Sharp.**

10: Notice board at Fontside

Cllr Sharp awaiting better weather before commencing work, but hopefully before the jubilee w/e. Action MIKE

11: New Bench

Cllr Skillen to arrange installation of new bench hopefully before the Jubilee celebrations. It was agreed to obtain a Platinum Jubilee sign for the bench. **Action SER TO SOURCE PLAQUE**

12: Parking in Fontside

No feedback from Karbon Homes

13: Fence in Tranwell Woods

Cllr Mrs Ridley had reported a dilapidated boundary fence and dead trees fronting Turnberry House in Tranwell Woods, also owner needs to attend to cutting grass along frontage. The clerk will endeavour to contact managing agents to see if repairs can be put in hand. **Action SER**

14: First Aid Training

First Aid training to be arranged for September 2022 **Action Cllr Mrs Young**

15: HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Funding has been obtained for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations: £500 from NCC, £250 from Mitford Parish Council and £250 from the 'Rainy Day' Fund

16: Planning

Planning App 21/04430 for 2 Gubeon Cottages has been withdrawn. No new application on NCCs website

17: Riverbank Erosion

Willow whips in autumn to be planted and a potential source of funding to be investigated. **Actions Cllrs Skillen & Mrs Young**

18: Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022

18.1 The Council noted that the internal auditor's report. [A copy is attached to the signed minutes]

18.2 The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement. [A copy of the draft is attached to the signed minutes]

18.3 The Council approved the draft annual accounts for 2020/2021 [A copy of the draft is attached to the signed minutes]

18.4 The Council approved the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances [Copies of the drafts are attached to the signed minutes]

18.5 The Council confirmed and approved the Certification of Exemption [A copy of the draft is attached to the signed minutes]

19: Highways

19.1 The clerk to continue to press NCC and Highways for action on:

Potential safety improvements in Tranwell Village and Tranwell Woods

Installation of Gateway features

Graffiti on A1 flyover

Missing sign at Abbey Mills and Crossroads sign on Belsay Road

19.2 Fence along the B6343 and verge

19.3 Traffic survey results for Spital Hill/St Leonards Lane OK. Average 23mph north bound and 24mph south bound. Discussion, speeds not too concerning but volume is concerning at 250 per day. The clerk will be asked to find previous results for comparison. **Action SER**

20: Website

Hopefully things should be back to normal shortly, The Chair is updating in sections

21: The Village Warden

Cllr Skillen will speak to Gavin to make sure the grass on the village greens is cut ahead of the Jubilee celebrations -ideally 2 weeks before then on the Wednesday or Thursday before the party. **Action Cllr Skillen**

22: Finance

The following BACS payments were approved

- NALC – 2022 subscription - £135.76 – retrospective
- Mitford Village Hall – Grant for Jubilee Fair - £750.00
- Piet Vermaas – Internal Audit fee - £45.00

23: The Village Hall

The Hall Chairman had given a report at the preceding annual parish mtg.

24: Other Financial Matters

The Risk Assessment and Assets Register was reviewed and agreed, copies are attached to the signed minutes. The Donation plaque on existing Fontside seat will be discussed at the next meeting. **Action SER**

25: General Power of Competence

On consideration of a report from the clerk, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes, the Council resolved that they satisfy the requirements and adopted the General Power of Competence.

26: Correspondence

A gentleman has emailed complaining about a waste bin being placed next to the seat at Stable Green. The seat was purchased by this gentleman in memory of his son who used to like to look at the remains of Mitford Castle. He had visited recently and said the bin was empty but when Cllr Young checked it was full of rubbish and particularly dog poo bags. It was agreed that the bin served its purpose and a suitable email be sent. **Action SER**

27: Any other business

There was none

28: Next Meeting

It was agreed to meet on Monday 6 June 2022 at 7.30pm

Confirmed as a true record

and signed by the Chairman Date

DRAFT