



Website: <http://www.tillside.uk/>

**Minutes of Tillside Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th April 2024
in Chatton Village Hall Commencing at 7pm**

Present: Chairman A Macdonald-Smith, Vice-Chairman H Prytherch.

Parish Councillors: M Strother, N Petronelli-Stone, R Tebay, R Ord, H Ray, R Brown,
J Renner D Spours, A Wrangham, & T Faa-Thompson,
County Councillor M Mather
1 member of the public.
Clerk I Hunter

Public Question time: - None.

Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillors I Brown, & I Straughan
County Councillor C Hardy.

Declaration of Interest: None

Request for Dispensation: None

Community Police: The Clerk read out the following report:

Crimes and incidents – Very low this period for both. No crimes to report on and only half a dozen incidents which were dealt with and didn't have any wider impact on other residents.

Nothing else to report on in relation to anti-social behaviour or poaching/rural crime type incidents. Would suggest the high rainfall in the last few weeks deters this sort of behaviour.

Engagement wise there is also nothing to report on.

Minutes- The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th February 2024 previously circulated were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda- None

Min 2045- Speed warning sign- The Clerk advised the meeting that so far, she had not received a response from the supplier, but agreed to continue to try to obtain a response.

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council review what further actions will be undertaken at the Annual Parish Council meeting. This was agreed.

Min 2046- Northumberland Estates

Parish Councillors ratified the payment to Northumberland Estates to cover the following invoices:

- Cricket Club Land annual rent £175
- Chatton Village Hall 6-month rent £550

Parish Councillors ratified the issue of the following invoices:

- Chatton Village Hall 6-month rent £550
- Chatton Cricket Club annual rent £175

Min 2047- Financial Statement

- Bank Balance £ 20285.03

Min 2048- Accounts

Receipts

- Northumberland CC £3300.00 County Councillor M Mather Small Grant Funding- play equipment + bench
- Chatton V Hall £ 550.00 6-Month rent for Village Hall

Payments issued: Parish Councillors agreed the following payments

- Chatton V Hall £3000.00 Contribution for Play equipment from County Councillor M Mather
- Northumberland Estates £ 725.00 Rent invoices for Cricket Club Land & Village Hall
- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary March
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE March

Payments due

- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary April
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE April
- E I Hunter £ 31.07 Expenses

Min 2049- Chatton Village Hall- Parish Councillor R Tebay provided the following verbal updates:

- 1- The works to the kitchen should be completed within the next few weeks, and works to the toilet block will be next to be undertaken. There should be sufficient grant funding secured to undertake the toilet block works.
- 2- The Chatton Village Hall Committee are looking into options to improve the heating system, which will mean considering possible options, along with available grant funding.
- 3- The Chatton Village Hall Committee would prefer to continue with the informal agreement with the Parish Council, rather than a formal agreement. Parish Councillor M Strother proposed the Parish Council has an informal discussion/ get together with Chatton Village Hall Committee members as both committees have new members and this would allow members of each committee to meet up informally. The Chairman reminded the meeting that the Parish Council holds the lease for the Village Hall with Northumberland Estates.

Min 2050- School field- Parish Councillors noted that trees on the school field had been felled and left on the field, ahead of obtaining permission to fell the trees. However, a planning application had now been submitted to fell trees within a Conservation Area. Parish Councillors debated the situation and the planning application. Parish Councillors agreed to submit the following comments to the planning application:

- 1- The trees were of great value to the local community.
- 2- The trees were used by a variety of birds and wildlife.

- 3- The trees were within a Conservation Area; therefore, permission is required before any works can be undertaken on the trees.
- 4- The trees are not the property of the applicant.
- 5- The applicant or contractor on behalf of the applicant accessed the Old School Field and undertook the works without requesting permission, and consequently have left the trees etc on the Old School Field.

Min 2051- Planning Applications- Parish Councillors ratified the submission of “No Comments” to the following planning application

24/00483/LBC- Proposed provision of wood burning stove to lounge and associated external flue- 5 Broomhouse Steading Chatton NE66 5ND

Parish Councillors considered the following planning application.

24/00983/FUL- Construction of a covered silage clamp- Hepburn Farm Old Bewick Alnwick Northumberland NE66 4EG. Parish Councillors agreed to submitted no objections.

Min 2052- Planning Appeal

23/02821/FUL- Proposed garden room (retrospective)- 8 Broomhouse Steading Chatton Alnwick Northumberland NE66 5ND. Parish Councillors agreed not to respond to the planning appeal for this planning application.

Min 2053- Defibrillators- Parish Councillor N Petronelli -Stone advised the meeting that she is continuing to undertake research into possible grant funding for the purchase of a defibrillator for the Chillingham area, along with possible locations. She concluded by saying her hope is the local community of Chillingham will look after and maintain the defibrillator. Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor N Petronelli -Stone continue to work on this project and keep the Parish Council updated.

Min 2054- Book Box- The Chairman advised the meeting that the book box had been relocated and is available for members of the public to access.

Min 2055- Correspondence

- **Resident-** Email- Water leakage near Chatton Shop. Parish Councillors agreed in the past Northumberland County Council had stated this was not their fault. County Councillor M Mather agreed to speak to Northumberland County Council Highways Officers again.
- **Adderstone with Lucker PC-** Email- Request for support for joint letter to be sent to Lloyds Bank Re bank closures in Alnwick. Parish Councillors agreed to support the letter.
- **Resident-** Email- (Copy to NCC) Obstruction on Footpath at Fowberry Bridge. Parish Councillor N Petronelli-Stone advised the meeting that this issue is being dealt with.
- **Resident-** Email- Re defibrillator for Chillingham area. This was covered at Min 2053.
- **NCC-**Email- Update on Belford Neighbourhood Plan.

Min 2056- Remembrance Day 2024- Parish Councillors considered the request for a £20 donation towards the purchase of poppy netting for Chatton village. Parish Councillors

agreed not to make a donation as this would set a precedent, and the Parish Council currently purchase the annual poppy wreaths for Chatton & Chillingham War Memorials. Parish Councillors also, agreed the Parish Council have recently funded the repairs and re-lettering of the Chatton War Memorial. Therefore, the Parish Council did not support the display of a poppy netting on the War Memorial for a length of time ahead of Remembrance Day on health & safety grounds.

Min 2057- County Councillor updates- County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates:

- **Chatton Bridge works-** A productive site meeting took place with interested parties. There are 2 main issues the drainage and removal of the spoil. Northumberland County Council had agreed to organise the paperwork and the legalities, working with the landowner and the tenants.
Northumberland County Council quickly organised for the gully tanker to check the drains in that area. As well as a private contractor to install a new headwall which would be moved back approx. 3 mtrs. However, the works have been stalled as the landowner has requested various documents which have been submitted and are awaiting a response. Also, the landowner is requesting payment for access.
Northumberland County Council have allocated a £40k budget to undertake the works to the bridge area.
- **New bus service-** There will be a new bus service running from Cornhill to Newcastle twice a day, 5-days per week. The early morning service will leave Cornhill at 6am and arrive in Newcastle at 8.40am, which will allow youngsters to access further education in Ashington, Kirkley Hall & Newcastle as well as people accessing employment. There will also, be one Newcastle to Wooler & return journey during the day as the time limit does not allow for 3 trips from Cornhill to Newcastle.
- **Planning Training-** Northumberland County Council's Director of Planning has agreed to deliver planning training including enforcement for Parish Councillors on 19th June in Wooler, venue TBC.
Northumberland County Council Scrutiny Committee have received and supported a report to increase the number of planning enforcement officers and have a fighting fund for officers to use.
- **Future farming review-** I have had a positive meeting with MP Robbie Moore who is the Defra Minister, who understands the farming issues which is having a knock-on effect that is impacting on the food on the table.
- **Highways-** Please report all issues on fix my street, there has been an additional team of officers allocated to deal with issues raised on fix my street.
Northumberland County Council Scrutiny Committee are still awaiting the report on the 2023 pothole trial of cutting and patching instead of just filling potholes, as we need evidence to prove this option is successful and cost effective.
£5.5m has been allocated for drainage works across the county.
- **Log bank-** This is very successful in the Wooler and surrounding area, and when people make contact with Northumberland County Council for supplies from the log bank officers are also, checking people are accessing all the benefits they are entitled too.
We need to find a new home for the log bank, so if anybody knows of a spare shed and some outside space, please contact me. Northumberland Firs & Rescue Service will continue to make the deliveries. Parish Councillor T Faa-Thompson agreed to contact County Councillor M Mather about a possible home for the log bank.

- **Town & Parish Council Conference-** The recent conference was a success, Northumberland County Council agree there needs to be more improved information available for Town & Parish Councils, so officers are currently working with NALC on most frequently asked Q & A's
- **Play Park-** A big thank you to all those involved in organising the development of the new play park and the opening ceremony, which unfortunately I was unable to attend.

Min 2058- Chatton News- Parish Councillors agreed the only update for the Chatton News is Chatton Bridge update.

Any Other Urgent Business.

Min 2059- Chatton Bank- Parish Councillor D Spours raised concerns that the retaining wall on Chatton Bank is collapsing due to subsidence. County Councillor M Mather agreed to report the issue to Northumberland County Council Highways Officers.

Min 2060- Beech tree- Parish Councillor D Spours asked if the beech tree overhanging the footpath in Chatton could be checked, because if it comes down in a storm it will block the road. County Councillor M Mather agreed to report the issue to Northumberland County Council Highways Officers.

Min 2061- King Charles 111 portrait- The Clerk advised the meeting that she had brought the Parish Council's free copy of King Charles 111 portrait to the meeting, asking Parish Councillors for thoughts on where they would like it displayed. Parish Councillors agreed to donate the portrait to Chatton Village Hall Committee.

Date of the Annual Parish & Annual Parish Council Meetings 9th May 2024

Chairman _____ Date _____

Ch's Initials _____