



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

**Minutes of the Tillside Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
in the Chatton Village Hall Chatton Commencing at 19.00**

**Present:** Chairman M Strother, Vice-Chairman R Tebay  
Parish Councillors: I Fiddes, J Renner, H Prytherch R Ord I Straughan & D Spours.  
County Councillors M Mather & C Hardy  
2 members of public.  
Inspector John Swan & Sergeant Duncan Budge  
Clerk I Hunter

**Public Question time:** - None

**Apologies for Absence:** Parish Councillors T Faa-Thompson, T Hume, I Brown, H Scrivens,  
A MacDonald-Smith & A Wrangham.

**Declaration of Interest:** All Parish Councillors declared a personal interest in planning  
application No 22/00202/FUL as Parish Councillor H Scrivens lives at the  
application address.

**Request for Dispensation:** None

**Community Police:** The Chairman welcomed Inspector John Swan & Sergeant Duncan  
Budge to the meeting.  
Sergeant Duncan Budge gave a brief background to the police reports  
stating that under Data Protection the Police are not allowed disclose  
details. Parish Councils receive standardised reports, which will include  
any local trends and updates. He stated that if there are not many crimes  
or incidents this is good news as that means that there are not any local  
issues.  
Sergeant Duncan Budge provided the latest report:  
4 incidents & 1 crime.  
However, there is an increase in suspicious vehicles in the area, poaching  
and vehicle thefts, the Police are using legislation to stop and seize  
vehicles. He concluded by saying if you see anything happening there  
and then please ring 999.  
Inspector John Swan reported that there is ongoing education work being  
undertaken with the communication team to ensure they pick up any  
leads from phone calls which could end to detecting a crime. Also, if you  
need to contact the local team please go to the Northumbria Police  
website, type in your postcode which will take you to the local team to  
report any issues which will be picked up within 2 days by local Police  
Officers.

Police Officers have been undertaking speed checks in villages where there have been reports of speeding, the first offence the driver receives a letter, the second offence is a visit from a Police Officer issuing a warning that the next time it will be enforcement. However, due to the increased number of requests for speed checks and the increased level of speeding through villages we many need to do down the route of straight to enforcement. He advised Parish Councillors that if a Parish Council thinks there is a problem of speeding their villages they can make a request for speed checks however, offenders will be advised that the checks have been requested by the local Parish Council.

Sergeant Duncan Budge advised the meeting that Police Officers will attempt to attend some Parish Council meetings, however, it will not be every meeting.

The Chairman thanked Inspector John Swan & Sergeant Duncan Budge for their attendance.

Inspector John Swan & Sergeant Duncan Budge left the meeting at that point.

**Minutes-** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 previously circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising-None**

**Min 1784- Public footpath & Rights of Way-** A member of the public spoke to the previously circulated annual report which he had prepared. He advised the meeting that the Fowberry Lodge plantation is a carnage following Storm Arwen and Newhall to Fowberry Cottages public footpath is not accessible. He concluded by saying that farmers have been helping to clear Rights of Ways etc, however, some footpaths could be out of action for some time. Parish Councillor I Straughan asked if the landowner is liable if the Right of Way over their land has not been cleared and somebody gets hurt. The resident replied the landowner could erect a temporary sign saying the Right of Way is currently closed, similar to what is being done in other locations. Parish Councillor I Straughan asked who does the Parish Council contact if there is an issue with a public footpath/Right of Way. The resident replied that Parish Councillors can report issues to him and he will forward them on to Northumberland County Council's Footpath Officer, or they could report the issue direct to Northumberland County Council's Footpath Officer.

**Min 1785- Speed Warning sign Chatton-** County Councillor M Mather informed the meeting that he has provided Richard McKenzie of Northumberland County Council with a map yesterday showing a preferred location, and requesting a site meeting.

**Min 1786- Gateway signage to Chillingham-** County Councillor M Mather informed the meeting that Northumberland County Council have advised him that the cost per gateway/entrance sign for Chillingham will be between £1,500 & £2000, however, Northumberland County Council are willing to review all road markings and signage in the Chillingham area at the same time.

County Councillor M Mather proposed that the costs of the scheme be divided 3 ways, between Northumberland County Council, the Parish Council and himself as County Councillor.

Parish Councillors agreed they would like County Councillor M Mather continue to work on this scheme and that the Parish Council would pay 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the costs of the scheme.

**Min 1787- Overgrown hedge-** County Councillor M Mather informed the meeting that he had been in contact with Northumberland Estates that day and confirmed Northumberland County Council will clear back the path & cut back the vegetation on the wall and Northumberland Estates will cut back the trees overhanging the wall as they are the landowner of the land behind the wall.

**Min 1788- Highway's site meeting-** County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates from the site meeting:

- 1- Amerside road- the pot holes have been repaired by the hot box, Northumberland County Council will work with the landowner about the drainage in that area, and it is hoped to have the road resurfaced within the next 2 years through the Local Transport Plan.
  - 2- Fowberry Moor road- this road will be repaired by hot box.
  - 3- **Water leak-** Northumberland County Council drainage team will excavate the area and try to find a solution to the ongoing problem.
- Parish Councillors reported the 30mph sign is down in Chatton. County Councillor M Mather agreed to report this issue.

**Min 1789- Book box-** It was agreed to defer this until the April Parish Council meeting.

**Min 1790- Storm Arwen-** Parish Councillors agreed to respond to the current review raising the following points:

- There was no mobile phone signal
- There was a lack of communication from Northern Powergrid, Northumberland County Council & Northumbrian Water
- Northern Powergrid provided false promises as to when power would be restored.

Parish Councillors agreed that the Parish Council & Village Hall Committee need to work together to organise an emergency plan using Chatton Village Hall as a hub.

County Councillor M Mather informed the meeting that the Wooler Ward will be holding a test event, where all Parish Councils and Village Hall Committees will be invited to attend. The event will work on preparing a template for an emergency plan, which will be rolled out across the county.

County Councillor C Hardy informed the meeting that there is funding available to purchase a generator & solar pack etc.

### **Min 1791- Financial Statement**

- Bank Balance £ 19908.13 Including £2K for Covid -19 Contingency fund.

1 member of public left at this point

## Min 1792- Accounts

### Receipt

- Northumberland CC      £ 9000.00      Small grant funding- play equipment

### Payments

- E I Hunter                      £ 96.00      Clerk's Salary
- HMRC                              £ 24.00      PAYE
- E I Hunter                      £ 8.13      Expenses

**Min 1793- Chatton Village Hall-** Parish Councillor I Fiddes provided the following update from the Village Hall meeting:

- Storm Arwen bench
- Playground - funding is a priority and assistance is needed to raise a total of around £90k. The Barmoor fund is on the list.
- BBQ area - the official opening will be on Saturday 16th April. Details to follow.
- Path - it was suggested that we have a day of action to finish the path. Joint effort between the Village Hall and the Parish Council.
- Emergency planning - the Village Hall is already a designated hub by Northumberland County Council and we all need to put some thought in to how best to utilise the building to provide support for the community during difficult periods. The cooker, heating/lighting and communications all need consideration. County Councillor C Hardy reported that there is funding available to help Village Halls. Parish Councillors agreed that Chatton Village Hall Committee need to explore all avenues of funding, and once all avenues have been exhausted if there is still a need for financial support the Parish Council will look at this favourably.
- Queen's Jubilee - an event will be organised, led by the Village Hall with assistance from volunteers. Parish Councillors agreed the Vice-Chairman & Parish Councillor I Straughan will represent the Parish Council. The Vice-Chairman suggested a working group should be set up to include representation from the Parish Council, PCC, Chatton Village Hall Committee & the community. Parish Councillors agreed they may also, be able to provide some help closer to the time of the event. Parish Councillor suggested using the Chatton News contact list to put a call out for volunteers.
- The Gym is up and running.
- The roof has been repaired, using up a large chunk of capital. Parish Councillors considered the annual rent and agreed to pay the usual £150 on receipt of an invoice even though the Parish Council have not used the Village Hall for a full year. Parish Councillors also, agreed the Parish Council have paid the annual grass cutting invoices over the last few years.

### **Min 1794- Planning Application-**

22/00202/FUL-Proposed front entrance porch-6 Chatton Mill Hill Chatton NE66 5PA.  
Parish Councillors agreed to submit no comments.

### **Min 1795- Planning Approval-**

21/04474/FUL- Proposed porch extension to front elevation-The Hayloft Mill Hill  
Farm Chatton NE66 5PR

### **Min 1796- Correspondence**

- **NHS-** Improving access survey- to be completed by 25/2
- **Barmoor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund-** Call for applications
- **NCC-** My Library- are you interested in joining a reading group
- **Communities Together-** Invite to online meeting 24/2
- **Resident-** Email Re fence. Parish Councillors sympathised with the resident, however, they felt there was nothing the Parish Council could do to help, however, they asked County Councillor M Mather if he could contact the Housing Association. County Councillor M Mather agreed to make contact with the Housing Association.

**Min 1797- Playground Group-**The Chairman informed the meeting that the group had met and provided the information which Northumberland County Council required, which means that Northumberland County Council have paid £9K small grant funding into the Parish Council bank account. The Chairman stated the group are progressing the project. Parish Councillors ratified the submission of small grant funding request forms. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the project monitoring form needs to be submitted by February 2023.

**Min 1798- Projects-** The Chairman reported that he had met with the Vice-Chairman & Parish Councillor I Fiddes, and provided the following update:

- 6 themed benches will be made using timber from trees which have fallen during storm Arwen.
- Each theme will be linked to the location where the bench will be installed
- There will be sufficient timber from trees which have fallen during storm Arwen.
- The locations will be:  
Lilburn- Lilburn Partnership will provide the timber and fund the manufacturing of the bench.  
Chillingham  
Chatton  
Hetton  
Horton  
St Cuthbert's car park
- The Chairman asked County Councillors M Mather & C Hardy if they would each fund a bench. County Councillor M Mather & C Hardy agreed in principle, however, a cost of manufacturing a bench is required ahead of confirmation.

- Parish Councillors agreed the Parish Council could possibly fund one bench.

**Min 1799- Annual Audit 2021/22**

- Parish Councillors agreed to appoint Mr Rathbone as the Internal Auditor for the 2021/22 Parish Council Accounts
- Parish Councillors agreed to check the previously circulated Asset Register is up to date before the end of March.

**Min 1800- County Councillor updates-** County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates:

- The next Communities Together meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> February everybody is invited to attend. The group are looking positively at a community bus, as well as a digital screen for each Parish Council, which could be used during storms to provide up-to-date information, and Parish Councils could also, use the screens for Parish Council updates.
- The Chair of the Glendale Gateway Trust is willing to attend Parish Council meetings, to see how the Trust can help Parish Councils & Village Halls make use of their buildings
- There has been a backlog of Northumberland County Council highways works recently due to the number of staff being absent with covid, however, please keep reporting potholes etc on Northumberland County Council website.
- Northumberland County Council will set the 2022/23 budget within the next 2 weeks. I am told there will be no cuts to frontline staff and the budget will include funding for repairs to U & C roads.
- The Fire & Rescue Community Plan consultation closes on 16<sup>th</sup> February. The plan is forward looking.

County Councillor C Hardy provided the following update:

- The dualling of the A1 is currently with the Secretary of State, therefore it is on hold, however, everything is in place so it is hoped that the start date will not change.

**Min 1801- Chatton News-** The Vice-Chairman reported that the latest edition has just been distributed. Parish Councillors agreed if the next edition is ahead of the April meeting to agree a Parish Council report via email.

**Any Other Urgent Business.**

**Min 1802- Christmas tree-** Parish Councillor H Prytherch asked if there would be a Christmas tree on the village green this year. The Chairman replied yes.

**Date of the next Parish Council Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Ch's Initials \_\_\_\_\_