



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

**Minutes of Tillside Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th January 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, J Renner, A Wrangham,
R Ord, T Faa-Thompson, H Ray, & D Spours (after Min 2019).
County Councillor M Mather
1 member of the public.
Clerk I Hunter

Declaration of Acceptance- Parish Councillor H Ray signed the Declaration of Acceptance and joined the Parish Council to represent Hetton Ward at that point.

Public Question time: - None.

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

Declaration of Interest: Parish Councillor M Strother declared a personal & prejudicial interest on Agenda Item No 17 as the landowner.

Request for Dispensation: None

Community Police: No report received.

Minutes- The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th November 2023 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 2016- Speed warning sign- The Vice-Chairman reported that the speed warning sign is packaged up ready to be returned to the supplier to be checked.

Min 2017- Grass cutting

- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £640.00 to S A Douglas for the grass cutting of Chatton Village Hall field in 2023.
- Parish Councillors ratified the issuing of the £320.00 to Chatton Village Hall for 50% of the grass cutting of Chatton Village Hall field in 2023.
- The Vice-Chairman reported that M Douglas anticipated that the grass cutting of Chatton Village Hall field in 2024 would be £640.00 which is the same as 2023.
- Parish Councillors agreed to award the grass cutting contract for Chatton Village Hall field to M Douglas in 2024.

Min 2018- Financial Statement

- Bank Balance £ 20782.39

Min 2019- Accounts

Receipts

- Chatton Village Hall £ 750.00 Village Hall lease-legal fees
- Chatton Village Hall £ 320.00 ½ Annual grass cutting fees

Payments: Parish Councillors agreed the following payments

- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary December
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE December
- S A Douglas £ 640.00 Annual grass cutting invoice
- Warcup Law £1500.00 Village Hall lease-legal fees
- E I Hunter £ 96.00 Clerk's Salary January
- HMRC £ 24.00 PAYE January
- E I Hunter £ 14.82 Expenses
- Resident £ 47.88 Annual website fee

Parish Councillor D Spours joined the meeting at that point.

Min 2020- Chatton Village Hall-

- Parish Councillors agreed there were no updates from Chatton Village Hall meetings as Parish Councillor I Straughan was not in attendance.
- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the signing of agreement between Tillside Parish Council and Chatton Village Hall Committee until the February meeting.

Min 2021- Planning Applications- Parish Councillors ratified the submission of no comments to the following Planning Application:

23/04046/FUL- Erection of timber garage and summer house to the side, together with a timber summer house in the garden to the rear- 2 Old School Lane Chatton Northumberland NE66 5PB

Min 2022- Planning Approvals

23/03723/COU- Change of use from offices to residential accommodation for use as a holiday let- The Steadings East Lilburn Farm Lilburn Alnwick Northumberland NE66 4ED

23/03782/FUL-Construction of a new agricultural-tied 4-bedroom family dwelling and detached garage, complemented by accompanying landscaping works- Field South East Of Chatton Park Farm Chatton Park Wooler

Min 2023- Planning Refusal

23/02821/FUL- Proposed garden room (retrospective)- 8 Broomhouse Steading Chatton Alnwick Northumberland NE66 5ND

Min 2024- Correspondence

- **Resident-** Email- Re Chatton Bridge water problems. County Councillor M Mather advised the meeting that this is No 1 priority on Northumberland County Council's drainage budget list to investigate in 2024/25.
Parish Councillor R Tebay advised the meeting that he had received complaints that on the north/west side of the road the trees are pushing the wall out at the bridge area. County Councillor M Mather agreed to ask Northumberland County Council to investigate the issue. Northumberland County Council will deal with the issue if the problem is under their ownership, otherwise they will contact the landowner.

Parish Councillor M Strother did not contribute to the next agenda item.

Min 2025- Consultation- Parish Councillors agreed to support the current consultation on the Fowberry Moor woodland creation.

Min 2026- County Councillor updates- County Councillor M Mather provided the following updates:

- **Buses-** A new bus timetable is in operation. There will be a limited bus service from Wooler, via Chatton & Belford to the coast 6 days per week, if the trial is successful, I will see if I can get the service increased.
- **Northumberland County Council budget-** The consultation for the 2024/25 budget is online therefore if Parish Councillors have any thoughts of what they would like to be included within the budget please complete the online survey. I am continuing to lobby for additional funding for repairs to rural U & C roads.
Central Government are providing additional highways funding for the next 5 years, however, so far, I do not know how and where it will be spent.
- **LA7-** Northumberland County Council are chairing the rural part. We are looking into funding for agriculture and trying to find out what is stopping the industry going green. There are meetings scheduled for 18th January, 8th February & 7th March.
- **Emergency Response-** We are at looking at pots of funding which Parish Councils can apply for to provide a satellite phone which residents can use at the emergency centre when there are power cuts/emergencies. I can circulate further information if Parish Councillors are interested.

Parish Councillor D Spours raised concerns about the lack of action when reporting issues on fix my street. County Councillor M Mather responded to say he thought it was the volume of reports received which he thought was now over 86,000. However, if you have an issue that has been outstanding for some time if you provide the details, I will look into it.

Parish Councillor D Spours reported the that flooding issue at Warenton appears to have been resolved, and thanked County Councillor M Mather for his help.

Min 2027- Budget/Precept 2024/25

- Parish Councillors considered and debated the previously circulated draft budget.
- Parish Councillors agreed to defer the purchasing 1 litter bin to the February meeting when hopefully Parish Councillor R Brown will be in attendance as he originally raised the issue.
- Parish Councillor D Spours proposed & the Vice-Chairman seconded a 10% increase of the budget for 2024/25. This would mean the budget would rise to £4950. This was agreed.

- Parish Councillor D Spours proposed & the Vice-Chairman seconded a 10% increase of the precept for 2024/25. This would mean the precept would rise to £4950. This was agreed. Parish Councillors noted that the precept had not been raised for nearly 20 years.
Parish Councillor R Tebay proposed the Clerk work out the level of funding the Parish Council had used on projects over the last few years. This was agreed.

Min 2028- Chatton News- Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk provide the following updates for the Chatton News:

- 1- The co-option of Helen Ray onto Tillside Parish Council to represent Hetton Ward
- 2- The increase in the precept, complete with explanation on Parish Council funding used on local projects.
- 3- The additional bus service which is coming through Chatton
- 4- Chatton Bridge area- Tillside Parish Council is working with County Councillor M Mather to deliver improvements to this area.

Any Other Urgent Business.

Min 2029- Banking- Parish Councillor M Strother advised the meeting that we require 2 signatories to authorise each payment and currently there is only himself and the Clerk as bank signatories. The Vice-Chairman agreed to join the bank signatory list. This was agreed. The Clerk to organise the paperwork for the February meeting for signing.

Min 2030- The Percy Arms- Parish Councillor T Faa-Thompson asked the meeting if there are any updates on the appeal for the decking at The Percy Arms. County Councillor M Mather informed the meeting that The Percy Arms had lost their appeal to the Enforcement Notice, therefore the is now being dealt with by Northumberland County Council Enforcement Department.

Date of the next Parish Council meetings 8th February 2024

Parish Councillor D Spours submitted his apologies for February meeting

Chairman _____ Date _____