

# MATTERSEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 1st May 2024 at 6.30pm in Mattersey Church Hall

6 in attendance

### 1. To appoint a Chair for the meeting

David Elcoate was elected as Chair for the meeting.

### 2. Report from Chair of the Parish Council

Welcome to residents who have taken the trouble to attend tonight.

The Parish Council has continued to carry out its work within both villages during the past year to try to ensure the public areas are well maintained. The grass cutting contractors maintain the verges to a high order and we get a small grant towards this from the County Council. They also allocate a separate grant for other village maintenance such as seats, road signs, pavement cleaning, and other incidentals as they occur. Please let us know if you feel there are any areas which may require attention. The cemetery takes a lot of work to not only ensure it is kept looking neat and tidy but also to meet health and safety standards for all visitors. Extra funds have been allocated for more regular work to the surrounding trees as, during high winds there have been some branches damaged and causing potential risks.

For many years now the Parish Council has paid for the servicing and repair of the War Memorial Clock which is situated within the Church tower. This year there has been considerable difficulties in finalising repairs, I will not go into detail but we hope that the situation will finally be resolved very shortly.

In the coming year it is hoped to erect small gateway structures on the approaches to Mattersey in an attempt to make drivers more aware of the change in speed limit as well as making for an attractive approach. Monies from recent housing developments, known as Community Infrastructure Levy, has made this possible. There are further funds available for other projects within the villages so please let us know if you have any ideas.

The Parish Council continues to act as consultees on planning applications and other consultations on your behalf as well as other work as mentioned. There are still vacancies on the Parish Council and we are able to co-opt new Members if there is anyone who would like to become involved. This is your community and this is an opportunity to shape its future. There is one meeting per month at which there is a public forum session so residents can also express their views and ideas.

I would like to thank Councillors for their voluntary work for the community.

### 3. Report from Mattersey TRA

This has been a mixed year. The weekly Monday afternoon Bingo is now going strong but we need two or three more folks to join us to make it better. The fortnightly Craft morning is slow but we keep trying.

There was a successful trip to Bridlington in August 2023.

The Fun Day had to be cancelled because we need people to help with heavy lifting of gazebos and tables etc.

At Christmas we replaced the dead tree with a new one and had a lights switch-on. Thanks go to the Parish Council for all the extra lights around the Parish and for turning out on a rainy cold night. Also we gave out selection boxes at the Community House to the younger children.

There was an easter egg hunt with a small egg for each child and large eggs for the 3 winners.

There are trips planned for 25<sup>th</sup> June to Whitby, a childrens trip to Bridlington in August and a Fun Day on 20<sup>th</sup> July if some help is available. There may be another trip in September if we can get funding.

Last year the students from Green Pastures ran a Warm Spaces for us, after this ended they did an After Schools Club but that also ended when the students from the Hall moved on.

The TRA do have occasional coffee mornings with raffle and tombola and stalls to make money for the things we like to do. On the Fun Day these are all on the field at Mattersey Thorpe.

#### **4. Report on Mattersey Millennium Green Trust**

As you probably know the Parish Council are sole trustees of the Millennium Green Trust which is a registered charity. It is therefore our responsibility to maintain it and ensure users safety.

The Parish Council feel that the Green is a great asset for the community and would encourage its use and also any donations towards its maintenance.!

We are very grateful to those volunteers who take part in the rota to inspect the play equipment. This is done on a monthly rota with weekly inspections to ensure we comply with the insurance conditions and also that there are no hazards. The volunteers also carry out minor maintenance tasks and without them the area could not be kept open.

This year should see some exciting improvements to the area. We have already planted a wildflower area to the right of the entrance and hope to enhance other areas with spring bulbs and perennials. All these should encourage insects, birds and wildlife and make the area both prettier and of benefit to the environment.

A landscape architect has put forward some suggestions which will be discussed and confirmed at the Parish Council meeting later this evening. I am pleased to say that we have obtained some grant funding from the UK Levelling Up Fund via Bassetlaw District Council and this, together with some on the Community Infrastructure Levy monies previously mentioned will make sure that there is sufficient finance available to make a big difference to the area.

The Parish Council finance the grass cutting and maintenance through our precept which is collected from your Council Tax. However it is a registered charity and any donations would make a difference. Sponsorship towards new picnic tables etc would be welcome. If you are not able to donate there is a way of raising funds without having to dip into your pocket and that is via Easyfundraising. This automatically gives a small donation from the supplier whenever you shop online at a large number of companies, even your weekly shop from Tesco, Sainsburys etc. without costing you anything. Just look up Easyfundraising on your computer and join up using Mattersey Millennium Green Trust as your charity.

MGT is a standing item on each Council agenda, so that anyone can raise any issues and problems can be identified and acted upon and suggestions for improvement are welcome.

Adele Haddon,

Clerk to Mattersey Parish Council

**5. Reports and comments from residents**

- The churchyard cemetery – It may look as if it is being neglected but this area is being made more ecologically friendly with a wildflower area and wildlife project. One area of the cemetery is being left to grow wild which will eventually become a naturalised area for wildlife and insects. Whilst another has been planted up with wildflowers.
- Cty Cllr Taylor informed the meeting of her role as Children and Family Services Councillor.

She explained that she represented 16 villages and 4 hamlets. These communities have varying projects and she tries to assist in anyway she can where they involve County Council issues. Recently these have included major planning applications.

- West Burton Power Station should bring enormous benefits for the future of the area and children in school at the moment will be the biggest beneficiaries for jobs and prospects.
  - The National Grid have been installing power lines.
  - The HIVE project should come before the County Council planners in July following a long term application needing Dept of Environment involvement
  - The project at Lound where a contractor wants to bring in waste is now under appeal.
  - Council tax rise was restricted to 4.84% and the County Council is on a sound financial footing.
  - Devolution – elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May to elect the first Mayors for the East Midlands Area (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) Cllr Taylor urged all people to vote.
  - She has a small amount of grant funding available for local communities. The Local Communities Fund is open for applications until 24<sup>th</sup> May.
- Residents asked if there had been any further progress regarding a proposed development from 2023 near Mattersey Hall. The clerk informed the meeting that a revised application had been received for 7 houses with a consultation response date for the public of 15<sup>th</sup> May. The previous suggestion for more houses on the land had not gone forward to an official planning application.

Signed ..... Chair