

# Clerk's report

February 2021

## Mattishall Parish Council



Photos: Top – view from Clipping Green during February sunset. Bottom left – snow on fields looking towards Mattishall. Bottom right – snowy junction of Parker's Road with Back Lane.

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The items below relate to actions/resolutions from the 8 February meeting:

Item 7: All 21 allotment plots have now been filled. There are currently 10 people on the waiting list, which is operated on a first come first served basis. The next person to be offered a plot has been on the waiting list since December 2018.

Item 10.4: Cllr Ben Handford posted the following comment, on behalf of the Parish Council, on their Facebook page, "For the record Mattishall Parish Council voted against the Gladman / Hopkin development but with outline planning permission being granted we began a dialogue with Hopkin Homes. We are now actively working closely with the Breckland Council and Developer's to ensure we get the best deal for our local community. We believe we are well on the way to agreeing a community wood and allotments."

Item 10.4: Hopkins Homes have advised that they are awaiting feedback from Breckland District Council regarding the progression of the S106 agreement before they can discuss the open space with the Parish Council's planning and monitoring group. Hopkins Homes have also agreed, in principle, to hold an open forum with our residents once the S106 is more advanced.

Item 10.5: The Planning Policy Officer at Breckland District Council responded to the Parish Council's letter regarding Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). He advised that preparatory work on an Affordable Housing, Design and Developer Contributions SPDs began last year with a view for them to be approved for public consultation towards the end of 2020 but these were put on hold following the publication of the Planning for the Future and Changes to the Planning System consultation papers. He also confirmed that the local plan was up to date and that SPDs cannot introduce new policy or change existing local plan.

Item 11: The Planning and Monitoring Policy is now available on the Parish Council's website and is due to be reviewed in February 2022.

Item 12: The agreed change to the Play Area Inspection and Maintenance policy has been made. The updated policy is available on the Parish Council's website.

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## Items requiring explanation on the 1 March agenda

Item 9: Ben Handford resigned from the Parish Council in February and is currently the named councillor in the Social Media Policy.

Item 10.3: The Parish Council have been given the opportunity to comment on the Greater Norwich Local Plan. The proposed submission documents can be found at [www.gnlp.org.uk](http://www.gnlp.org.uk). The deadline for comments to be made is Monday 15 March 2021.

Item 10.4: The Parish Council have been advised that the Neighbourhood Plan should be reviewed and updated to ensure the document is clearer and more robust. As a result of this advice, it was requested, at the February meeting, that this item be included in the March agenda.

Item 10.5: In the February meeting the Parish Council agreed the new terms of reference for the planning working group and amended the name from Neighbourhood Plan delivery and monitoring group to Planning and Monitoring group. This discussion led to the councillors asking if the Neighbourhood Planning group should be formally disbanded and a request for this to be included on the March agenda.

Item 11: At the last meeting, the Parish Council decided to accept the generous offer from a local resident of funding some dog poo signs. The council agreed to involve the local children to design the signs and to try to highlight the issue. Since the last meeting, Mattishall Primary School have been contacted and are keen to get the children involved.

Item 12: Last month the Parish Council agreed a pay scale and where to advertise the role of handyperson. Applications have now been received.

Item 13: The Parish Council have previously agreed, in principle, to install a gate at the back of the village green. It is hoped that 3 quotations will be available at the meeting for the councillors to consider.

Item 14: With the government announcing an easing of lockdown, it is expected that the Youth Club could soon begin to reopen its doors.

Item 15: Mattishall Memorial Hall and Playing Fields Association closed their play area last year due to safety issues. They have approached the Parish Council to ask for help in terms of a donation.

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Item 16: Operation Forth Bridge is the name given to the procedures that will take place when the Duke of Edinburgh passes. We will enter a period of national mourning when local government will be asked to carefully consider carrying on official business.

Item 17: The Parish Council had previously agreed to celebrate post COVID-19 period. With the ease of lockdown in sight, the councillors can start to prepare for the planned celebration.

Item 18: Since the last meeting, Anglian Water have been sent details about the issues raised by residents in Robert Key Drive, Moorfield Road and Wesley Close. No response has been received to date. Highways have visited South Green and I am waiting for their feedback. The Lead Local Flood Authority have advised they are planning to visit again the second week of March and aim to publish the Flood Investigation Reports in the summer. Please continue to keep me informed about the issues you are experiencing.

Item 21: The Chairman's long-term projects working group was formed in January. During the discussion in January the council requested they present to the full council in February or March.

## Additional items for information

Ben Handford – has resigned from the Parish Council. As a result, a notice of vacancy has been posted on both village noticeboards and the website. The notice requests 10 people from the parish, who are on the electoral roll, to write to the Returning Officer, should they wish for an election to be held. Breckland District Council have confirmed the deadline for these requests as 3 March. If there have been fewer than 10 requests the Parish Council will be issued papers to allow the vacancy to be filled by co-option. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please contact me.

Play area and outdoor gym – the outdoor gym remains shut due to the latest government COVID restrictions and is not currently being inspected on a weekly basis. The play area is getting lots of use and I ask that you ensure you are following the latest government guidelines when in this area.

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Dog fouling – this continues to be an issue around the village. I ask that you please clear up after your dog and either use the bins provided or take it home with you to dispose of safely.

Burgh Lane cemetery – the wall was damaged by a lorry in November. The company concerned agreed to provide details about the repair, but these have not been forthcoming. I have now requested details of their insurance company so that this matter can be progressed.