

Clerk's report

March 2021

Mattishall Parish Council



Photos: Top – view from Crosskeys Way. Bottom left – view from Mill Road. Bottom right – sunset on Back Lane.

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The items below relate to actions/resolutions from the 1 March meeting:

Items 7, 8 and 9: All risk assessments and policies have been amended as agreed and the website has been updated with the latest versions.

Item 10.3: The council agreed the response to the Greater Norwich Local Plan should reflect the response from CPRE. This response was rejected under regulation 19, which relates to the soundness and legal compliance of the plan.

Item 10.4: District Councillor Ian Martin has produced a written note, as agreed, but the council do not believe they have enough information to discuss if a review of the neighbourhood plan is required.

10.5: The councillors have provided contact details of the non-council members of the neighbourhood planning group and these have all be written to.

Item 12: A new handyman has been appointed, Josh Staff, and will start working with the Parish Council on 1 April.

Item 13: The gate has been installed at the back of the village green but this has been damaged already.

Item 15: Mattishall Memorial Hall and Playing Field Association have been contacted regarding the councillors' comments, and they are now considering their next steps.

Item 17: The steering group for the post Covid celebration has not yet met but the councillors are beginning to contact local clubs.

Item 21: The long-term working group have not yet met.

Items requiring explanation on the 6 April agenda

Item 9: Current legislation allows virtual meetings to take place until 7 May 2021. The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled to take place on 18 May and would have to be face to face to ensure legal compliance, but it is unclear what the legislation will be on public gatherings on 18 May.

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Item 10: I met Local Lead Flood Authority, Highways and Anglian Water, with Cllr Turner and some residents, in March. We visited some of the sites highlighted by residents as causing significant issues. I would like to thank the residents who met with us to explain and highlight the concerns many of you share. A report on this meeting will be available on the website.

Cllr Nunn has been in contact with Breckland District Council and Anglian Water to try to understand if the conditions, relating to flooding, under the planning application for the Walnut Tree Fields have been met.

Cllr Borrett has offered to support some flood work at South Green which we are currently discussing with Highways

Item 13: I have resigned from my position as clerk with my last day being 29 April.

Item 15: There are cracks in All Saints Churchyard wall, facing the butchers and a hole in the section facing the chip shop. Quotes are being collected for these.

Item 16: Burgh Lane cemetery wall was hit in November by a lorry. Although Arborsolve have admitted the damage they have not agreed to any repairs. Repairs are needed to the wall and railings and the quote the council obtained for the wall was rejected by Arborsolve. They have expressed a wish to use their own contractor but so far have been unable to provide any details of the repair or contractor. I have also requested details of their insurance to enable the council to pursue this route but this information has not yet been provided. While the council made sure temporary measures were put in place to ensure public safety these measures have now been in place for 5 months and the matter needs to be addressed.

Item 18: Since the installation of the gate at the rear of the village green, a local farmer has noted there have been a number of children playing in the farm. This raises concerns of safety and I have asked for an update ahead of the meeting.

Item 22: In September 2020, the council asked for residents' views on the advertising signs around the village. The feedback was that while they wanted local businesses to be able to advertise and grow, they did not like the out of date and tatty signs. The council would now like to discuss the definition of local.

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Additional items for information

A number of complaints have been received this month about the litter and dog poo around the village. Some of the bins are regularly overflowing. The council are checking with Breckland to see if these are currently being emptied on a weekly basis.

Some residents are also concerned about the number of children in the play area and on the village green, with concerns of social distancing not being observed, noise levels and damage to the war memorial and flowers.

Outdoor gym – the outdoor gym has reopened in line with government guidelines. When using this space, please ensure you are adhering to the latest government advice.

Parish Partnership Scheme – the council have been advised that their bid for part funding towards the installation of kerbing around the corner of All Saints' churchyard wall, on Church Plain and Dereham Road, has been successful. Works will be carried out later this year.

Vacancies – there are currently 2 councillor vacancies on the Parish Council and recruitment for a new clerk will soon begin. If you are interested in any of these roles please contact me for more information.