

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

619

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Cole (Vice Chair), Cross, Freeman, Hicks and Thomas and Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk).

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Bradshaw – Work Commitments.
Borough Cllr Rutt

2. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda:

There were no Declarations of Interests

There were no changes to members Register of Interests.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th October 2017 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freeman Seconded Cllr Hicks

4. Matters Arising:

The Chair noted the successful litter pick and thanked Cllr Hicks and all involved. Cllr Hicks said that in future, if there were more volunteers, she would like to extend the pick out along the Corby Road opposite the Golf Course to the junction with the A427.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair informed the Council that the revised plans had been approved by the Village Hall Trust and the architects had submitted the plans to Corby Borough Council for approval. All information pertaining to the development can be found on the website <http://www.cotmidhall.org.uk>. An Ordinary General Meeting of the Village Hall Trust would take place later in November.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Maintenance – Cllr Freeman informed the Council that TreeSpace had provided a detailed quote and pruning schedule for the fruit trees. The Council **agreed** to source two further quotes for this, in line with the financial regulations - the Chair will draw up a spec for a contract (*action SB*).

The Council noted that the six month maintenance contract on the culvert had come to an end and was up for review. It was **agreed** to ask the contractor to continue with the maintenance schedule which would include the pruning of the area around the obelisk, removal of nettles from the culvert bottom and the planting of bulbs in the culvert area.

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Swinglers Path – The Council noted that the new bin at the western end of Swinglers Path had been installed and that Corby Borough Council Environmental Department had refreshed the 'anti-fouling' stencil at either end of Swinglers Path and on the pavements at either side of the entrance to Darescroft.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Lighting Update – The Council was disappointed to note that the obelisk light still had not been repaired. Cllr Freeman will pursue with Corby Borough Council. (*action TF*).

General Highways Issues – Cllr Thomas raised the matter of vehicles speeding around the right angle bend from Cottingham onto Main Street Middleton, opposite Cottingham Primary School. It was suggested that PCSO Joe Devlin be informed with the possibility of providing some police and speed camera presence to monitor speeds (*action JM*). The Council noted that the deteriorating road surface at the junction of Main Street and Ashley Road had been reported to NCC Highways via Street Doctor.

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that all were in good order.

10. Defibrillator Project:

The Council was pleased to note that the defibrillator was being installed on December 11th. The Council **agreed** to organise an open familiarisation session after Christmas in the Village Hall, to which the Rockingham Wheelers, the Copy Holders, Cottingham Parish councillors, first responders and all residents would be invited. It is proposed that the Council provide key-rings to all household with details of the code to unlock the defibrillator cabinet.

11. Budget 2018/19 :

Concurrent Expenditure Grant 2018/19 - The Council expressed its concerns regarding the proposal by CBC to withdraw the concurrent expenditure grant and the implications this will have on the precept. This proposal is being discussed at the Rural Area Forum meeting on 23rd November at which the possibility of phasing out the grant over three years will be put forward. The Chair undertook to request a phasing out of the withdrawal over three years.

Budget and Precept - The Council **agreed** to defer approving the budget and setting the precept until after a decision has been made regarding the grant.

12. Planning:

17/00389/DPA 3 Camsdale Walk Extension to Main House

The Council noted that this application has been approved by CBC.

The Council referred to an email received from a member of the public interested in purchasing with a view to developing the land behind Bury Close. The Council **agreed** to respond to the email, reiterating that a proposal to build on this land was recently rejected by the Planning Inspectorate on the basis that development on this land would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area and would fail to preserve the setting of the listed building, Cottingham Hall. The Council did not consider that the track linking Main Street and disused stabling on this land to be suitable for vehicular access. It noted that it could not comment further on a hypothetical query.

13. Finance:

a) The following cheques were presented for signature and unanimously **agreed**:

101429	CHT – Defibrillator Equipment	2,336.20
101430	Clerk – November Salary and Expenses	314.79
101431	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	200.00
101432	Jamie Bradshaw – Culvert Maintenance	60.00
101433	Cottingham VHM – August Hall Hire	9.00

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

101434	St Mary Magdalene – Churchyard Strimming	250.00
101435	Lady Haigs – Poppy Wreath	40.20
101436	Jim Watts Signs – Phone box Plaque	30.00

Receipts
None

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,986.22
Business Reserve	166.43
Community Account	5,460.05
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<u>£12,022.20</u>

b) The Council unanimously **approved** the bank reconciliation which was then duly signed by the Chair.

14. Correspondence:

Amongst other correspondence were the following items, all e-mailed:

NCALC – Medium Term Financial Plan

CBC – Information on Parish Precept

NCC – Budget Consultation 2018/19 Phase 1

CBC – Electoral Register Form

NCALC – Budgeting and Precept Information

NCC – Requirements for Undertaking Urban Highway Grass Mowing

The Council **agreed** to undertake the urban highways grass mowing, the clerk will sign and return the required contract (*action JM*).

15. Business for next meeting:

Approval of Budget and setting Precept 2018/19

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.43 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 19th December 2017

Signed.....Chair Date.....

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