

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 17th October 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Cole (Vice Chair), Bradshaw, Freeman and Hicks, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk), CBC Suzanne Preston and PCSO Joe Devlin (arrived 7.40 pm).

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Cross and Thomas – Holiday 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 15th August 2017 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freeman Seconded Cllr Cole

4. Matters Arising:

The Council observed a successful apple pick in the orchard and noted that there were further apples to pick. Cllrs Brant and Freeman **agreed** to harvest these (*action SB & TF*).

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitors

CBC Suzanne Preston reported two incidents of fly tipping on behalf of CBC Allan Withpetersen. She highlighted the 'rural priorities' as being Parking, Speeding and Litter and raised awareness of the 'Big Pick' this coming week. She informed the Council that CBC wished to retain responsibility for stencilling the 'anti-fouling' signs on the pavements around the village. Ms Preston agreed to source a replacement for the missing sign prohibiting horse riding and dog fouling at the west end of Swinglers Path and to chase CBC Environmental Services regarding the installation of the new litter bin and the repairs to the obelisk lighting.

PCSO Devlin reported one incident of crime, a burglary to a household in the parish, and stressed the importance of reporting any suspicious activity, however trivial.

The Chair thanked the visitors who duly left the meeting at 7.50 pm.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair informed the Council that the revised plans were awaiting approval by the Village Hall Trust and the Council noted the importance of keeping this project moving forward.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Maintenance – The Council noted that the culvert was looking much better with the exception that the bottom of the culvert was becoming overgrown with nettles. It was suggested that a site meeting with the local gardener responsible for maintaining the culvert be arranged to discuss their removal. The condition of the grass in the Orchard was commended and the Council **agreed** to seek advice on pruning the fruit trees. Cllr Freeman will contact TreeSpace regarding this (*action TF*).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Swinglers Path – The Council identified the need for refreshing of the ‘anti-fouling’ stencil at either end of Swinglers Path and on the pavements at either side of the entrance to Darescroft as these are hot spots for dog mess. The Clerk will pass this on to CBC Suzanne Preston (*action JM*).

Lighting Update – The Council noted a possible faulty lamp at 3 Main Street as it seemed to be switched on during daylight hours - Cllr Freeman will pursue (*action TF*). Cllr Freeman said he was awaiting a response from CBC regarding the repair to the obelisk lighting.

General Highways Issues – The Council noted the deteriorating road surface on the corner at the junction of Main Street and Ashley Road. The Clerk will report this to NCC Highways via Street Doctor (*action JM*). The Council was pleased to observe that the presence of heavy agricultural machinery travelling along Main Street during Harvest had been greatly reduced. The Council **agreed** to circulate another note to the residents of Main Street thanking them for not parking on the pavements and to remind any that had perhaps forgotten. Cllr Brant will draft a note (*action SB*).

Jurassic way footpath linking The Hill to East Carlton Park – The Council expressed its disappointment that the nettles along the first section of the footpath had not been cleared despite many requests to Northants County Council. The Council **agreed** to tackle this itself next year.

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 electrical supply to the phone box had been re-established and Cllr Freeman had arranged for a plaque to be produced acknowledging the local decorator responsible for painting the box. Cllrs Brant, Bradshaw and Freeman will meet shortly to progress this project to the next stage (*action SB, BB and TF*).

11. Rural Housing Needs Survey:

The Council commented on a positive meeting in early September with Midland Rural Housing, an independent Rural Housing Consultant appointed by Corby Borough Council to carry out an independent Housing Needs Survey of the rural districts in the Borough, and representatives from Middleton, Cottingham and East Carlton Parish Councils. This survey has now been distributed to all households.

12. Planning:

There were no applications to discuss.

17/00328/DPA 48 Main Street Proposed alterations to dwelling and barn

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

13. Finance:

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

101423	BDO - External Audit	120.00
101424	Cottingham VPMC – August Hall Hire	9.00

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

101425	Clerk – October Salary and Expenses	306.79
101426	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	635.00
101427	Jamie Bradshaw – Culvert Maintenance	120.00
101428	Besthost – Website	17.25

Receipts

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,986.22
Business Reserve	166.43
Community Account	8,700.24
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<u>15,262.39</u>

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

c) **External Audit Report:**

The Clerk reported that the 2016/17 Audit had been successfully completed by the external auditor with no issues raised.

The Council **agreed** to transfer £1,000 from the NS & I Account into the Barclays current account.

Proposed Cllr Brant Seconded Cllr Freeman

14. Correspondence:

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

NCALC – September eUpdate
 CBC – Naming of Ashley Road Development
 Tom Pursglove MP – Dates of Surgeries
 CBC – Big Pick Week 16th October

The Council **agreed** the autumn Litter Pick - Sunday 5th November, 12.30 pm meet in the Orchard. The clerk will display the necessary posters (*action JM*).

15. Business for next meeting:

Nothing identified as yet.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 21st November 2017

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

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