

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

561

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 16th February 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Bradshaw, Cross, Freeman, Hicks and Thomas, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk), PCSO Hambly and County Councillor Heggs.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Cole and Borough Cllr Rutt.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings on 19th January 2016 were duly approved and signed.

Proposed Cllr Freeman Seconded Cllr Thomas

4. Matters Arising:

The Clerk said she would contact the landowner regarding the ivy overhanging the wall on Main Street (*action JM*).

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitors.

County Councillor Heggs informed of his presence in the area, delivering Police Information leaflets and coordinating with NCC Highways regarding potential yellow lines around Cottingham. The Council made clear that it does not currently see any need for the use of further yellow lines within Middleton.

PCSO Hambley reported on the crime statistics in the villages which had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. She highlighted the issue of motorcycle nuisance in the surrounding rural areas and asked that the residents be vigilant and to report any such incidents.

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

The Chair passed on information from Borough Council Rutt regarding the Cottingham and Middleton Conservation Area Appraisal (Revised Draft) which should be out for consultation later this month.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair informed the Council that a decision on the planning application for the New Village Hall should be reached by 8th March.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council discussed the refurbishment of the grass in the orchard – Cllr Cross will liaise with Green Thumb on their next visit to the village and Cllr Freeman would pass the details of an alternative contractor to the Chair (*action KC and TF*).

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Swinglers Path – Cllr Cross reported from the site meeting with Neighbourhood Warden Ivan Barkham regarding signage and potential barriers along the path to inhibit cyclists and horse riding. The Council **agreed** to purchase two signs provided by Environmental Services at a cost of £52 and to request a quote for the barriers for Swingler's path. The Council discussed purchasing 'Dog Fouling' signs, Cllr Cross to pursue (*action KC*).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Lighting – The Council noted that the faulty light outside 27 Main Street had been reported. Cllr Cross informed the Council that the faulty light in the obelisk had been looked at by a local electrician and was found to have a faulty seal and control gear. The Council requested that a written quote for repair to these be sought, Cllr Cross **agreed** to contact the electrician for this (*action KC*).

Speed Warning Signs – The Council discussed purchasing the flashing speed activated warning signs and **agreed** to obtain quotes for these. The Chair advised that she understood that the upgrading of the 30 mph signs around the village was on the NCC Highways work list. This would involve bigger signs with orange surrounds. The Council would consider funding this upgrade to speed the process up if it was not high priority with the County – the Chair **agreed** to pursue with Sarah Barnwell from County Highways (*action JM and SB*).

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had passed on his report prior to the meeting. He had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that all were in order.

10. Review of Internal Controls including Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations:

The Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations had been circulated to all Councillors for review prior to the meeting. Taking the review of the policies and procedures into consideration and The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, regulation 4(2) the Parish Council **agreed** that it believes there is an adequate system of internal controls in place to safeguard the assets and finances of the Parish Council to mitigate the risk of loss or damage. The Council re-iterated that Cllr Bradshaw would become the third signatory on the Parish bank account (*action JM*).

11. Changes to External Audit:

The Council noted that the SLB, which is called Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd, will effectively carry out the function of the Audit Commission related to external audit for parish and town councils. It will procure external auditors and oversee external audit arrangements. On recommendation from NCALC, the Council **agreed** to remain opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the procurement of external audit from 2017.

12. Litter Pick:

The Council **agreed** to organise a village litter pick in conjunction with the 'Clean for the Queen' National Campaign to commemorate her Majesty's 90th Birthday on 5th March, 12 noon until 3pm, meet in the Orchard. The Clerk **agreed** to contact CBC Environmental Services to request the necessary litter picking equipment (*action JM*).

13. Planning:

16/00010/DPA Willow Cottage Single Storey Extension and Replacement Windows
The Council considered this application and made no objection.

15/00471/DPA – Ashmead – First Floor Extension The Council noted that this application had been refused by Corby Borough Council.

14. Finance:

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

101326	Cottingham VHMC – Hall Hire	18.00
101327	Clerk – February Salary and Expenses	283.70
101328	Clerk – New Website Set-up Costs	50.00

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

b) Receipts	
Transparency Fund Grant	800.00
Interest	414.32
c) SUMMARY OF BALANCES	
National Savings	55,651.85
Business Reserve	166.35
Community Account	10,276.32
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<u>16,504.02</u>

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

The Clerk was pleased to report that the Council's bid to the NALC Transparency Fund to enable compliance with the Transparency Code had been successful. Monies had been received for a new scanner, website access and extra hours to upload documents

15. Correspondence:

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

NCC – Parish Satisfaction Questionnaire

NALC – Jan/Feb Update / Training Calendar / Good Cllr Guide / Transparency Fund Update

CBC – Rural Forum Minutes and Agenda 17th March / JAG Activities

16. Business for next meeting:

None identified at present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next meeting on Tuesday 15th March 2016

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.