

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

575

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 19th July 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

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

1. Apologies for Absence: Borough Cllr Rutt and CBC Suzanne Preston.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 17th May 2016 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Hicks

4. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising by the minutes not covered on the agenda.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitor.

County Councillor Heggs stated that there may be more monies available to the parish from his Councillor Empowerment Fund. The Council confirmed that Rockingham Forest Wheelers had agreed to contribute £300 towards the purchase of a Community Defibrillator but that there would be costs relating to the refurbishment of the Phone Box prior to its installation. It reminded Cllr Heggs that the finger post at the junction of Ashley Road and Wire Lane was still awaiting repair. Councillor Heggs undertook to chase his contact at the County Council in this regard.

The Chair thanked the visitor who duly left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair reported from a meeting between the Chair of the Village Hall Trust (Pete Bowman), the architect and the planner. It had been suggested that the new hall be repositioned slightly on the plot and the architect is in the process of producing new drawings.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council noted that the Green Thumb had made progress with weeding and reseeding the grass. Further maintenance was noted as required – removal of ground elder from the orchard and nettles from the culvert and a loose slab in the Orchard. The Council **agreed** to contact gardeners in the village regarding this work. The Council observed that it would be a shame if the apples from the orchard went to waste as they did last year and **agreed** to encourage the residents to collect them.

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Purchase of Barriers on Swinglers Path – A discussion took place regarding these barriers, the Council **agreed** to obtain the ‘hoop’ type and Cllr Cross will contact Corby Borough Council regarding their siting and fitting (*action KC*).

Obelisk Light, Glover Court – This has been reported to CBC and allocated to Eon to repair.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Speed Warning Signs – The Chair informed the Council that it was still waiting for NCC Highways Steve Barber to site the trial speed activated warning sign on Ashley Road. The Council **agreed** to contact NCC Sarah Barnwell to arrange a site visit to look at road markings and to discuss the parish council's purchase and siting of new replacement signs (*action SB*).

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that other than the benches in the orchard which needed re-oiling, all were in order. The Council **agreed** to source a local handyman to carry out these routine maintenance jobs (*action JM*).

The Council noted that the bench on Main Street had been re-varnished and returned.

The Council discussed the refurbishment of the phone box in preparation for the defibrillator project. Cllr Freeman will contact the landowner regarding the overgrown ivy (*action TF*). Cllrs Brant and Bradshaw will convene to progress the initiative (*action SB and BB*).

The Council **agreed** to write to the residents of 8 Main Street regarding the overgrown ivy hampering pedestrian use of the path.

10. Planning:

Partial demolition of double garage and construction of a new dwelling at 16 Main Street, Middleton, LE16 8YU

Appeal reference: APP/U2805/W/15/3141328 - Awaiting a decision from Planning Inspectorate

Appeal APP/U2805/W/15/3005683– Land off Bury Close – The Council noted that this appeal had been turned down.

11. Finance:

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

101345	Besthost – Website Subscription	17.25
101346	Cottingham VHMC – May Hall Hire	12.00
101347	Clerk – June/July Salary and Expenses	583.34
101348	Green Thumb – Orchard Maintenance	126.00
101349	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	470.00
101350	Brunel Signs – Dg Fouling Signs	78.01
101351	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	210.00
101352	Cottingham VHMC – Hall Hire	12.00

Received:

CBC Precept	6,606.00
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SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,651.85
Business Reserve	166.37
Community Account	12,490.04
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<u>18,717.76</u>

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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

c) Application to Transparency Fund:

The Council **agreed** an application to the Transparency Fund for £509.88 for website hosting charges and staff hours to maintain council transparency.

d) New Clerk Salary Scales:

The 2016-2018 National Salary Award for Clerks was circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The Council **agreed** to implement the increase immediately, back dated to 1st April 2016.

12. Correspondence:

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

CBC - Rural Area Forum / Prevent Awareness Session / Rural Days of Action /
Neighbourhood Warden Report

NCC Highways – Public Bus Service 67

NCALC – Practitioners Guide / Update / New Salary Scales

The Council noted that the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) had been adopted by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Committee and would request a hard copy of the document once produced.

13. Business for next meeting:

None identified at present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.32 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 20th September 2016

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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