

# MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

589

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Cross, Hicks, Freeman and Thomas, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk), PCs Walker and Wilson and County Cllr Heggs.

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

2. Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

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3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freeman      Seconded Cllr Cross

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4. Matters Arising:

The Council observed the black bin bags left on Cottingham Road which were thought to contain fallen leaves, collected and awaiting collection by Corby Borough Council. The Council will follow up and report to CBC if otherwise.

The Clerk was reminded of the outstanding action to contact Northamptonshire County Council regarding the designation of the Orchard as a Pocket Park (*action JM*).

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5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitors.

County Councillor Heggs stated that there were more monies available to the parish from his Councillor Empowerment Fund. The Council requested that this be put towards an emergency cellular phone to accompany the defibrillator and refurbishment of the phone box prior to the installation of the defibrillator. Cllr Heggs will send the necessary paperwork to the Chair for urgent completion.

PC Walker briefed the Council on the changes in legislation regarding dog control. He stated that it is against the law to let a dog be dangerously out of control anywhere, either in a public or private place, e.g. a private house or garden (including the owner's home). The law applies to all dogs. It is important to note that a dog is considered dangerously out of control if it injures someone or if someone is worried that it might injure them. The owner and the person walking the dog (if the person walking the dog is not the owner), would be liable to prosecution in the event that a dog was deemed dangerously out of control. A dog attacking or biting another dog is not necessarily considered dangerous under this law.

PC Walker also informed the Council of a village door knock on 24<sup>th</sup> January in order to identify local police priorities. He identified the new rural PCSO as Joe Devlin, contact details 101 Et 778819, email [joe.devlin@northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:joe.devlin@northants.pnn.police.uk)

The Chair thanked the visitors who duly left the meeting at 8.10 pm  
(Meeting closed to the public.)

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6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

There was nothing further to report at present.

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Signed.....Chair

Date.....

### 7. Orchard and Open Space:

**Maintenance** – The Council was concerned to note that dog fouling signs had been removed from the culvert area and Swingers Path. Cllr Cross will source additional signs to replace these. There are also two larger dog fouling signs remaining to be installed on Main Street (*action KC&SB*).

**Mole Eradication** – The Clerk informed the Council that the moles had been successfully eradicated by Acclaim Environmental.

### 8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

**Speed Warning Signs** – The Council noted that the temporary speed sign was due to be installed on the Ashley Road by County Highways Officer Steve Barber on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

**Parking on pavements** The Council returned to the matter of residents' concerns regarding cars parked on the pavement on Main Street. Some cars parked on Main Street are impeding access to the pavement by pedestrians, mobility scooters and buggies. The state of repair of the pavement edges was noted to be very poor in some areas of Main Street and this is exacerbated by parking on the pavement. The Northants County Council budget for repair of pavements is very limited and is not likely to increase in future.

The Council **agreed** the note drafted by the Clerk to residents requesting that they park on the road and not partly on the pavement, in order to ensure adequate and safe space for pedestrians, buggies and mobility scooters to use the pavements and to preserve the path and kerb stones from damage. The Clerk will arrange for circulation (*action JM*).

**Lighting Update** – The Clerk reported that she and Cllr Cross had met with Balfour Beatty on site with regards to a potential new light on the footpath alongside the culvert in Glover Court. It was **agreed** that unfortunately the cost for this was prohibitive and that as there was an alternative lit route the other side of the culvert, the Council **agreed** not to pursue at this time. Cllr Thomas drew the Council's attention to the faulty light on the junction of School Hill and Camsdale Walk which had still not been repaired. Cllr Freeman will pursue (*action TF*).

**Community Enhancement Gang 2017 Requests** – The Council **agreed** to request the clearance of storm drains, the cleaning of all village and speed signs and the clearing of vegetation from the Ashley Road Gateway. The clerk will submit the necessary forms (*action JM*).

At this point the Chair referred to correspondence from a local resident regarding heavy goods vehicles on School Hill and the resulting damage to verges which has been reported to NCC Highways.

### 9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

In the absence of Cllr Cole there was nothing to report.

### 10. Defibrillator Project:

The Chair circulated a formal quote recently received from the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) for a defibrillator and an emergency cellular phone. The Council **agreed** the quote for £2,116 and an annual rental of £60 for the phone, exclusive of VAT. The Chair will clarify that these quoted figures are current before placing the order and the sub-group will move the project forward (*action SB*).

### 11. Neighbourhood Plan:

The Council **agreed** a sub committee of Cllrs Brant, Cross and Thomas which would begin to look at the possibility of formulating a Neighbourhood Plan in terms of work involved and associated costs.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

12. Litter Pick:

The Council set a provisional date of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April for the next Litter Pick. Cllr Hicks **agreed** to check Cllrs availability (*action GH*).

13. Planning:

**16/00526/DPA Land at Ashley Road Erection of three 4 bedroom houses, associated garages and means of access**

The Council noted that planning permission for two houses has already been granted by the Planning Inspector.

It considered this application for an additional dwelling and made no comment.

**16/00448/DPA 10 Darescroft Single storey rear extension with balcony over**

The Council noted that this application had been approved.

13. Finance:

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

101377	ICO Data Protection	35.00
101378	Cottingham VHMC – December Hall Hire	6.00
100379	J Medwell – January Clerk Salary and Expenses	294.54

## SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,651.85
Business Reserve	166.41
Community Account	8,745.24
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<b><u>14,973.00</u></b>

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

14. Correspondence:

CBC - Joint Action Group Task List

CBC – Details of Great British Spring Clean

NCC - Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update: Proposed Modifications - Invitation to Join

NCALC – Details of New External Auditor

15. Business for next meeting:

Review of Risk Assessment, Financial Regulations and Asset Register

Cllrs Brant, Bradshaw and Cross gave their apologies for the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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