

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs Cole (Acting Chair), Hicks, Freeman and Thomas, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk) and County Cllr Heggs.

1. Apologies for Absence: Approved - Cllrs Brant, Bradshaw and Cross – Holiday and Work Commitments. Borough Cllr Rutt and CBC Neighbourhood Warden Allan Withpetersen.

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

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

Proposed Cllr Thomas Seconded Cllr Hicks

4. Matters Arising:

Cllrs Brant and Freeman will attend the NACRE Neighbourhood Plan Day on 25th May. The clerk will book the necessary places (*action JM*).

The Council noted that the County Council was not designating any further pocket parks in the County. The Council suggested that this area in Middleton was referred to in future as a 'Community Orchard' and was mindful to ensure that Corby's Joint Local Plan designates and protects it appropriately.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitors.

County Councillor Heggs was thanked for his further contribution of £1,000 for the community defibrillator.

The Chair thanked the visitor who duly left the meeting at 7.42 pm

The Council noted the following e-mailed report from CBC Neighbourhood Warden 'Various fly tipping along Harborough Road (Middleton Lane) and Ashley Road, unfortunately no evidence was found linking the items to households.

Dog fouling - residents requested that if they have any details (times, locations, dog breed etc) to forward that information on the Environmental Team at CBC).'

Main Street will be monitored to ensure that the double parking does not cause an obstruction to emergency vehicles, buses and refuse collectors.'

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

There was nothing further to report at present.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Maintenance – Cllr Hicks advised the Council that the green sleeves covering the trees in the orchard needed to come off. Cllr Cole **agreed** to assess and it was suggested that these could be removed at the next litter pick (*action AC*).

Various council members had removed some of the abandoned black bags containing grass cuttings – Cllr Hicks **agreed** to contact CBC Suzanne Preston to arrange to have the

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

remaining bags collected along with the bags dumped at the entrance to Wood Lane on the Old Harborough Road (*action GH*).

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Speed Warning Signs – The Council noted that the temporary speed sign had been installed on Main Street rather than the expected site on Ashley Road and was awaiting connection. It was expected that this would be done when County Highways Officer Steve Barber visited the village on 3rd March. At this point the Council was pleased to observe that residents on Main Street had heeded the note to avoid parking on pavements and were now parking fully on the road. This was having the positive effect of slowing vehicles travelling along Main Street.

Lighting Update – Cllr Freeman **agreed** to pursue the faulty obelisk lamp and the light outside Manor House which still had not been repaired (*action TF*).

NCC Highways Parish Satisfaction Survey – The Council **agreed** to complete this survey, highlighting the cleaning of all village and speed signs and the removal of kerbside weeds as parish priorities (*action JM*).

At this point Cllr Thomas referred to the overgrown ivy obstructing the pavement outside 8 Main Street. The clerk will contact the landowner (*action JM*).

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole reported that all were in reasonable winter condition. Two of the three benches have been re-varnished and replaced. The third is currently being treated.

10. Defibrillator Project:

The Council noted that it was awaiting a response from the Community Heartbeat Trust on information regarding the reconnection of the electric supply in the phone box. Cllr Freeman **agreed** to contact a local decorator to provide a quote for painting the phone box (*action TF*).

11. Review of Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations:

The Risk Assessment and the new model 2016 NCALC Financial Regulations had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. These were reviewed and **agreed** with no amendments as set out in The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Proposed Cllr Hicks Seconded Cllr Thomas

12. Planning:

17/00026/LBC 50 Main Street Retrospective Planning Consent for Skylights

This application had been circulated and considered prior to the meeting. The Council made no comment.

At this point it was noted that Cllr Freeman and the clerk will be meeting with County Highways and the developer Hereward Homes on 3rd March to discuss moving the Ashley Road 'Gateway' to accommodate the potential new development on the Ashley Road (*action TF and JM*).

13. Finance:

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

100380	J Medwell – January Clerk Salary and Expenses	294.54
100381	Wilko – Ink Cartridge	20.00
100382	Kastro Logic – Repair to Computer/AntiVirus Software	241.41

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Receipts	
NCC Cllr Empowerment Fund – Contribution to Defibrillator	1,000.00
CBC Maintenance Monies for Orchard	1,474.00
National Savings – Interest	334.43

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,986.22
Business Reserve	166.43
Community Account	10,663.30
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,590.50
Total:	<u>17,225.45</u>

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

The Council unanimously approved the 2017 season grass cutting quote from Steve Morphy which remains the same as last year but with a reduction of £10 per cut after 8 cuts.

14. Correspondence:

CBC - Rural Days of Action w/c 13th March
 Police – Middleton Crime Statistics
 NCALC – Jan/Feb eUpdate
 ACRE – Neighbourhood Plan Training Day

15. Business for next meeting:

Dog Fouling Leaflet Drop – Cllr Hicks will draft (*action GH*).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

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

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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