

# MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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The Annual Meeting of the Parish was held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Cole, Cross, Freeman, Hicks and Thomas and Mrs Medwell (Clerk).

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence: Cllr Bradshaw.

2. Minutes of 2016 Meeting: These had previously been unanimously approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Chair's Annual Report 2016-17 – The following report was presented by Cllr Brant and circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

“I am pleased to report that the Council has had a full complement of Councillors for the whole of the last year and I'd like to record my thanks to all of them and our Parish Clerk for their time, energy and enthusiasm in supporting the work of the Council.

## **Planning**

During the year the Planning Inspector reached a long awaited decision on the appeal relating to the proposal to build 31 houses on the land behind Bury Close and Cottingham Hall. The application and appeal had been the subject of strong objections from local residents and Middleton Parish Council made written and oral representations to the Planning Inspector. The Planning Inspector dismissed the appeal in June and refused planning permission. This decision was warmly welcomed by the Council.

The Cottingham and Middleton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan was formally approved as a Supplementary Planning Document in late April 2016 and it has informed planning decisions since that date. In September Corby Borough Council referred to the document as one of the reasons for rejecting a proposed development at the historic heart of the village on Main Street. The Parish Council welcomed this decision and has found the document very useful in informing its response to other planning applications within the village.

In November, Corby Borough Council undertook consultation on the scope and content of the Local Plan that it is required to develop to underpin the Joint Core Strategy for North Northamptonshire. The Parish Council responded to the consultation document in some detail commenting on matters such as the protection and enhancement of environmental and historic assets; ensuring high quality development and Corby's policy on villages and rural areas. The Council looks forward to working with Corby BC as its plans are formulated and then developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the village that complements it.

## **The Street scene**

The funding target for the installation of a Community Defibrillator in Middleton's public phone box has been met and the Council is working with the Community Heartbeat Trust on the project to install a defibrillator. Unfortunately, the electrical connection to the box has been inadvertently severed by BT and therefore the CHT is liaising with BT to have it reconnected. Once this has been achieved the phone box will be refurbished and a defibrillator installed. The type of equipment chosen will be suitable for use by any member of the community and will have video instruction.



decision is accompanied by a clear commitment to ensure that the resources which are the responsibility of the Parish Council are put to the best use for the benefit of all parts of the community”

4. Presentation of Financial Statement 2016-2017 – The Clerk referred to the statement of financial accounts and reported that the balances as of 31st March 2016 totalled £65,366. This consists of £49,590 ring fenced for the new Village Hall, £2,600 for the Defibrillator and £13,176 reserves.

5. Meeting Open to the Public: There were no members of the public present.

The meeting closed at 7.53pm

Signed as a true record:

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Clerk

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Date

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