

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

628

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

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

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Hicks – Holiday commitment

County Cllr Naden Horley and Borough Cllr Rutt

2. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda:

There were no Declarations of Interests

There were no changes to members Register of Interests.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2018 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Bradshaw Seconded Cllr Brant

4. Matters Arising:

Partial blockage of Occupation Lane by hedgerow growth - The Chair and Clerk had visited the site, the Clerk will contact the landowner of the overgrown hedge requesting this is cleared (*action JM*). The Chair informed the Council that Borough Cllr Rutt had undertaken to repair the gate to the lane in order that it could potentially be closed with a combination lock, subject to agreement by the landowners.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair informed the Council that the application was planned for the CBC Planning Committee on 13th March with a recommendation for approval but CBC has recently asked for a tree survey and it was unclear whether this would delay its consideration.

All information pertaining to the development can be found on the website <http://www.cotmidhall.org.uk>.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Tree Pruning – The Council noted that approval for the required tree works had been received from Corby Borough Council and that TreeSpace had been instructed and would phase the works over the coming months.

At this point the Council discussed the use of the Orchard as one of the stages in the Christmas 'Walking Nativity' event. Concerns were expressed about such a large number of people, including many children, walking into the orchard in the dark, as the space is unlit and the surface uneven. It was agreed that in future the organisers should be asked undertake a risk assessment on the Orchard prior to the event (*action JM to inform the organisers Kathleen Tilley and Angela Preston Jones*). The Council raised the possibility of some tree sited solar lighting to improve visibility – Cllrs Freeman and Cole volunteered to pursue this (*action TF and AC*).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Litter Pick – The Council noted that the equipment was unavailable on 4th March and therefore **agreed** the next litter pick as being Sunday 25th March 10 o'clock meet at the Orchard - subject to availability of the necessary equipment from CBC. (*Action JM to inform Cottingham PC and arrange for posters for both villages to inform residents*).

Jurassic Way Footpath – The Council referred to a recent incident where the gate to the Jurassic Way footpath opposite the Red Lion pub had been locked by the landowner concerned for the safety of the horses in the adjacent fields. The site had been visited by a Sarah Cureton from Northamptonshire Rights of Way Team who, subject to finance, proposed the replacement of the gates at the end of the public footpath with a chicane type barrier. The issues of horse riders using the Public Footpath would be monitored and if necessary “no horses” signage added. The Council discussed providing this signage and **agreed** to pursue quotes for this from Brunel Signs (*action SB*).

Lighting Update – Nothing to report.

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that all were in good order. He suggested that a hard surface be reinstated at the entrance to the phone box which was thought to have been dug up during the reconnection of the electrical supply. Cllr Cole also raised the replacement of the deteriorating wooden surround to the footpath in the orchard which has been removed as it had rotted. The Council **agreed** to seek quotes to replace this (*action JM*).

10. Defibrillator Project:

The Council was pleased to note that the defibrillator had finally been installed and the emergency phone activated. An open familiarisation session in the Village Hall had been organised for 10 am on Saturday 24th February and it was agreed that notification of this would be delivered to all Middleton residents before Saturday along with a key fob containing the access code. The Chair would contact Cottingham Parish Council to ask if they wished to organise delivery of a similar note to Cottingham residents before Saturday (*action SB*). Cllr Freeman was commended for his recent works to the phone box and the Chair commended for her tireless work in driving this initiative.

11. Review of Risk Assessment and Asset Register:

The Risk Assessment and Asset Register had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Risk Assessment - The Council **agreed** to add monthly back-ups of electronic records by the clerk and to record the notice board as being reviewed on the monthly review of assets. This was then approved and duly signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

Asset Register – The defibrillator equipment valued at £2,400 and new litter bin valued at £318 were added to the register.

12. Northamptonshire County Council Section 114 Notice:

The Council referred to correspondence from County Cllr Naden-Horley which briefed the Council on the current position regarding Northamptonshire County Council and the Section 114 notice issued in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988. The Section 114 notice stipulates that the council is not permitted to spend monies on anything other than its statutory requirements for the foreseeable future. Cllr Naden-Horley stated that she will endeavour to ensure that the needs of the residents of Corby Rural are represented and taken into serious consideration in her continued dealings with the County Council.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Joint Meeting with Cottingham Parish Council:

The Council discussed the possibility of having an informal meeting with Cottingham Parish Council to discuss matters of joint interest. The Council **agreed** in principle, the Chair to inform Cllr Owen Davidson (*action SB*).

14. NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group plans for future health services:

It was noted that the Corby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) drop-in session at the Village Store and Cafe had been cancelled. The proposal was to maintain a 'Same Day Access Hub' open 8am to 8pm, led by GPs, guaranteeing same day appointments for anyone who needs one and with access to x-rays and other diagnostics.

15. Planning:

There were no planning applications to discuss.

16. Finance:

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

101444	Clerk – February Salary and Expenses	306.79
101445	Cottingham VHMC – Hall Hire	7.50
101446	Jamie Bradshaw – Culvert Maintenance	60.00
101447	CHT – Fobs for Defibrillator Code	129.00
101448	Information Commissioner – Data Protection	35.00

Receipts

NCC – Mowing Grant	110.17
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SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	47,486.22
Business Reserve	166.43

Community Account	4,080.06
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Less Allocation for Village Hall	42,090.50
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Total: **£9,642.21**

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

c) The Council **approved** the change of address for the registered office of the Council for the Barclays and NS&I accounts to 5 Main Street, Middleton, Market Harborough LE16 8YU.

17. Correspondence:

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

NCALC – eUpdate Jan/Feb

Midland Rural Housing – Middleton Housing Needs Survey Results

The Council **agreed** to contact Richard Mugglestone to request his attendance at a future meeting to discuss the results

CBC – Rural Area Forum – Agenda 15th March

In the Chair's absence, Cllr Cole will attend the next meeting

Steve Morphy – 2018 Grass Cutting Contract

The Council **agreed** for Mr Morphy to undertake the grass cutting in the village. Mowing of the culvert will be removed from this contract.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

18. Business for next meeting:

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

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.01 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 20th March 2018

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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