

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

645

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 17th July 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Cole (Vice Chair), Bradshaw, Freeman and Hicks, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk) and Borough Cllr Rutt.

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Cross and Thomas – Work and Family Commitments.
County Cllr Naden-Horley

2. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Interest.

There were no changes to the members Registers of Interests.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 19th June 2018 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freeman Seconded Cllr Hicks

4. Matters Arising:

The Clerk informed the Council that letters had been sent to local land owners reminding them of the narrow width of roads through the village due to necessary on street parking by residents and the problems of access through the village for large agricultural vehicles. It was felt that fewer large agricultural vehicles had been coming along Main Street in recent weeks but that harvest is not yet in full swing.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitor.

Borough Cllr Rutt updated the Council on the Corby's current position regarding the request from the rural parishes that it co-subsidises (with Kettering BC) a pilot scheduled bus service between Corby and Market Harborough servicing the rural villages. A decision on this has been deferred until the Full Council meeting in September. He also informed the Council that Corby Borough Council had taken responsibility for the overgrown section of land to the east of the entrance to Glover Court, which falls within Cottingham Parish boundary. This will be cleared after the nesting period and once a check for asbestos has been completed the pumping station will be removed. Cllr Rutt referred to a fly tip on Occupation Lane in which some names and addresses had been found and the potential perpetrator contacted.

The Chair thanked Borough Cllr Rutt who duly left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

There was nothing further to report at this time; the latest information from the Planning Department is that the application will be heard on 7 August 2018.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council noted a successful choir summer event on 1st July.

The Council discussed next years lawn maintenance plan and **agreed** to use Joe's Lawn Care for the Orchard on a 'pay as you go' basis. The Clerk will refer the overgrown nettles in the culvert to Jamie Bradshaw (*action JM*).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

8. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

School Hill Traffic Management – The Chair informed the Council that NCC Highways representative Sarah Barnwell had met with residents and members of the Council on School Hill on Friday 22nd June to look at the possibility of signing the gradient and the narrow/restricted access from the Camsdale Walk junction down the slope and upwards from the Hill. There was no ideal place to situate such signs but NCC Sarah Barnwell is pursuing the matter and exploring the best site for the signs.

Jurassic Way / Swinglers Path ‘No Horse Riding’ Signage – The Council noted that signs for Jurassic Way and the replacement sign for the Darescroft entrance to Swinglers Path had been ordered from Brunel Signs.

Cllr Freeman informed the Council that the potholes on Mill Road had been reported and the water leak on Ashley Road repaired.

9. 67 Bus Service Cessation

The Chair reiterated the current situation regarding the pilot Welland Valley 16 Seat Bus Service from Corby to Market Harborough twice weekly. Kettering Borough Council has pledged £3,000 as long as the subsidy was matched. Corby Borough Council had deferred a decision to pledge the same amount and it was expected that this amount would have to be funded in the meantime. The rural parishes’ discontent with the need to meet this cost from their meagre budgets had been made clear to Corby BC councillors at the Rural Area Forum the previous week.

10. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that all were in good order. The Clerk informed the Council that the routine monthly check of the defibrillator had been carried out and recorded on the CHT Webnos website.

11. Corby Local Plan Part 2:

The Council referred to the consultation on the Local Plan Part 2 – Emerging Draft Options, making particular reference to sections on rural housing, local green spaces, public transport and water treatment sewage works as ‘bad neighbours’ in planning terms.

There was some discussion regarding these issues and the points that the Council might want to make in their regard. The Chair urged those Council members who had not yet read the parts of the consultation document relevant to the Council, to do so, and **agreed** to draft and circulate a response for comment and amendment by colleagues (*action SB*).

It was noted that there was to be a drop in session on the consultation document held by Corby BC Planning Department at Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall on 19 July 3-8pm and that this would be useful to obtain answers to any questions arising after reading the consultation document.

At this point the Chair reported on a Local Government Reform Stakeholder Event attended by herself and the Clerk, the aim of which was to get a view on the proposed two unitary authorities to be formed on the abolition of Northants CC and Corby BC. Parish Councils would remain unchanged although they may have a change in their responsibilities. The presentation included the background to the current position, the need for urgent change and how it is proposed each authority would be formed (each must have a population in excess of 300K, must be based on existing council boundaries and will carry forward the current levels of NCC debt).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

12. Cottingham and Middleton Joint Meeting:

The Chair informed the Council of an informal joint meeting between the two parish councils on 24th July at which matters such as the new Village Hall, Neighbourhood Planning, litter picking, village fete and community engagement will be discussed.

13. Planning:

There were no planning applications to discuss.

14. Finance:

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

101476	Clerk – May Salary and Expenses	315.76
101477	Brunel Signs – Sign for Swingers Path	25.26
101478	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	210.00
101479	Jamie Badshaw – Culvert Maintenance	60.00
101480	Cottingham VHM – June Hire	12.00
101481	Curtis Website Design – Website Maintenance	23.00

Receipts

CBC – Precept	7,149.00
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SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	47,749.18
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Business Reserve	166.54
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Community Account	8,658.59
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Less Allocation for Village Hall	40,940.50
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Total:	15,633.81
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b) The Council unanimously **approved** the bank reconciliation which was then duly signed by the Chair.

15. Correspondence:

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

NCALC – Mini Update

CBC – Rural Area Forum 19th July

Northants Police – Online Crime Reporting Facility

16. Business for next meeting:

There was none identified at present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 28th August 2018

Signed.....Chair Date.....

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