

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

676

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 18th June 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

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

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Bradshaw, Freestone and Hicks – Work and Holiday Commitments
County Cllr Naden-Horley

2. Election of Vice Chair:

The position of Vice Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr Freeman nominated Cllr Cole and was seconded by Cllr Brant. Cllr Cole **agreed** to become Vice Chair.

Cllr Cole signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

3. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interests.

There were no changes to the members Registers of Interests.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings on 21st May 2019 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freeman

Seconded Cllr Thomas

5. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising not covered on the agenda.

6. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

7. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair informed the Council that the Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Trust (Northants) which was overseeing the funding and building of the new village hall was planning to change its charitable status to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in order that it can take ownership of the Village Acre on which the new Community Hub is to be built. A public announcement will be made in a local newspaper in this regard and there will be a public meeting at which the change will be explained.

8. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council noted that all but two of the overgrown trees along the road into Glover Court had been cut back. The Clerk will follow up with the contractor (*action JM*).

Cllr Brant offered to cut back the overgrown Dog Rose which had fallen over the path (*action SB*). Cllr Freeman asked the Council's permission to sow poppy seeds around the village signs. The Council agreed that this would be attractive and thanked Cllr Freeman.

9. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

School Hill Traffic Management Signage – The Council referred to correspondence from

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

a resident of School Lane objecting to the new signs stating 'Unsuitable for Long Vehicles' erected at the junctions of School Hill and requesting that the signs either be removed or replaced by one smaller sign. The Council discussed the points raised, reviewing the rationale behind the decision to install the signs.

The hazard of School Hill for large vehicles had been raised repeatedly with the Parish and County Council by residents of School Hill over a number of years and had resulted in a site visit attended by a number of householders, Parish Councillors and the Highways Officer from Northants County Council. In recent years a number of vehicles have lost control or become stuck on the bend resulting in damage to verges and garden walls. At the site visit it was deemed that the width of the carriageway and the gradient of the road combined with the right angle bend were deemed to be a significant hazard to drivers of large vehicles. The road has no footpath but is used by walkers regularly as it is on the route of the Jurassic Way. It is also a route for families walking to school and is used by horse riders.

In light of the above it was considered that signage aimed at large vehicles was appropriate and Northants County Council advised on appropriate signage and siting. It was agreed that the Chair draft a response to the resident summarising the Council's logic and reasoning for the signs and addressing his points of concern (*action SB*). It was noted that the signs at the lower junction to School Hill were being obstructed by overgrown vegetation.

Lighting – It was noted that the previously reported faults still had not been repaired. Cllr Freeman will pursue with Corby Borough Council (*action TF*). The Clerk will write to Cottingham Parish Council with regards to the overgrown tree in Bury Close which is obstructing a street light on Main Street (*action JM*).

Grit Bins – The Council referred to correspondence from NCC Highways informing the Council that there were no second hand grit bins available. Cllr Freeman offered to look at the damaged bin on the bend of School Hill to see if it could be repaired (*action TF*).

TVAS Sign, Ashley Road – This appeared to be working satisfactorily. It was observed that the sign was not activated at speeds below 28mph and went off once speeds below 28 MPH had been reached.

Kissing Gate, Camsdale Walk – The Council was pleased to note that following its reporting the matter on Street Doctor the rotten kissing gate had been replaced. It was noted that overgrown shrubbery from an adjacent garden was obstructing the Jurassic Way footpath beyond the kissing gate. Cllr Thomas will speak to the resident involved (*action MT*).

10. Village Fete:

The Chair informed the Council that a risk assessment had been drawn up and that a 'wet weather plan' was to be formulated. Councillors will assist with the selling of raffle tickets.

11. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole reported that the varnish on both the notice board and the bench on Main Street was flaking badly. The Clerk will chase up the bench and contact a local decorator to quote for the notice board (*action JM*).

All other parish assets were in order.

12. Local Government Reform:

The Clerk informed the Council that she had attended a recent Northamptonshire Local

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Council's Forum run by NCALC on the new Unitary Status and Local Government Reform. Subjects discussed were threats and opportunities of the new Unitary Authority and the likely formation of parishes (Town Councils) within Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough. NCALC will be writing up the session which will be circulated to all councillors.

13. Monthly Crime Report:

The Council referred to the monthly crime statistics as detailed online via Police UK website. There were two crimes recorded, including a theft from a motor vehicle in Glover Court.

All information pertaining to local crime can be found by entering the relevant postcode on www.police.uk

14. Planning:

Oakley Park Travellers Site, Ashley Road – The Council noted that Corby Borough Council was currently examining whether the new wall complied with current planning conditions.

17/00180/OUT Outline application for a sustainable urban extension comprising 4,500 dwellings and associated infrastructure works.

There was nothing further to report until after the meeting in early July in which Corby Borough Council alongside Northamptonshire Highways would be reporting back to the local parishes on the highways issues raised.

15. Finance:

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

101534	Steve Morphy – Grass and Tree Cutting	550.00
101525	Clerk – May Salary and Expenses	359.30
101536	Jamie Bradshaw – Culvert Maintenance	60.00
101537	Joe's Lawn Care – Orchard Treatment	98.00
101538	Besthost – Website Subscription	17.25

Receipts
None

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	40,840.72
Business Reserve	166.86
Community Account	4,042.27
Less Allocation for Village Hall	35,990.50
Total:	£9,059.35

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

16. Correspondence:

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

NCALC – May / June eUpdate

NCC Highways – Transport and Highways News

Hereward Homes – An inquiry to gauge parish council support in building three new properties off School Hill and Camsdale Walk.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

The Council noted this correspondence and confirmed that it was not willing to endorse building developments outside the parish building boundary.

Phil Etherton - Letter requesting members comments on the potential proposal of a single dwelling with vehicular access off Main Street, Middleton.

The Council noted that the plot in question is currently designated by Corby BC as green space and is in the conservation area. While the Council is committed to consideration of small sympathetically designed in-fill development where it is appropriate, the retention of green space at the heart of the village was also considered of great importance. The matter will be considered at the next meeting.

17. Business for next meeting:

Proposal of dwelling on land off Main Street

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 16th July 2019

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.