The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 6.30 pm in Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Annex.

<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Coughlan (Chair), Cole, Denton and Boucher, Mrs Medwell (Clerk), Police Liaison Representative Del Robertson and 1 member of the public.

1. To approve apologies for absence:

Cllr M Thomas – approved.

PC Brad Wilson and NNC Cllr Kevin Watt.

<u>2. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda or changes to the Members Register of Interests:</u>

There were no Declarations of Interests.

There were no changes to the Members Registers of Interests.

3. To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting as a correct record.

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 10th January 2023 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Denton

4. Matter arising from the minutes, not listed on the agenda:

There were no matters arising.

5. Co-option of New Councillor:

The Council **agreed** to co-opt Ms Caroline Boucher to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Stuart Appleby.

Proposed Cllr Coughlan Seconded Cllr Denton All in favour.

Cllr Boucher duly completed and signed the Members Register of Interest, Code of Conduct and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the clerk.

6. Meeting Open to the public:

The new owner of the Naz Lounge attended the meeting to present to the Council his proposals for the property. Preliminary plans were to convert the building back to residential use, potentially to two dwellings. Whilst the Council had no initial concerns with this proposal, it reiterated that it will be in a position to comment formally on the proposal as a statutory consultee once an application has been submitted.

The meeting closed to the public.

7. Monthly Crime Report:

Police Liaison Representative Del Robertson PC Wilson informed the Council that there were no reported incidents of crime over January. There was one incident of antisocial behaviour (Neighbour Dispute).

8. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council was very pleased to note that the orchard area had been cut back and once again commended the contractor for his good work. The Chair had sent a message of thanks on behalf of

9. Highways, Signage, Footpaths, Grit Bins, Lighting:

Lights – It was noted that the faulty lights on Darescroft and Ashley Road had been reported and repaired. The obelisk light has been reported and repaired but is still faulty.

Footpaths – There was nothing to report on this item. The Clerk will request an update on the village footpaths from the Footpath Warden (action JM). The Chair has received signs from NNC requesting that dogs are kept under control and has arranged to have these put up along the Jurassic Way footpath.

Installation of CCTV – The Council discussed the possibility of siting CCTV in the village and considered this in terms of location, on costs and management. The Council **agreed** to monitor the crime figures over the next six months and to seek quotes for the equipment ahead of preparing an application for funding should a decision to purchase be approved. The Chair reiterated that unreported crimes be recorded and taken into consideration when reviewing the crime figures.

10. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole informed the Council that these were all in order.

The Defibrillator had been checked and is in order.

11. Policy Review:

The Risk Assessment had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. An amendment was made under clause 'Council records- electronic' to state that back-ups of electronic data are made automatically. The Risk Assessment was then duly approved.

Proposed Cllr Coughlan Seconded Cllr Cole All in favour.

12. Planning:

NC/23/00025/RVC 9 School Hill Variation of Condition (Tree Removal)

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Update on Ashley Road Appeals

It was noted that the proposed new date for the Oakley Park appeal hearings is 25th April 2023. As NNC will not be contesting the Oakley Park appeals the Planning Inspector has indicated that the hearing will be dealt with via written representation, not a face to face meeting. The Planning Inspector will however visit the Oakley Park sites. NNC has indicated at this point in time that it will still be contesting the Peasdale Hill appeal. There is no further information on dates for the Peasdale Hill appeal at present.

13. Finance:

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SO	Clerk – Salary and Expenses February	350.16
D/D	NEST - Clerk Pension February	24.80
BACS	Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall – Hall Hire	12.00
BACS	Joe McCole – Culvert Clearance	450.00
BACS	St Mary Magdalene – Donation to Mowing	250.00

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SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings 283.39

Unity Trust Account 7,832.34

Total: £8,115.73

- b) The Council approved the bank reconciliation which was then duly signed by the Chair.
- c) The Council approved the new mowing charges for the 2023-24 season. This had been accounted for in the budget.

14. Correspondence:

There was no further correspondence to discuss.

15. Exchange of Information:

King's Coronation - Organisation of the joint village "Big Lunch" event for the King's Coronation on 7th May 2023 had commenced. This will take place on the annexe field.

Welland Wanderer – A decision was made by the Welland Wanderer Group to continue the service for as long as possible into 2023/24 based on the current levels of funding.

Those residents who don't already and wish to receive information by email, please contact Jane Smith on jane@le.com.

16. Business for next meeting:

Policy Review

Cllr Cole gave his apologies – holiday commitment.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.38 pm.

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

Clerk: Mrs J Medwell 5 Main Street, Middleton, Market Harborough LE16 8YU