

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 6.30 pm in Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Annex.

Present: Cllrs Coughlan (Chair), Cole, Boucher and Denton, Mrs Medwell (Clerk) and NNC Cllr Watt.

1. To approve apologies for absence:

Cllr Thomas

Police Liaison Representative Del Robertson

2. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda or changes to the Members Register of Interests:

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 Annual Parish Council Meeting as a correct record.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 9th May 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 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5. Meeting Open to the public:

NNC Cllr Watt drew the Council's attention to the Boundary Commission recommendations on changes to the unitary ward boundaries which proposed that Middleton be included in the Desborough Ward. The consultation for this runs until August. The Council will look at this and make a decision on its submission at the next meeting.

Cllr Watt also updated the Council on the Greenway Project which subject to funding included proposed routes through Middleton. Cllr Watt will forward information on this.

6. Monthly Crime Report:

PC Brad Wilson provided the following report for May:

Crime and AntiSocial Behaviour – None.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

It was noted that the culvert maintenance had been recently done. The Clerk will refer back to the contractor to request that the obelisk area is weeded and also to the landowner of the land off Main Street to request that this is cut back again (*action JM*).

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

The Chair will follow up on the UK 30 speed signage for The Hill with NNC Sarah Barnwell (*action SC*).

It was noted that all the overgrown village footpaths had been recently cut back.

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

It was noted that all assets, apart from the flaking varnish on one of the orchard benches, were all in order. This bench is awaiting refurbishment.

The Defibrillator had been checked and is in order.

10. Planning:

NC/23/00152/OUT 31 Main Street Outline Planning for Residential Development

The Council had a number of concerns and objections relating to this planning application and submitted the following response to NNC Planning:

- Access – the vehicular access point into and out of the development must have the correct visibility splays as stipulated by Highways together with the means by which they will be maintained, leading onto Main Street, Middleton. This point has also been raised by Highways in their commentary regarding this application. Currently the access runs between two residential properties, 31 Main Street and 29 Main Street, and is extremely narrow. This vehicular access is currently not wide enough for 2 cars to pass one another and site lines and visibility would be poor leading on to Main Street. This situation regarding the narrow access would be difficult to rectify due to the position of residential properties 31 Main Street and 29 Main Street. This would definitely cause issues with a development of 4 new large detached homes with double garages. Middleton Parish Council also has concerns regarding refuse collection points for a development of this size and raises serious concerns regarding access required for emergency services vehicles to get through, with such a small entrance road to the proposed development.
- Position – this is currently a small piece of agricultural land that backs on to the established Glover Court development. Prior to planning approval this land needs to be assessed in terms of material change of use and ecological and environmental impact. A Biodiversity Mitigation plan should also be carried out to demonstrate that a development of this size will result in a net gain in biodiversity. This should include Great Crested Newt, Reptile and Dormouse surveys, a detailed scheme of biodiversity enhancements, a full soft landscaping scheme, details for darkened corridors for foraging and commuting bats known to be in the area and a landscape/ecology management plan. NNC **must** also commit time to consult with numbers 1 – 5 Glover Court and 29 Main Street to ensure that they are aware of the application. NNC must give these residents the appropriate time to respond with any comments or objections that they may wish to make.
- Middleton Parish Council raises the question as to whether this land is appropriate for this number of houses to be built with the infrastructure / drainage / lighting / foul water disposal etc. required to accommodate such a development of 4 detached houses with 4 double garages. The Parish Council understands Anglian water doesn't comment on developments less than 20 houses but this point and the adverse effects that a development of this size could cause to other residential properties in the area must be taken into consideration when considering this planning application.

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

- Conservation area must be taken into consideration if applicable when considering this application, as other applications within the conservation area of Middleton have been rejected on specific grounds and the same criteria should be applied to all planning applications within this conservation area.
- All established trees within the boundaries of this proposed new development should be subject to TPO's to ensure their safety from felling.
- Middleton Parish Council raises the question as to whether Middleton Village needs 4 new large detached houses in the village. Is this proposed outline planning suitable for a village of this size, or would smaller more affordable homes be more appropriate? Please can this be taken into consideration when looking at this application.

NC/23/00170/DPA 7 The Hill Extensions, Carport and Associated Alterations

The Council had no objection to this application.

11. Finance:

a) The following cheques and BACS payments were presented and unanimously **agreed**:

BACS	VHMC – Hall Hire	£24.00
BACS	Besthost – Website Hosting	£17.25
300026	S Morphy – Grass Cutting	£225.00

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	£283.39
Unity Trust Account	14,348.69
Total:	£14,632.08

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

12. Correspondence:

On behalf of the Council, the Chair attended and circulated minutes from the recent Gypsy & Travellers Parish Council Meeting.

13. Exchange of Information:

There was no further exchange of information.

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

14. Business for next meeting: Tuesday 11th July 2023

Changes to Boundary consultation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.03 pm.

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