

## **MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

825

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 6.30 pm in Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Annex.

Present: Cllrs Coughlan (Chair), Cole, Boucher and Denton, Mrs Medwell (Clerk) and Police Liaison Representative Del Robertson.

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### 1. To approve apologies for absence:

PC Brad Wilson.

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### 2. Councillor Resignation and Vacancies:

The Council noted the resignation of Cllr Thomas and thanked her for all her work and commitment to the role over the past eight years. There are now three vacancies which have been advertised through the various media platforms. The Chair urged Councillors to consider suitable candidates. It was also noted that there had been an expression of interest in the Path warden position. The Clerk will confirm (*action JM*).

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### 3. 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.

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

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Boucher      Seconded Cllr Cole

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

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

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### 6. Meeting Open to the public:

There were no members of the public present.

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### 7. Monthly Crime Report:

Police Liaison Representative Del Robertson gave the following report:

The crime and anti-social behaviour figures for SEPTEMBER 2023 are as follows:

#### **CRIMES – THREE**

PUBLIC ORDER (23000551972): ABUSIVE SIGN (SUSPECT KNOWN, ENQUIRIES COMPLETE, EVIDENTIAL DIFFICULTIES, FILED) \***LINKED**\*

BLACKMAIL (23000556262): THREATS MADE FOR MONEY (SUSPECT UNKNOWN, ENQUIRIES COMPLETE, FILED)

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE (23000588051): NUMBER PLATES STOLEN (SUSPECT UNKNOWN, ENQUIRIES COMPLETE, FILED)

#### **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR INCIDENTS – ONE**

505 – 02\09\23: NEIGHBOUR DISPUTE (LINKED TO 23000551972) \***LINKED**\*

The crime and anti-social behaviour figures for OCTOBER 2023 are as follows:

**CRIMES – TWO**

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE (23000632211): KUBOTA FARM VEHICLE STOLEN – FOUND BURNT OUT (SUSPECT UNKNOWN, ENQUIRIES COMPLETE, FILED)

PUBLIC ORDER (23000641442): VERBAL ABUSE & THREATS (SUSPECT KNOWN, NO COMPLAINT, ENQUIRIES COMPLETE, FILED)

**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR INCIDENTS – NONE**

It was noted at this point that the nuisance vehicle in Glover Court had been removed.

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**8. Orchard and Open Space:**

The overgrown trees at the Glover Court entrance to the Orchard were still to be cut back. The Clerk will follow up with the contractor (*action JM*).

The Clerk expressed concern that the 106 monies for the 2022 season had still not been received. She will continue to pursue with NNC and will escalate if necessary (*action JM*).

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

**Update** – It was noted that a review of the grit bins was needed ahead of winter. Councillors undertook to look at these and to report on FixmyStreet under winter maintenance should the grit need refreshing.

The new contact for reporting faulty lighting was noted as [streetlightingassets@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:streetlightingassets@northnorthants.gov.uk)

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**10. Parish Assets and Events:**

The Council **agreed** its involvement in the village Christmas Fayre on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and that the event will be covered under its insurance policy.

Proposed Cllr Coughlan              Seconded Cllr Boucher              All in favour

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.

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**11. To Commence the setting of the 2024/25 Budget and Precept:**

Preliminary discussions took place on the 2024/25 budget. A draft, which was presented to the Council, proposed an increase in miscellaneous expenses to £500. This was **approved** and will see an increase in the precept of 4.45% on the previous year.

The Council **agreed** to seek confirmation of receipt of 106 monies next year before approving the final budget.

Proposed Cllr Coughlan. Seconded Cllr Cole              All in favour

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**12. Planning:**

**NC/23/00426/DPA 16 Main Street Ground Floor and First Floor Extensions**

The Council had no objection to this application

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

**NC/23/00403/PAAGB Land Off Ashley Road Agricultural Barn**

The Council had no objection to this application

**NC/23/00405/CON West Corby SUE Condition 3**

The Council was unable to comment on this application without a full understanding of the new phasing strategy which is expected to be given at the proposed meeting between the West Corby Development Consortium and Parish and Town councillors.

**Public Bridleway Diversion GS14. Land West of A6003**

The Council had no objection to this application

**Peasedale Hill Appeals – Update**

The appeal which had heard over two days on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November, had not been completed. The final stage, which will involve the of setting of conditions for the application should the appeal be overturned, will be done through an online meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

The following application had been received after the agenda was set

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

The Council reviewed the re-consultation request regarding the above application and had no further comments to make. Its original statement of concerns and objections relating to this proposed development still stands.

**13. Finance:**

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

BACS	VHMC – September Hall Hire	£12.00
BACS	S Coughlan – Poppy Wreath	£23.98
BACS	S Morphy – Grass Cutting	£645.00
BACS	St Mary’s Church – Contribution to mowing costs.	£250.00
BACS	Amazon – Ink Cartridge	£24.58
BACS	Rymans – Office Supplies	£11.30

**SUMMARY OF BALANCES**

National Savings	£283.39
Unity Trust Account	£8,758.91
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£9,042.30</b>

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

**14. Correspondence:**

**NCALC Town and Parish Council Forum Review** - survey into the meetings with the aim being to change the format and to face to face in order to improve attendance. The Clerk and Chair have completed.

**Welland Wanderer Bus Service** - NNC funding had been received which will secure the service to the end of March 2024. Contact has been made with CommMiniBus, a community transport ‘not for profit’ organisation who may be able to offer services to the parishes.

During the budget setting process, the Council had **agreed** that it would not be continuing to

support this service on a financial basis.

Proposed Cllr Coughlan    Seconded Cllr Cole    All in favour

The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Nick Richards from Wilbarston Parish Council who had done a sterling job in co-ordinating this service for the community.

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15. Exchange of Information:

Christmas Walking Nativity – It had been suggested by the committee organising this event that it be shortened in length to encompass just Cottingham. The Council felt that it was still important to have a stopping point in Middleton and that the Orchard would be a really good space for people to gather. The Chair will feed this back to the committee (*action SC*).

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

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16. Business for next meeting:

Approve 2024/25 Budget and Set Precept

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17. Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.37 pm.

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