MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 10th November 2026 at 5.00 pm in Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Annex.

Present: Cllrs S Coughlan (Chair), K Bowyer, C Boucher, Mrs Medwell (Clerk), NNC Cllr D Howes and two members of the public.

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1. To approve apologies for absence:
Cllr S Roper-Caldbeck - approved
PLR Del Robertson.

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2. Declaration of Interests in Items on the Agenda or Changes to the Members' Register of Interests:
There were none.

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3. 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 29th September 2026 were duly approved and signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Boucher Seconded Cllr Bowyer All in favour.

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4. Matter arising from the minutes, not listed on the agenda:
There were no matters arising.

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5. Meeting Open to the public:
The Council received representations from members of the public concerning the light situated on the property at 18 Main Street. They reported that the light was causing a nuisance due to rattling and light pollution and requested that the Council consider possible options for its relocation or replacement with a less intrusive alternative.
The members of the public present also raised concerns regarding parking issues along Main Street. They indicated that they would support the introduction of a residents' parking permit scheme should the current situation prove incapable of resolution by other means.
The Chair requested that any incidents of poor or inconsiderate parking be reported to the Council.

The members of the public duly left the meeting at 5.15 pm

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6. NNC Councillor Report:
Cllr D Howes reported that NNC was currently considering its budget. The Reform administration was seeking special dispensation from Government to increase Council Tax by more than the current 4.99% threshold, in order to help fund the significant expenditure on Children's Services.
The Council requested that it be kept informed when the public consultation is published, so that details can be shared with residents and they are given the opportunity to express their views.

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7. Monthly Crime Report:
26000612803 – Vehicle Crime – Main Street – On the 11th October between 5am and 7am, unknown person gained entry to insecure vehicle and took items from within.
2600013943 – Vehicle Crime – Main Street – On the 11th October between 5am and 7am, unknown person gained entry to insecure vehicle and took items from within.

PCSO 7074 ALI WALLACE can be contacted via e-mail on alison.wallace@northants.police.uk
The Neighbourhood Policing Team can be contacted via NPT-CorbyTown@northants.pnn.police.uk

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8. Orchard and Open Space:

The Council noted that the orchard and open spaces were all looking in good order, with no issues reported.

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

The Council discussed the request to remove or relocate the light at 18 Main Street. Councillors had viewed the light in question and felt that removing it completely would leave the area too dark. It was agreed that the Chair would contact NNC to explain the concerns raised and seek advice on what options may be available.

In relation to the parking concerns previously raised, Cllrs Bowyer and Boucher agreed to draft a notice requesting that motorists park considerately, which could then be displayed on the lamp posts along Main Street.

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10. To consider donation to Charity Christmas Lunch:

The Council considered a request for donations towards a charity Christmas lunch being organised by local residents on 22nd December for those who may otherwise be alone over the Christmas period.

Councillors **agreed** that this was a worthwhile community initiative and resolved to make a donation of £50 from the Chair's Expenses allocation

Proposed Cllr Coughlan Seconded Cllr Boucher

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11. Parish Assets and Events:

Parish Assets: The Council reviewed the condition of its parish assets and noted that all were in good order. No maintenance issues or concerns were raised, and no further action was considered necessary at this time.

Update on Play Park: The Council discussed the ongoing arrangements for the play park and the potential continuation of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with NNC. Members expressed concern about agreeing to the continuation of the SLA at what was considered an excessive cost and wished to understand Cottingham Parish Council's (CPC) proposals and how they intended to take matters forward.

It was noted that CPC had expressed an interest in meeting with Middleton Parish Council (MPC) to discuss the matter further. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would contact CPC to arrange a meeting between a small number of councillors from both councils to discuss possible options and share ideas. A suitable date would be sought *(action JM).*

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12. To commence 2027/28 Budget and Set Precept:

The Council considered the draft budget for 2027/28, which had been prepared by the Clerk and circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

The draft budget was agreed in principle and indicated a small increase compared with the previous financial year.

It was agreed that the final budget and precept would be considered and approved at the January meeting, once the position regarding any proposed play park expenditure was clearer.

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13. Planning:

Oakley Park Planning Application – The Chair confirmed that she would like to make a representation if this application goes to the NNC Planning Committee meeting. The application is not included on the November agenda; however, she is monitoring its progress and will keep an eye on when it is likely to be brought before the Committee.

Signed…….. Chair Date……..

14. Finance:

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

Payee	Details	Total Amount	VAT Element	Legal Authority
Amazon	Poppy Wreath	£16.49	£2.75	s.137 LGA 1972
Cottingham PCC	Churchyard Mowing	£250.00		OSA 1906 s.15
NCALC	Internal Audit	£348.29	£58.05	s.111 LGA 1972
Krystal Hosting	Website Oct / Nov	£16.80	£2.80	s.111 LGA 1972
Village Hall	Hall Hire September	£6.00		s.111 LGA 1972

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

Unity Trust Current Account	£2,697.06
Unity Trust Savings Account	£11,132.93
Total:	**£13,829.99**

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

15. Correspondence:

There was no further correspondence to consider.

16. Exchange of Information:

The Chair advised that she will be speaking on behalf of Middleton Parish Council at the Democracy and Standards meeting alongside Corby Town Council in relation to the Community Governance Review and the proposed boundary changes.

Planning Update – Screening Opinion 26/02396/SCR

A brief report was received from Cllr Caldbeck in his absence regarding Screening Opinion 26/02396/SCR for the proposed warehouse development.

There had been no further update since North Northamptonshire Council's (NNC) decision notice confirming that the proposed development requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

It was noted that the applicant would need to consider their next steps, which may include appealing the decision, seeking a Judicial Review within the applicable three-month period, or proceeding with the preparation of the required EIA.

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

17. Business for next meeting:

To approve 2027/28 budget and to set precept

18. Date of Next Meeting:

12th January 2027

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.12 pm.

Signed…….. Chair Date……..