

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

536

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 16th June 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Bradshaw, Cole, Cross, Freeman and Skipwith, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk), Borough Councillor Rutt, County Councillor Heggs, CBC Ivan Barkham and Peter Thornborrow (Historic Buildings Consultant).

1. Apologies for Absence: PCSO Mark Tooley.

2. Declaration of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 19th May 2015 and of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on 19th May were duly approved and signed.
Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Skipwith

4. Matters Arising:
There were no matters arising.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:
The Chair welcomed the visitors.

Borough Cllr Rutt reported that the County Council will look at the overgrown footpath along the section of the Jurassic Way leading from the Recreation Ground to Occupation Lane, which is usually only cleared once a year. He informed the Council that the fly tip along Occupation Lane had been reported. He also said that there were new laws regarding fly grazing which gave farmers powers to move horses fly grazing on their land and regarding mud on roads which enabled Parish Councils to ask the farmers to clear it up.

Cllr Rutt added that the six new caravans on the Traveller Site in Ashley Road had been reported to CBC planning enforcement team. Cllr Rutt finally reminded the Council of the route of the Woman's Cycle race which would be coming through the village on Friday 19th June. The Chair undertook to circulate the time schedule to all Councillors by email and asked that the Clerk request a pack of flyers and bunting from the organisers (*action SB and JM*). It was agreed that a flyer with the timing of the race through Middleton would be delivered to all Middleton households.

Cllr Freeman raised the faulty light on Ashley Road, the top of which had blown off in the wind and still had not been repaired. Cllr Rutt agreed to chase this up.

County Cllr Heggs said that he had some monies available from his Councillor Empowerment Fund. The Council discussed using this to buy a defibrillator in conjunction with Rockingham Wheelers. The Chair to pursue (*action SB*).

Cllr Heggs also said he would be prepared to assist in discussions with Northants County in the proposed speed reduction initiative if the Council wished.

CBC Neighbourhood Warden, Ivan Barkham, reported on the success of the 'Walk to School' campaign which had been carried out in the village recently for 12 – 30 children and that polite notices had been issued to drivers for anti-social parking.

The Council thanked the visitors who duly left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

Peter Thornborrow explained that he had been commissioned by Corby Borough Council to carry out a review of the Middleton and Cottingham conservation area and existing boundaries. He gave a detailed presentation on the area he had surveyed, his comments on the current conservation area boundary and historic buildings. He outlined his current thinking on extending the boundary. The proposed new conservation area and guidelines for construction within the conservation area would be put out for a six week public consultation

process during July/August and Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils would be invited to comment.

The Council thanked Mr Thornborrow for his very informative presentation and he duly left the meeting at 8.40 pm

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

There was nothing further to report at present – there is a meeting of the working group next week to discuss the recreation ground lay out.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Culvert – The Chair reported that the culvert had been trimmed and that she would contact Richard Thomas regarding the rest of the clearance work (*action SB*). It was noted that two possible areas of knotweed on the boundary with Vine House had been identified in the brambles. This would need confirming and destroying as soon as possible.

The Council **agreed** the quote of £90 from Steve Morphy to remove the shrubs at the entrance to Glover Court.

Cllr Bradshaw asked whether the pocket park was covered by Parish Council insurance for any incidents/accidents. The clerk to find out if both this and the phone box on Main Street are covered by insurance (*action JM*).

8. Highways and Rights of Way:

Speeding – There was nothing further to report at this stage – the Council are awaiting a response from Sarah Barnwell of Northants Highways.

Community Enhancement Works – The Council confirmed the works endeavoured to be carried out by the Community Enhancement Gang on 7th July. These include realigning the Middleton sign; cleaning main traffic signs and remainder of signs throughout village; trimming of shrubs by Middleton sign on Main Street (opposite Manor House); clearing / unblocking Main Street drainage grills; clearing of vegetation and general tidying of parish. Cllr Brant **agreed** to meet the team on site (*action SB*).

9. Village Fete:

The Council discussed the village fete and **agreed** that whilst a stall was not required this year, some members of the Council would be present.

10. Parish Councillor vacancy:

The Council **agreed** to advertise this vacancy on the notice board and in the village newsletter.

11. Rockingham Wheelers Defibrillator Campaign:

Covered in public meeting.

12. Planning:

15/00214/DPA Ashmead, Ashley Road – First floor extension to create two storey dwelling The Council made no comment.

13. Finance:

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

101290	Cottingham VHMC – May Hall Hire	12.00
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101291	Clerk (June) - Salary and Expenses	218.92
101292	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	160.00

b) SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,237.57
Business Reserve	166.27
Community Account	7,231.17
Less Allocation for Village Hall	50,180.50
Total:	<u>12,454.51</u>

c) The Clerk reported that following a successful internal audit, with no issues raised by the internal auditor, the 2014/5 accounts will be presented for the external audit.

14. Correspondence:

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

Northants Police Commissioner – Parish Walkabout

ACRE – War Memorial Competition

NCC – Confirmation of Community Enhancement Gang works / Notification of A427 Closure

CBC – Information on Woman’s Cycle Tour / Cycle Fest Event

BT – Information on Superfast Broadband

The Clerk read out the crime statistics received from PCSO Mark Tooley. These included burglary of garden equipment and batteries. There was a request that the Council be vigilant of large numbers of youths congregating by the river now the warmer weather is here. The number to call if groups are causing problems is 101.

15. Business for next meeting:

Safety review of parish assets.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next meeting on Tuesday 14th July 2015

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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