

MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 17th November 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Bradshaw, Cole, Cross, Freeman, Hicks and Thomas, Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk) and Borough Councillor Rutt.

1. Apologies for Absence: County Cllr Heggs.

2. Declaration of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings on 13th and 28th October 2015 were duly approved and signed.

Proposed Cllr Freeman Seconded Cllr Hicks

4. Matters Arising:

There were none.

5. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

The Chair welcomed the visitor.

Borough Councillor Rutt raised the matter of the planned West Corby extension. He stated that he had been told that the sewage from the West Corby extension would be routed to the Middleton Sewerage Works. He was concerned that the Sewerage Works in Middleton may not have the capacity to service such a large development. Cllr Brant undertook to raise the matter and verify the information.

Cllr Rutt also noted that Miller Homes has a duty of care to make sure that the Japanese Knotweed in Glover Court is disposed of in a controlled manner. Cllr Rutt was informed that the crack in the boundary wall of the orchard had been repaired.

The Chair thanked the visitor who duly left the meeting at 7.50 pm

(Meeting closed to the public.)

6. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

Cllr Brant informed the Council that the planning application for the new Village Hall had been submitted and the working group was awaiting comments from the consultees. The next step is to move forward with fundraising once planning permission is granted.

7. Orchard and Open Space:

Ongoing Maintenance - Cllr Cross offered to continue with the clearance of fallen leaves from the culvert (*action KC*).

Eradication of Japanese Knotweed - Cllr Brant reported that Miller Homes' contractor has cleared the knotweed to ground level and plans to excavate, remove the soil and destroy all vegetation off-site. The Council **agreed** to monitor closely.

8. Highways and Rights of Way:

Kerb Clearance – The Council discussed the problem of weed growing in the roadside kerbs and noted that neither Borough nor County Council would take responsibility for clearing this. The Council **agreed** to contact Cottingham Parish Council as it had a similar problem (*action JM*). The Council considered adding a regular clearance of kerbside weeds to the grass cutting contract.

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Lighting – The Council identified two faulty lights on The Hill and in Glover Court . Cllr Freeman **agreed** to report to Corby Borough Council and request that the lights have identification numbers put on them so that they may be easily reported (*action AF*). Cllr Cole volunteered to look at the faulty obelisk light (*action AC*).

Signage – The Council noted that it was still awaiting a response from CBC Environmental Services regarding the no litter and no horse riding signs previously requested. The Clerk agreed to follow this up (*action JM*). The Council also noted that some of the letters from the Ashley Road finger post had fallen off as the glue had perished, Cllr Cole offered to look at this (*action AC*).

9. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

Cllr Cole had carried out an inspection of the parish assets and stated that all were in order. The Clerk reported that Steve Morphy had been contacted regarding the re-varnishing of the benches.

10. Review of Complaints Procedure:

The Council reviewed and **agreed** the procedure circulated at the previous meeting.

11. Litter Pick:

The Council discussed organising a village litter pick and **agreed** to circulate a few dates prior to Christmas (*action SB*).

12. Community Defibrillator Project:

The Council noted that it was awaiting the necessary information from County Cllr Heggs before it could approach Rockingham Wheelers regarding the remainder of the funding towards this project.

13. Planning:

Appeal APP/U2805/W/15/3005683 Land off Bury Close

Prior to the meeting the Chair had circulated the Council's draft response to the appeal hearing on 13th October where the Planning Inspector, Mr Tim Wood, ruled that he was not willing to consider the appellants' amended scheme for 33 houses at this stage because there has been insufficient time for Corby Borough Council's Development Control Committee and local residents to consider the scheme. The Council acknowledged this to be an excellent response and **agreed** to send. Cllr Brant said she had suggested to Cottingham Parish Council that the two Chairs meet with County Highways to look at the entrance in to Bury Close.

Review of North Northants Joint Core Strategy

The Chair reminded the Council that she would be attending and speaking at the Planning Hearing later this month regarding the West Corby extension.

14. Finance:

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

101311	GSS Architecture – New Village Hall	720.00
101312	Poppy Wreath	32.75
101313	Cottingham VHMC – Various Hall Hire	28.00
101314	St Mary's Church – Strimming Contribution	250.00

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

101315	S Morphy – Grass Cutting	375.00
101316	Clerk – November Salary and Expenses	283.70

b) Receipts
None

c) SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	55,237.57
Business Reserve	166.31
Community Account	9,189.48
Less Allocation for Village Hall	49,580.50
Total:	<u>15,012.86</u>

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

The Clerk circulated provisional figures for the 2016/7 budget for the Council to peruse before discussion and approval at the next meeting.

15. Correspondence:

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

Northants Police Commissioner – Update on Parish Walkabout

NCALC – Opportunities for Directorship

CBC – RAF minutes and Agenda 19/11/2015 / PCSO Changes in Rural Areas / Rural Pride Report.

16. Business for next meeting:

2016/17 Budget Setting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next meeting on Tuesday 15th December 2015

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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