

MINUTES OF MIDDLEZOY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 17th APRIL 2018 in Middlezoy Village Hall @ 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. P. Baker (Chairman) , Cllr. Laine, Cllr. Gillard, Cllr. Lipscomb and Cllr. W. Hawkins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Sidaway (Clerk to Council), Cllr. D. Huxtable and 5 member of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. L. Perry.

1. Declarations of Interested

Cllrs. Laine and Hawkins both declared a personal interest on the grants item by virtue of association with the MCP and the Middlezoy Arts Group.

2. Parishioner's Question-time

2.1 Mrs. Wood noted that Momms still had Norman Turner listed as Chairman – Clerk to let them know.

2.2 The Clerk had alerted Lawrence Hackling about the state of Nethermoor Road and Back Lane and there had been “patching” repair but no health and safety imperative to re-surface. He had put these roads in the forward plan for re-surfacing when finance allows.

2.3 It was reported that there was flooding in Moor Road due to blocked drains and run-off from an arable field. **Action:** Report to Highways.

2.4 There were still complaints about the road near Cutley Farm but the Clerk had reported this and the response no action as no health and safety issues. Tim Burbidge had removed hedges with consent of EA on condition that they are re-planted.

2.5 The Clerk read a comprehensive letter from Reg Winslow about the state of roads and flooding, particularly the airfield road (it was pointed out that this is the A372 not as stated the A361). **Action:** Clerk instructed to forward to County Highways.

3. County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

3.1 Cllr. Huxtable commented on the SCC removal of the SID service and the value of SID's in providing data for lobbying purposes. The Clerk responded that after attending the seminar he was aware that some larger Parishes may invest in their own equipment but for smaller ones, even in consortia, the cost was too high.

3.2 Cllr. Huxtable explained that the road improvement programme was set at £2.5 million but the greatest outlay for SCC was caring services which took 70% of the entire budget.

3.2 Cllr. Perry was absent so no District Council comment but the Clerk would communicate with Liz over the Town's re-cycling plant and environmental analysis.

4. Chairman's Comments

4.1 The Chairman had no comments except to emphasise that he wanted to get the Affordable Housing Programme secured and moving forward.

5. Minutes of the last Meeting

5.1 The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the last meeting. Proposed by Cllr. J. Laine and seconded by Cllr. W. Hawkins. **All agreed.**

6. Matters Arising

6.1 There were none.

7. Financial Matters

7.1 The Clerk tabled a budget update showing that the balance stood at £14,733.84 but currently there was a £27.32 anomaly which the Clerk was confident would be resolved during the annual audit process.

7.2 Payments to approve:

- Alan Quinn for website domain name = £40.00
- TSBA for PAYE returns = £36.00
- Mrs C. Pring for allotment rent =£400.00 **All agreed.**

7.3 GRANTS:

- £400 to Middlezoy Arts Festival was **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr. Lipscomb and seconded by Cllr. Gillard who suggested that an annual amount for arts provision be allowed.
- Cllr. Laine reported that a reduced amount of £500 had been allocated by Sedgemoor District Council to facilitate the Digital Projection. The Parish Council had already pledged to contribute £900 and the Chairman of the MCP agreed, in principle, to find the balance and was in favour of a “high specification” solution. **Action:** Clerk to further investigate costs and implementation.

8. Planning Matters

8.1 Applications to be decided:

34/18/00005 Mr and Mrs Carter – 3, Nethermoor Road – erection of 2-storey extension on site of existing garage. The Council had no objection and **agreed** to support this application. **Action:** Clerk.

8.2 Updates:

Greylake House: The Clerk had spoken to, and corresponded with, the Conservation Officer and Enforcement Officer at SDC and the Chairman ruled that there was little else, however frustrating, that the Parish Council could do. It can only report and hope that the Planning Authority acts.

1/53/18/00003: Townen's re-processing facility on Westonzoyland Airfield – **Action:** Clerk liaise with Alan Hurford – Westonzoyland Clerk to consider environmental impact report.

8.3 Affordable Housing: the Chairman summarised this programme to date and stated the next positive move was to instruct SDC Affordable Housing to carry out the feasibility studies. He briefed Members on the preferred sites as:

- the field off Back Lane to the north of the allotments
- the field off Knowleyards Lane to the north of the Church.

The following resolution was put to the Council:

“That the Parish Council instructs Sedgemoor District Council to arrange finance and carry out a feasibility study comparing the virtues and handicaps of both of these sites.”

Proposed by Cllr. A. Lipscomb and seconded by Cllr. N. Gillard. **All agreed.**

9. Highways and Footpaths

9.1 Highways: dealt with under Parishioners questions.

9.2 Footpaths: some stiles had been upgraded and Clerk still to do full audit of paths.

10. Playing Field and Car Park

10.1 Nothing to report.

11. Middlezoy Parish Website

11.1 Cllr. Laine proposed to update and include a planning section with appropriate links.

12. Village Hall

12.1 The Chairman of MCP was present and reported that the winter cold had fractured un-lagged water pipes causing between £30,000 and £40,000 worth of damage. Luckily the insurers would cover the costs, dehumidifiers would be installed and works to re-build would start soon.

13 .Clerk's Information and correspondence

13.1 There was a Sedgemoor Waste Collection review that would be advertised extensively.

13.2 There was a Sheltered Housing review and consultation but it was noted that Middlezoy had no sheltered housing.

14. Any other business

14.1 It was agreed to put an article in Momms and on the website about the casual vacancies and push to get new Councillors. The Clerk would also write to all Parish organisations asking for nominations. There was a description and short job specification as an A4 sheet on the noticeboard.

14.2 There had been damage to the play-ground equipment that needed inspection. **Action:** Clerk.

15. Date and Venue of next meeting

15.1 On **Tuesday 15th. MAY @ 7.30 pm** in Middlezoy Village Hall, preceded by the **Annual Parish Assembly at 7.00 pm.**

Signed Date

(Chairman of Council)

(There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm).