

Middlezoy Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jacqueline Strong, 178 Burnham Road, Highbridge, TA9 3EH
Mobile: 07864 051315

Minutes of the Annual parish council meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs. Paul Baker, Becky Turner, Ian Campbell, and Barry Paffey

In attendance: Jacqui Strong (Clerk), Cllr Anthony Betty, Cllr Martin and four members of the public

113/22/MPC Election of Chairman

Cllr. Paul Baker was nominated for Chairman – all voted in favour

114/22/MPC Declaration of acceptance of office (Chairman)

Declaration of acceptance of office signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

115/22/MPC Declaration of acceptance of office (Councillors)

Declaration of acceptance of office signed in the presence of the Clerk by all members.

116/22/MPC Apologies

No apologies

117/22/MPC Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

No declaration of interests received

118/22/MPC Councillor Vacancies

Currently three vacancies on the parish council expressions of interest to clerk of chairman.

119/22/MPC Receive and approve the minutes of the meeting Tuesday 19th April 2022.

Minutes received and approved.

120/22/MPC Community Groups reports for the year

No community groups represented

121/22/MPC Receive Reports from County, District Councillors and Police

Signed

No Police reports received, Cllr Betty provided an update post-election, both Liz and Anthony will remain district Councillor until April 2023 whilst the new unitary councillors shadow. Northgate complex is on target for an autumn completion in Bridgwater. Question raised about Nethermoor Road enforcement action, waiting for SDC enforcement, hopefully progress will be soon. There seems to be a difference in opinion as to the problem which is the visibility at the junction owing to the boundary fencing, all parties are in limbo now. Clerk to email Adrian Noon. Cllr Campbell wanted to express his thanks to Cllr Betty for all his help and assistance over the years.

Cllr Matt Martin introduced himself who is representing the ward along with Cllr Harry Munt. There is lots happening very quickly as a result the authority and party are unsure what will happen next, plans for the LCNs will be organised and involve the parish councils and communities. Discussion about the transfer of land ownership of the playing field was raised and it was felt a conversation about this would be beneficial going forward. Cllr Martin hopes to be able to attend future meetings and would like to be included in the agenda circulation. Thanks were expressed for the work conducted by Cllr David Huxtable who was both experienced and knowledgeable about the area.

Noted that the Chapel fence has been repaired and ready for the dog waste bin to be fitted.

122/22/MPC Adoption of the LGA Code of Conduct

The council **resolved** to adopt the LGA Code of Conduct and to reformat the text where needed

123/22/MPC Financial Regulations

A discussion took place about some of the points linked to the financial parameters and current legislation, it was **resolved** to adopt the financial regulations making the amendments discussed.

124/22/MPC Standing Orders

The council **resolved** to adopt the standing orders as per SALCs advice, with the intention to amend the reference to EU tendering after NALC and SALC have reviewed the existing document later this year.

125/22/MPC Receive proposed meetings calendar for 2022/23

The parish council **resolved** to accept a calendar with eleven meetings per year this will be displayed in the notice board and on the website. The July meeting will need cover due to the clerk's resignation.

126/22/MPC Internal Auditors Report

The parish council **received and noted** the internal auditors report.

127/22/MPC Annual governance statement approval

The parish council **resolved** to approve the annual governance statement for 2021/22

128/22/MPC Accounting statement approval

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve the accounting statement for 2021/22

Signed

129/22/MPC Declaration as an exempt authority

The Parish Council **resolved** to declare themselves an exempt authority under the local audit

130/22/MPC Note payments made within budget

The parish council noted payments made within budget as previously approved

Mileage claims x 2	£ 24.30
Village Hall March invoice 497	£ 24.00
Zoytec Website Invoice	£119.00
SALC Invoice Planning Responses	£ 50.00
GB Sport Invoice 9691	£581.69
Internal Auditor	£ 50.00
Grant Payments MCP	£450.00
Salary Payment (adjustment to standing order April)	£ 6.24

131/22/MPC Approve payments to be made electronically

The council **resolved** to approve electronic payments

Clerks' expenses – mileage (x 2 visits)	£ 12.15
Village Hall Hire Invoice 497	£ 24.00
Circus Workshop	£ 300.00
Taunton Big Band	£1000.00
The parish council approved the payment for the circus workshop and Big Band as part of the Jubilee celebrations under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to spend money on purposes for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, on all or some of its inhabitants.	

132/22/MPC Affordable Homes

SHAL are still in consultation with the architect and the landowner, the field is large and will be shared use between housing and farming. Entrances to the site and being discussed as the road entrance will be wide enough to accommodate farm vehicles if required, hopefully plans will be available for a discussion in July. The village has been commended for its proactive approach to the environment with considering the verges, hedges, and tree planting in the development, however this will have to be considered with regards future maintenance.

133/22/MPC Village Hall update

Several successful events recently including the race night, jamming session, and Friday evening bar, all being well supported. 16/17th July there is a music workshop taking place as part of a weekend event.

134/22/MPC Jubilee working group

Risk assessments presented and **approved** by the parish council. Payments for the Big Band as part of the Jubilee celebrations were **approved** under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to spend money on purposes for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, on all or some of its inhabitants and the payment to be made electronically. There has been a range of fundraising activities taking place which allow for the various community events to take place, including a full itinerary of activities over the bank holiday weekend, gifts for the children and a memorial bench.

Signed

The beacon is all set up and there is now enough wood. The memorial bench is almost finished, and the location has been decided upon, the ground will be prepared prior to installation. Raffle tickets are still available for anyone who would like any. Big Band will be playing in the Church on the Thursday (swing style) tickets are available, there are two weeks left and everything is being pulled together. Thanks to everyone involved both in the community and the parish council who have helped enable the Jubilee working party to achieve what they have. Any outstanding payments to be discussed at the next parish council meeting and if surplus funds remain a decision about how best to use the money will be determined.

135/22/MPC Correspondence noted as listed

136/22/MPC Parish Update

Defibrillator training – if interested please contact Ian Campbell or look on Facebook for more information.

The materials for the skatepark repairs vary and would be worth considering the quote from radiiramps, clerk to investigate and put on next agenda for decision.

Village signs looking tired could something like entrance to Somerton be considered. Lost finger post sign also raised; this is highways responsibility.

Somerset Bus Partnership – someone from village is interested but not on the internet or Zoom – seeking advice how they can be involved.

137/22/MPC Meeting closed at 20:55pm

138/22/MPC Date of next meeting

The next parish council meeting will be on Tuesday 21st June at 7:30pm. Any agenda items to the clerk by Monday 14th June 2022.

Signed