

Middlezoy Parish Council

Minutes of the Middlezoy Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 20th June 2023 where the following business was transacted.

Present: Chairman Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Barry Paffey, Cllr Ian Campbell, Cllr Becky Turner
3 Parishioners, County Cllr Martin and the Locum Clerk

- 1. Apologies for absence and any declarations of interest in items on this agenda and dispensations granted – Apologies** Cllr Grisman
- 2. Election of Officers** – Mr Paul Baker was nominated as Chairman, proposed by Cllr Turner and 2nd by Cllr Paffey – All in Favour. Cllr Baker duly signed the declaration of office form
- 3. Minutes of the meeting of 16th May 2023** – were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Barry Paffey and seconded by Cllr Ian Campbell.
- 4. Chairman’s Report** – he had been contacted about the inconsiderate parking at the Church. Cllr Campbell stated that in future some bollards would be placed near the Church to avoid it happening again. A parishioner informed the meeting that a hedge that was in need of cutting back as now encroaching onto the road. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to the owner. The Chairman had briefly attended a Team meeting re the Local Community Network. Please see Cllr Martins comments below – as mirrored the Chairman’s comments
- 5. To receive any reports – Police** – none. **County Council** – Cllr Martin stated that he was concerned about how the LCN was to work – as Middlezoy (LCN area 16) is the largest group of Councils, varying in all different aspects of what individual PC’s required. There would be no additional monies available.
- 6. a) Affordable Housing** – the Inspectorate is asking for observations as to the application for the Back Lane proposal. The Clerk had been in touch with SC to ask advice of what the PC could do. It was agreed that the PC would reply stating that the issues were still the same, but wanted to inform the Inspectorate of the more suitable site has been identified – along with discussions with Affordable Homes at Sedgemoor.
b) Post Office update – Cllr Turner updated the meeting that a suitable applicant has come forward and now awaiting confirmation from the Post Office.
c) Somerset Council Chairmans Nomination for service to the community – it was agreed that with all the great Community spirit in Middlezoy, that no one person should be nominated – as it is a group that makes things happen

7. Planning – NONE

8. FINANCE

a) Locum Clerk's Salary May 2023	£357.50
b) Locum clerk's expenses May 2023	£19.00
c) Locum Clerk's extra hours re Audit (5 hours)	£68.75
d) Hire of hall (May 23) – inv 594	£30.00
e) Hire of Hall for AGM – inv 600	£42.00
f) James Wagden inv for May – inv 3124	£328.57
g) Nat West bank charges re old DD	£10.00
h) Reimbursement to Cllr Baker re AGM	£35.75
i) Wild Middlezoy invoice for Bed Bulk	£117.30
j) Wild Middlezoy invoice for new shed (i & j part of grant)	£366.00
k) Internal Audit (Richard Young)	£50.00

All invoices include VAT where applicable.

The above items will be paid by the clerk through the Parish Council's Unity Trust banking facility

APPROVAL OF AUDIT ACCOUNTS FOR 2022/2023

- a) Certificate of Exemption
- b) Annual Governance Statement
- c) Annual Statement of Accounts
- d) Endorsement of Risk Assessment
- e) Endorsement of Internal Control

All the above were agreed unanimously by the Council and the Chairman and clerk duly signed them off. These will now be forwarded to the Auditor in London

9. **Middlezoy Community Project update** – as Cllr Grisman was not at the meeting – there was no update

10. Cllrs Matters of Report

Chairman – had some paintings (18) by the talented artists of the local school children. They will be displayed, and a vote will be taken by the Parishioners as to which one will be made into a sign to be displayed on entering Middlezoy

Cllr Campbell reported that the Emergency Plan is progressing and had been in touch with National Grid – if there was to be a major outage of power. As the Village Hall is already a designated point, National Grid would be able to install a mobile generator. Grants are available to have the “plug in” point installed at the Hall and will be part of Somerset Prepared. He is to investigate costings and report back. A brief discussion took place re the letter received from the school and Cllr Baker said he would look into a reply about some anomalies raised

Cllr Paffey – informed the meeting of the successful site meeting with County Cllr Martin, along with representatives from SC Highways re the concern of the potholes and general state of the road between Othery Middlezoy. He is now awaiting reply from Highways and will report back at the July meeting

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

**Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 18th July 2023 7.30pm
In the Village Hall**