

Middlezoy Parish Council

Minutes of the Middlezoy Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 21st November 2023 where the following business was transacted.

Present: Chairman Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Ian Campbell, Cllr Becky Turner, Cllr John Grisman, and Cllr Paffey. 5 Parishioners, and the Clerk

- 1. Apologies for absence and any declarations of interest in items on this agenda and dispensations granted – Apologies** from County Cllr Martin
- 2. Minutes of the meeting of 17th October 2023** – were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Grisman
- 3. Chairman’s Report** – The Chairman had received an apology from Duncan Harvey (Homes in Sedgemoor), unable to attend the meeting and has now rescheduled to update the Council at the December meeting re Affordable Housing. He asked the Clerk to write to Highways to ask for a 20mph sign to be removed as it was on private land. The Chairman had attended a planning committee meeting re the Olivers Road (Environment Agency) material stockpile. He informed the meeting that there will be approximately 240 lorry movements daily at the site. The Chairman had attended the LCN meeting he stated that some services provided by Somerset Council could be dramatically reduced. To that extent, the Clerk had placed in the budget an additional provision for some eventuality in more cost to the Parish Council. The new budget was proposed by Cllr Grisman & Turner, agreed unanimously by the Council, and will be submitted to Somerset Council
- 4. To receive any reports – Police – None. County Council – None**
- 5. a) Affordable Housing** – see notes in Chairman’s report
b) Community Asset re George Pub – Cllrs to review the information form and report back at the December meeting
c) Welcome Pack update – The Clerk had received some files from Cllr Campbell and will post out to the Cllrs a draft copy of the new booklet
d) Possible new Cllr (Mrs Boulton) – Mrs Boulton attended the meeting, to see another meeting in situ and will make her decision in the next couple of months
e) Citizens Advice donation request – the Clerk had received a letter from the CAB asking for some funding. After some discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent declining the invitation
f) LCN update – see notes in Chairman’s report

- g) **Asset & Service Devolution letter from Somerset County** – it was agreed that the Clerk not to reply to their request
- h) **Village Maintenance Tender** – it was agreed that the Chairman, along with Cllrs Campbell and Grisman to update the tender and report back at the December meeting
- i) **Revised Budget** – see Chairman’s notes above

6. Planning – NONE

7. FINANCE

a) Clerk’s Salary October	£285.90
b) Clerk’s PAYE October	£71.40
c) Clerk’s expenses October	£25.75
d) Hire of Hall – October	£24.00
e) G Wagden James – inv 3316	£324.01
f) Steve Purchase – Cladding invoice 20.11.23	£30,000.00

All invoices include VAT where applicable.

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

ITEM 7f – the Clerk had received an invoice 21st November from the local contractor for work being done at the Village Hall. Cllr Grisman signed off the invoice and The Council agreed unanimously to pay this bill immediately

- 8. **Middlezoy Community Project update** – Cllr Grisman updated the meeting that over 75% of the new cladding has now been completed. The Committee is now looking at upgrading the lighting in the hall. Christmas opening times have now been advertised
- 9. **Cllrs matter of reports** – Cllr Campbell asked if a supplier of a generator can be sourced for the Emergency Committee. As there is an electrician working on the Hall, Cllr Paffey to make enquiries
Cllr Paffey stated that some of the highways issues have now been resolved, other than the drains needing emptying. The Clerk to write to Highways asking for them to be drains to be cleaned, especially with all the rain recently.
Cllr Campbell informed the meeting of a Star Gazing Forum to be held on the playing field – February 28th 2024 – a date for your diaries!!!

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

**Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 19th December 2023 starting at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall**