

**Gesta non verba**  
**MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL**



**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th October 2023, Middleton Village Hall**

**Present:**

Gill Keegan - Vice Chair  
 Cllr Peter Rotherham  
 Cllr Frazer Smith  
 Cllr George Hawkins  
 Clerk in Attendance - Michelle Skinner

**Apologies:**

Cllr James Beamish  
 Cllr Andy Jenns

Guest presenters: Tahir Ahmed -Community Engagement Manager-Balfour Beatty VINCI Joint Venture (HS2 )

Residents in attendance – 20+

<b>33/23</b>	<p><b>Meeting welcomed Tahir Ahmed who presented an update on the proposed HS2 extension.</b></p> <p><b>Programme outlined for the next 2 years including a rephasing update from Curdworth to Middleton.</b></p> <p><b>Proposal that the Church Lane over bridge construction will continue with work to commence late summer of 2024.</b></p> <p><b>Traffic will be diverted during this build with possible overnight closures, TA confirmed no construction traffic through the village during this time .</b></p> <p><b>Plan to build a temporary road alongside the bridge build to alleviate traffic congestion during the diversions.</b></p> <p><b>Noted that may improve pedestrian access along Church Lane with footpath.</b></p> <p><b>Follow up meeting to be held in February 2024 with further updates for the residents of Middleton.</b></p> <p><b>HS2 meeting finished at 7.30pm</b></p>	<p>M Skinner to action follow up meeting</p>
<b>34/23</b>	<p><b>Public Questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>It was noted again the lack of attendance from both the County and Borough councillors and asked for follow up to ensure available for next meeting</b></li> <li>• <b>Tamworth Road/Hill Lane: it has been noted that NWBC do not have a PSPO in place , should have been renewed , resident is following up with NWBC in light of an incident where a dog walker was aggressive to resident, this has also been reported to the police for follow up</b></li> <li>• <b>Crowberry Lane/Park Lane/Wishaw Lane: concerns regarding danger due to the speed of drivers in these lanes, resident has written to Highways over this matter and yet to receive a response, branches and trees are hanging over the lanes making it hazardous for drivers, NWBC to remind landowners of their obligations to keep hedges at reasonable heights and cut back</b></li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Keegan</p> <p>MSk to follow up with highways</p> <p>MSk to following up</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Crowberry Lane resident stated potholes still not satisfactorily repaired, the Ford in Crowberry Lane is constantly blocked by branches and leaves and liable to flooding.</b></li> <li>• <b>Resident asked if it were possible to have a road safety mirror erected at the junction of Coppice Lane/Church Lane as this was quite a hazardous junction at busy times of the day.</b></li> </ul>	with highways
35/23	<b>Police Matters</b> Meeting noted lack of attendance	MSk to follow up
36/23	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Cllr James Beamish Cllr Andy Jenns	
37/23	<b>Declarations of interests</b>	<b>None</b>
38/23	<b>Minutes of previous meeting:</b> <i>Agreed and signed by Cllr Keegan as a correct record of meeting</i>	
39/23	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
	<b>6/23.1</b> Hill Lane defibrillator is being investigated. Require assistance of resident <u><b>UPDATE</b></u> <u><b>MSK CONFIRMED RESIDENT HAS OFFERED ASSISTANCE FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, SITE SURVEY TO BE CARRIED OUT, MSK TO CONTACT NATIONAL GRID . FUNDING APPLICAITO SENT TO BHF BUT MPC HAVE AGREED TO SELF FUND AND PROGRESS</b></u>	<b>All</b>  <b>MSK</b>
	<b>6/23.2</b> Church/Crowberry Lanes repairs were done to a certain extent. To chase NWBC to correct and complete outstanding <u><b>UPDATE</b></u> <u><b>MATTERS ONGOING AND WILL AGAIN CONTACT NWBC</b></u>	<b>MSk</b>
	<b>7/23.1</b> Garden Development , Church Lane, Cllr Keegan has raised issues further with planning at WCC, letter has been sent awaiting response <b>PROJECT PAUSED</b>	<b>Cllr Keegan</b>
	<b>7/23.3</b> Garage area, £750 quote received to supply and install manual gate . Cllr Hawkins to Quote to be obtained for fitting fencing to secure the site. <u><b>UPDATE</b></u> <u><b>WORK HAS COMPLETED, INVOICE RECEIVED and PAID</b></u>	
39/23.1	<b>7/23.4</b> New cradle swing installed, inspection to be arranged,	<b>CllrKeegan/ MSk</b>

	<p><b>7/23.5</b> Cllr Smith to look at available software for ANPR camera, awaiting quote for maintenance and passwords required</p> <p><b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>PASSWORDS RECEIVED</u></b></p>	Cllr Smith
	<p><b>8/23.1</b> Oak bench the clerk acquired from the wetlands trust is to be positioned on the small green patch opposite the Green Man pub next to the paths signpost. Cllr Smith to arrange installation but speak to resident on corner of Vicarage Hill to ensure no issues with bench placement</p> <p><b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>RESIDENTS HAVE AGREED FOR BENCH TO BE INSTALLED, AWAIT INSTALLATION</u></b></p> <p>Replacement benches also require for Ramblers Rest</p>	Cllr Smith Cllr Smith
	<p><b>8/23.3</b> Valuation for school to be undertaken to ensure adequate insurance. M Skinner to make contact , Cllr Beamish to also make enquiries</p> <p><b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>HISCOX QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED, AWAIT CLLR BEAMISH</u></b></p>	MSK/ Cllr Beamish
39/23.2	<p><b>8/23.4</b> Discussion re play area centre piece, Cllr Smith Cllr Hawkins to enquire re rubber matting and alternative surfaces to replace grass . Hot Lay rubber?</p> <p><b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>COST FOR RUBBER MATTING PROHIBITIVE SO ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION TO BE SOUGHT</u></b></p>	Cllr Smith/Cllr Hawkins M Skinner
39/23.3	<p><b>8/23.6</b> Additional funding has been received, additional equipment to be selected by playground committee</p>	Cllr Keegan & others
39/23.4	<p><b>10/23.2</b> MPC has been asked for contribution to village fete for purchase of pop up marquees, Cllr JB to ask Phil Milligan for costs, Cllr FS to also enquire re costs of marquees. Shipping container - to be advertised for sale</p>	Cllr Beamish/ Cllr Smith
<b>40/23</b>	<b>NEW ACTIONS</b>	
	<p><b>28/23.1</b> Investigate potential HS2 funding for village stuff, with MRR. Quotes required for tarmac of car park/perimeter path/path onto village green</p>	Cllr Keegan/ Cllr Smith/ MRR
	<p><b>28/23/3</b> Solar panels for speed cameras to be investigated, meeting agreed that trees and bushes should be cut back frequently to enable full solar power</p>	Cllr Beamish/ Cllr Smith

	Solar panels for speed cameras to be investigated, meeting agreed that trees and bushes should be cut back frequently to enable full solar power	
	<b>28/23/5</b> <b>Letter of authorization to fund specialist drain/camera equipment for investigation work in Tamworth Road. Project run by Mr T. Harris</b>	<b>Cllr Beamish</b>
<b>40/23.1</b>	<b>28/23/6</b> <b>Village bonfire to be considered for this year, planning to be in place due to logistics.</b> <b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>IT HAS BEEN AGREED BY MPC THAT VILLAGE BONFIRE NOT PROCEED THIS YEAR DUE TO LOGISTICS AND TIMING</u></b>	
40/23.2	28/23.2 Drain covers Park Lane in need of replacement. Inform NWBC/Highways	<b>MSk</b>
	<b>28/23.7</b> <b>Road sign by pub to be reinstated. Chase NWBC/Highways</b> <b><u>UPDATE</u></b> <b><u>NWBC TO COMPLETE BY 25/10/23</u></b>	<b>MSk</b>
	<b>30/23.3</b> <b>Watch out for DDay anniversary celebrations June 2024 and organize event including beacon lighting</b>	<b>All</b>
40/23.3	<b>REMEMBRANCE DAY</b> <b>Wreath ordered, Lamppost poppies ordered for Village, Hill Lane, Tamworth Road, Allen End, Wishaw Lane</b>	
<b>41/23</b>	<b>KEY FINANCIAL PROJECTS 2023/2024</b> <b>9/23.1</b> <b>Garages - Church Lane ongoing please see item 24/1.1 (9/23.1)</b> <b>7.23.5</b> <b>ANPR cameras</b> <b>DEFBRILATOR FOR HILL LANE/TAMWORTH ROAD</b> <b>New PC Website for 2024</b>	
<b>42/23</b>	<b>COMMUNITY UPDATES</b>	
<b>42/23.1</b>	<b>HS2</b> BBV presented at MPC meeting, follow up meeting to be held in February, short questionnaire to be send to residents prior to meeting	<b>MSk</b>
<b>43/23</b>	<b>MCC</b> <b>None</b>	
<b>44/23</b>	<b>MRR</b> <b>27/23.3.1</b> Ownership of path confirmed as VH, document exists confirming details of diversions process and ownership.	

	<b>27/23.3.2</b> Path to be tarmac'd to allow safe access for wheelchair and pushchair users	
	<b>27/23.3.3</b> Screen inside VH to be used to promote event and village activities	
	<b>27/23.3.4</b> Committee agreed to work with MPC for further events, such as DDay celebrations for next year	
<b>45/23</b>	<b>MUFT</b> None	
<b>46/23</b>	<b>Samuel White Trust</b> None	
<b>47/23</b>	<b>REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS AND CLERK</b>	
<b>47/23.1</b>	<b>Cllr Keegan –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Garage Site requires weeding and maintaining, need to consider options and ideas for the site, meet in Jan 2024 to discuss</b></li> <li>• <b>Online banking process has started, with application to UNITY TRUST bank</b></li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>47/23/2</b>	<b>Cllr Beamish –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>28/23/3</u> Solar panels for speed cameras to be investigated, meeting agreed that trees and bushes should be cut back to enable full solar power</b></li> <li>• <b>Mini Libraries for the play area and village sites to be considered as part of the Little Library Campaign</b></li> </ul>	<b>Cllr Beamish Cllr Smith</b>
<b>47/23.3</b>	<b>Cllr Hawkins</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>47/23.4</b>	<b>Cllr Smith</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>47/23/5</b>	<b>Cllr Rotherham –</b> <b>28/23.5</b> Meeting agreed that Mr T Harris be given special sanctions to liaise with Severn Trent for the ongoing issue with sewer blockages, it was agreed and that funds (approx. £300) be made available to enable specialist drain/camera equipment for future investigation work. <b><u>Letter required from MPC Chair to authorise.</u></b> On Friday 13th Oct the traffic was diverted off A4091 into Crowberry Lane due to flooding with no road signs/explanation as to why diverted into village, causing major disruption, contact NWBC for a better solution ?	<b>Cllr Beamish</b>
<b>47/23.6</b>	<b>Clerk</b> WALC Clerk Training session held 17 <sup>th</sup> October with follow November and December Audit training course to be held in January 2024	<b>MSk</b>

48/23	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2023/0366</a> Barbary Cottage Coppice Lane Middleton Tamworth B78 2AR First floor extension to side, two storey extension and roof garden canopy to rear</p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2022/0590</a> 24/05/2023 Cross Green House Green Lane Middleton B78 2BJ Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of garden land / patio, stable, slab, garage and rest room</p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2023/0245</a> 06/06/2023 Cross Green Cottage Green Lane Middleton Tamworth B78 2BJ Retrospective application for existing pond F</p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2023/0356</a> 19/09/2023 Middleton Lakes Nature Reserve Tamworth Road Middleton Erect wooden open fronted covered shelter 2.5 mP high by 5m wide</p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2023/0363</a> 13/09/2023 Langley Brook Business Park London Road Allen End Middleton Tamworth B78 2BP Part retrospective application for the retention of No.6 lighting columns; and the erection of No.3 new columns with new luminaires on all columns</p> <p><a href="#">PAP/2023/0335</a> 23/08/2023 Stables Church Lane Middleton Demolition of existing buildings, erection of 5no. dwellings, detached garage and access</p>	
49/23	<p><b>Correspondence received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for Parish Council to consider joining with church to decorate one of the large trees in the church yard as the village Christmas tree &amp; for carols around the tree this year.</li> <li>Request for donation to contribute to the Father Christmas in the village/carriage on Friday 15th December, a donation of any size would be greatly welcomed. License to be arranged for a street collection and donate all funds raised to charity - PC are welcome to put forward ideas for which charity if it so wishes. <b><u>MPC HAVE AGREED A CONTRIBUTION OF £250.00</u></b></li> <li>Invitation for PC to attend this year's Carol service in the evening of on Sunday 17th December. We will invite a rep of PC to do a reading</li> </ul>	all
50/23	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>Updated finance report issued to councillors by Clerk</p>	
51/23	<p><b>Any other business</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b></li> <li><b>Wednesday 15th November 2023</b></li> <li><b>Wednesday 19th December 2023</b></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>MEETING CLOSED 8.50pm</b></p>	

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_