**MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT THE RECREATION ROOM**

**CHURCH LANE MIDDLETON**

**Date 19/1/2022 Meeting 7 of 2021/22**

**Present Councillors**

**Gill Keegan Chair (GK) Chair**

**Peter Rotherham (PR) Vice-chair**

**Cllr. James Beamish (JB)**

**Graham Smith (GS)**

**Quorum so meeting went ahead.**

1. **Apologies**

**Andy Jenns County Councillor (AJ) (prior meeting)**

**Mark Simpson Borough Councillor (MS) (Unwell)**

**Peter Rawlins (PRw)**

**Clerk in Attendance Tony Harris (TH)**

*Public in attendance*

*None.*

1. **Police Surgery**

None

1. **Declarations of Pecuniary or other interests.**

*None*

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 17/11/2021**

*The previous minutes were duly signed Chairman Cllr Keegan*

1. **Matters Arising**
2. *It was noted that the Coppice Lane notice area was looking much better although there seems to be persistent low level fly tipping there.*
3. *Middleton need to consider the Queens jubilee celebrations and a statue by the sculptor who made the Woman’s vote and initial quote has been received and the clerk has sort, a second quote to ensure value for money. Based on this the Council unanimously agreed to proceed with the project and order. This will be the principal memorial to the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and also an acknowledgement to Middleton’s equine heritage.*
4. *Investigate concrete base for seating on V.G. It was agreed councillors would meet on VG at 10am on Saturday to determine best way.*
5. *Green Lane flooding seems to be ok however a resident has again been harassed by a walker over a right of way, who having failed in a court action is once again causing concern, it was noted that the Clerk had threatened him with legal action if he continued to harass councillors of Middleton and Police have now visited his home to advise he ceases his one-man crusade or he could face arrest. The individual lives in Erdington and is talking about further legal action against the Middleton resident.*
6. *Pollarding of the Damson Trees has been actioned however no quotes or authority to proceed were received or given, Clerk to investigate.*
7. *Cllr. Keegan raised the issue of where we are with the new Lease. Clerk explained it was with our Solicitors but no update has been received either from our Solicitor or indeed the tenant’s solicitor.*
8. *Resident reported lack of lighting in Samuel White Close. Take up with Samuel White?*

**NEW ACTIONS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **What** | **Who** | **When** |
| **N1** | *Order second speed camera following trial installation scheduled for 22.1.2022* | Clerk | January |
| **N2** | *Investigate concrete base for seating on V.G .Cllrs to meet on VG on Saturday* | All | January |
| **N3** | *Obtain competitive quote to ensure value for money and based on Neil Marshalls Sculpture being less expensive proceed with the order* | Clerk | January |
| **N4** | *Investigate why the pollarding of damson trees was done without a quote or authority to go ahead given* | Clerk | January/February |
| **N5** | *Chase current Status of the New Lease* | Clerk | January |
| **N6** | *With Cllr. Smith the clerk to obtain quotes and purchase a 20ft container* | Clerk/  Cllr. Smith | January/February |
| **N7** | *Rally residents for Jubilee celebrations. Decide on date, Suggest Band plus BYO food & drink Decide on date.* | All | February |
| **N8** | *Take up street lighting issue with Samuel Whites* | Clerk | February |

**PENDING / ONGOING ACTIONS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **What** | **Who** | **When** |
| **P1** | ***TRAVELLERS REST***  *Two new fascia boards to be fitted to complete the structure* | Clerk/Cllr Rawlins | January |
| **P2** | ***PLAY AREA***  *Still awaiting quotes so Clerk will look at other suppliers. Cllr Rawlins is to provide a site contact in Devon* | Clerk/Cllr  Rawlins | January |
| **P3** | ***VILLAGE HALL***  *This looks to be very long-winded process just to get WIFI so Cllr Keegan to investigate sim card option* | Clerk | November |
| **P4** | ***LIBRARY***  *Remedial work on the door to be completed* | Clerk | January |
| **P5** | ***MCC 15year LEASE***  *To be based on an initial 5year rent increase based on RPI after this both parties would agree to continue with RPI or if it was deemed that commercial rent value was not being achieved a new process agreed. we need to set up a mechanism for rent increases the options appear to be* ***a)*** *linked to property valuation and rents in similar establishments* ***b)*** *link rent increases to**the Retail Price Index* ***c)*** *a negotiated rent profile. All three options would be over a 5year period to allow re alignment and agreement with the next 5year profile. Solicitor costs paid by the tenant.*  *Clerk to discuss with Dan* | Clerk |  |
| **P7** | ***Speed Cameras.*** *One received a second to be order on successful installation of the second* |  |  |
| **P8** | ***PARTY IN THE PARK***  *Merge with Platinum Jubilee celebrations* | All | March-May |
| **P9** | *Chase Garages status with Angela Coates-noted this will be the third time of chasing* | Clerk | November |
| **P10** | *Travellers rest sign to be ordered by the clerk with an initial budget of £200 set.* | Cllr. Beamish |  |
| **P11** | *It was unanimously agreed to purchase two remote cameras for wildlife monitoring and impact of HS2 works on our local biodiversity (see project costings).Cllr. Beamish has quote. Still under discussion.* | Cllr Beamish | January |
| **P12** | *Cllr. Keegan to look into new sim card solution for WIFI in village hall* | Cllr Keegan | Februay |
| **P13** | *Investigate concrete base for seating on V.G. with Russell* | Clerk | January/  February |

**CLOSED ACTIONS SINCE LAST MEETING**

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| --- | --- |
| **Ref** |  |
| **C1** | *Cheque to over 60’s dinner given to Diana Crockett, Treasurer 20/1/22* |
| **C2** | *RE HS2 works. Investigate Drone video over the area Film maker? the aim is to chart the impact of HS2 on the area. Video obtained* |
| **C3** | *Cheque for grant of £100 awarded to the over 60 plus club passed to Diana Crockett* |
| **C4** |  |

**KEY FINANCIAL PROJECTS 2021/22**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **What** | **Quotes** | **Budgeted**  **cost** | **Actual cost** |
| **K2** | ***GARAGES (Church Lane)***  *NWBC still keen to go ahead with the scheme but will now be later in the year due to Covid 19.* ***This is now a new financial year 2021/22 project realistically. Angela Coates to review timescales project has been on hold since 2018. Clerk to chase again*** | On Hold | £10,000 EMR |  |
| **K3** | ***CEF Grant (HS2)***  *Grant to be submitted before end of September 202 1this is a grant application for £75,000 the Clerk has submitted for the building of a new function room onto the Village Hall at the rear. MPC have promised a grant of £500 towards the build if grant is awarded.* | N/A | (£75,000)  Value of Grant applied for | MPC contribution £500 |
| **K4** | ***PLAY AREA***  *A full set of costs is being sought from various suppliers based on steel constructed items to improve longevity of play equipment.* | £23,000  First quote |  |  |
| **K7** | ***ROAD SPEED CAMERAS***  *The Council agreed to order one speed camera initially with 4 batteries, Clerk to order once second quote and technical comparisons made, unless budget figure is exceeded then council will need to again review. IT was agreed to order a second camera based on same terms.* | Camera £2050 batteries at £70 based on initial quotes plus vat | £3,000 | **£2692.80** |
| **K8** | ***MOBILE CAMERAS***  *For detection of fly tipping and other crimes* | Camera £474 per camera sim card £10 month | £1250 |  |
| **K9** | ***HILL LANE NOTICEBOARD***  *It was agreed to purchase a new noticeboard the same as recently installed at Travellers Rest but on metal poles clerk to complete purchase based on budget of £2500 any amount over this will need to be referred back to MPC for additional approval* | £2500 | £2500 | **2448.80** |
| **K10** | ***APNR Cameras***  *Council agreed to investigate further APNR cameras throughout the Parish. Initial camera to be sourced for Wishaw Lane following the theft of two caravans from Hunts Green. Remote cameras on Wishaw Lane are being investigated with two quotes received. A trial is being conducted to identify the correct choice. Data as and when required. The theft demonstrates that Middleton needs robust deterrents. A second quote to be obtained but MPC agreed purchase as long as budget not exceeded for Wishaw Lane* | 1200/1700 | £1700 |  |
| K11 | ***Horse Sculpture***  *A second quote to be obtained to ensure value for money and if Neil Marshalls sculpture is at a lower cost, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with the purchase* | Initial quote £5,500  Second quote £35,000 | £5,500 |  |

1. **Samuel White Trust and other Community Organisations**
2. *It was agreed that the Middleton Nature reserve would be a closed area with hides on the perimeter and annual organised visits for those interested this was agreed to preserve wildlife and their habitat*
3. **High Speed Rail Line**

*Video footage of the nature reserve taken by HS2 BBV has now been received*

1. **Community Ce****ntre**

* *No update from Solicitor Clerk to chase4*

**9. Village Green Development**

**a.** *Playground inspection some remedial work needs to be considered along with new equipment so it was agreed for a meeting to take place t Saturday 22 January 2022 on the village green to look at three particular issues:*

*1. what remedial work can be done on the play area.*

*2. Potential siting of the benches onto permanent locations*

*3. where to site the new statue*

**10. Middleton Recreation Room**

1. *New Porch is almost finished*
2. *Grant of just under £75,000 obtained through HS2 Groundworks for new extension*

**11. Reports of Councillors and Clerk**

**Cllr. Keegan**

1. *A resident has raised what is being organised for the Queens jubilee. It was unanimously agreed that an event need to be driven by local groups and a picnic in the park organised with a band was favourite but individuals would have to bring their own food and drink. The Parish Council will look to assist directly with Grants and also help residents with outside grants.*
2. *Despite requests to HS2 BBV no satisfactory correspondence has been received concerning the height of the flyover sited at the Park Lane junction.*

**Cllr. Smith**

*a. Cllr. Smith raised the issue of additional storage in the compound area and proposed that a 20ft container be purchased to store all the fete stands freeing up space in the main storage unit, he also proposed that initially it is sited on the village Hall carpark so that it could store tables and chairs while the main extension is being built.*

**Cllr. Beamish**

*a. No Reports*

**Cllr. Rotherham**

1. *Some Hill Lane residents are concerned about the Langley/Peddimore housing and industrial estate developments, Cllr Rotherham explained that this there were three areas of concern 1. Additional traffic especially at Bassets Pole Island 2. Increased water run off and impact of flooding at Langley brook and 3. Potential for building at the rear of Hill Lane*

***Cllr. Rawlins***

*a. No Reports*

**Cllr. Jenns**

*No Reports*

***Cllr. Simmons***

*No Reports*

1. **Correspondence**

**NWBC/WCC**

Angela Coates update

**General.**

Data Protection

Insurance 12/1/2022

Queens jubilee horse/tree planting/party?

HMRC

Lease

Village Hall extension no update

List of spend options

VAT

Precept

Mr Norris

Grounds Maintenance //£649.84

**WALC**

New courses end of year

**13. Planning matters**

**PAP/2021/0666/8/12/2021 Aston Villa new telecoms pole installation**

**PAP/2021/070223/12/2021 Demolition of Garages Church Lane**

**PAP/2021/069324/12/2021 Cross Green house, Green Lane loft conversion 4 Dorma windows**

**Pap/2021/0610/ 12/2021 WOOD FARM Coppice Lane new build opposite**

**14. Finance Report**

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| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Middleton Parish Council 2021/2022** | | | |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Capital reserve fund** **A/c 29525357 (3.12.2021)** | | | | |  |  | | **opening balance** | |  |  |  |  | **7,368.80** | | **interest** |  |  |  |  |  | 0.06 | | **new balance** | |  |  |  |  | **7,368.86** | | £4000 is rent deposit | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Current Account 00411787 (30.12.2021)** | | | |  |  |  | | **Financial summary** | |  |  |  |  |  | | **Balance at bank A/c 00411787** | | | |  |  | **34,056.60** | | **Unpresented cheques** | | **C/N** | Date | **Description** |  |  | |  |  | 2248 | 09/11/2021 | Speed sign |  | - 2,692.80 | |  |  | 2255 | 05/01/2022 | Insurance |  | - 1,620.15 | |  |  |  |  | **Subtotal** |  | **29,743.65** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | **29,743.65** | |  |  |  | Est | HMRC |  | - 60.00 | |  |  | 2257 | 19/01/2022 | 60+ grant |  | - 100.00 | |  |  | 2256 | 19/01/2022 | Data protection |  | - 40.00 | |  |  |  | Est | wages |  | - 798.68 | |  |  | 2258 | 19/01/2022 | Insurance |  | - 50.00 | |  |  |  |  |  |  | **28,694.97** | | **Notes** |  |  |  |  |  |  | | \*\* No knowledge yet of when audit will be finalised or additional costs so figure is precautionary | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Income |  |  |  | MCC rent |  | 2,028.00 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**15. Public Questions and Comments**.

*No public present*

**16. The Chair proposes**

*None.*

**17. Any other business**

**Meeting closed at 8.00 pm**

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date of next meeting 19/12/2021**