

MIDGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

C/o 33 Camden Close, Calcot, Reading RG31 7AG

Email: clerk@midghamparish.co.uk

Tel: 0118 348 58440

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held 24th January 2022 at Midgham Village Hall

Attendees:

Chair: Tony Markham	Vice Chair: Anthony Fenn
Councillors: Barbara Grey, Derek Lombardo, Francis Long	Clerk: Christine Heath
District Councillor: Graham Pask	Members of Public 4

1. Apologies

There were none

2. Declarations of interest

There were none

3. Approve the minutes from the meetings held on the 25th October 2021

The minutes were approved and entered into the minute file

4. Planning matters

4.1 Decisions

21/02379/HOUSE - Hambledown School Hill Midgham. First floor extension **GRANTED**

4.2 Awaiting decision from West Berks Planning

- **20/03028/OUTD/MAJ** - development Bath Road/New Road Hill 16 dwellings, including 6 affordable units. **PC have strongly objected**
- **21/02130/OUTMAJ** - Land Adjacent To 1 Gables Way Bath Road Colthrop Thatcham. Outline Application for commercial storage/distribution development, office space, car parking and service yards. **PC have objected**
- DC updated that planning officer are assessing the gravel situation potential to extract the gravel. If it was approved it would go to committee as there are more than 10

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objections so far. Hedgerow was not done satisfactorily DC has asked them to go back and tidy including some trees that have fallen. Also replanting has been requested

- **21/02517/HOUSE** Adjacent Parish Extension – **PC have no objections**

4.3 Awaiting PC Decision

- **21/03231/HOUSE** – Hunts Cottage, Midgham Green - External alterations to residential outbuilding. Discussions took place in particular with regards the number of roof lights. Following a vote, it was **RESOLVED** not to object. Results: Object 1, Approve 3, abstain 1.

5. Public Session

A member of the public requested clarification on agenda items “Public Session” and “Any other business”. The following clarification was given by the Chairman.

The Public Session is always near the beginning of the meeting allowing the public to raise questions or provide information on any of the agenda items. The members of the public are only permitted to speak during the public session.

Any Other Business is usually at the end of the agenda, which enables any members of the PC to highlight a matter not included in the agenda. Such items may be discussed but no decisions can be made at the meeting in progress, they may be added to a future agenda.

The Parish Standing Orders contains full details under section (3) which can be viewed on the PC website. [POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – Midgham Parish Council \(midghampc.org.uk\)](https://www.midghampc.org.uk) or by contacting the Clerk: clerk@midghamparish.co.uk Telephone 0118 3485840

6. District Councillors Report

DC Pask provided an update on Thatcham Development as follows:

Laura Farris MP attended a meeting in Bucklebury and advised that she had met with Michael Grove MP and put forward a powerful case on the allocation of development for West Berkshire. Ms Farris is currently seeking what flexibility there may be with the allocated numbers. There is currently a 9-month delay as WB have now been asked to put together a 30-year plan. DC Pask clarified the development at Siege Cross and behind Regency Park, which had been refused by WB, appealed and approved and then refused by the Secretary of State on the grounds that WB already had a robust local plan.

Bin collections will be changing in February adding two new crews and lorries.

Veolia recycling now have a book on-line service and uses auto number plate recognition. You will need to register your vehicle prior to booking. However, it is possible to book and register your vehicle over the telephone 01635 519080 select option (1).

7. Councillor Grey to move the motion that Midgham Parish Council consider and RESOLVE uniting with other parishes in the Opposition Group to jointly oppose the proposed Thatcham development of 2,500 homes

Cllr Grey proposed that the PC reconsider its decision not to join the opposition group i.e., those parishes affected by the development on greenfield land and advised that circa 20-30 acres are on Midgham land. Cllr Grey advised that there are residents who are not only vehemently opposed to the development, they are also prepared to contribute, either financially or by fund raising. Many have voiced their disappointment that Midgham PC have not joined the opposition group and taken advantage of all the resources available across all parishes involved.

The Chairman was opposed to joining the group and advised that the parish council continue to support the objections to this development and that our District Councillor and local MP are aware of the objections by Midgham PC and its residents. Whilst the PC is generally supportive of the opposition group, he was uncertain as to the benefits of joining the group. The chairman pointed out that Midgham parish Council has a right to attend any public enquiry and a right to make representations at such an enquiry

Cllr Long was in agreement with the principal of showing solidarity with other parishes threatened by this development

Cllr Fenn believes the development is life changing for residents and that residents are concerned as to why we are not part of the opposition group.

Motion seconded by Cllr Fenn

A vote took place, results as follows:

For the motion: VC Fenn, Cllr Lombardo, Cllr Long, Cllr Grey

Against the motion: Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** that Midgham Parish Council join the opposition group

8. Correspondence received

All correspondence was by email and forwarded to Councillors at the time of receipt.

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9. Clerks report

9.1 Financial Update

	Payments	Receipts	Balance
Balance as at 19th October 2021			£ 18,338.41
Income			
Interest received Nov/Dec/Jan		£ 0.40	
		<u>0.40</u>	
Payments			
Salaries Oct'21-Jan'22	1076.80		
Email Access	320.68		
Open Space Maintenance	1717.80		
Stationery	79.52		
Subscriptions	48.00		
Defibrilator Supplies	50.34		
	<u>£3,293.14</u>	<u>0.40</u>	
Balance as at 24 January 2022			<u>£ 15,045.67</u>

9.2 Approval of Village Hall rental invoice for payment

The invoice covering the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 for £180 was approved for payment.

10. Any other matters the Chairman believes necessary

There were none

11. The date of the next meeting will be 21st March 2022

12. The meeting closed 19.39 hrs