

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 21st March 2022 7pm Midgham Village Hall

Attendees:

Chair: Tony Markham	Clerk: Christine Heath
Vice Chair: Anthony Fenn	
Councillors: Barbara Grey, Francis Long District Councillor: Graham Pask	Members of Public: 3

This meeting was conducted strictly in accordance with Standing Orders as adopted by Council in May 2021.

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Approval of minutes from the meetings held on the 24th January 2022 and extraordinary meeting held 7th March 2022

The minutes were approved and entered into the minute folder

4. District Councillors Report

The monthly report was received, distributed and published prior to the meeting.

DC Graham Pask advised that the existing community hub set up for COVID had now become the Ukrainian hub, to provide assistance to the refugees coming to West Berks area. Greenham Trust are also providing funding. Should the Parish or VH wish to contribute they could co-ordinate with the district council.

Cllr Fenn (VP) also mentioned the Church of English Martyrs in Reading are organising taking families into the area, 20 are on their way, there are also a number in Thatcham.

A member of the public at the meeting confirmed they are also hoping to take in a family.

Members of the VH Committee confirmed that they would like to assist by providing the VH as a place for the local families to meet.

DC Pask confirmed the Council Tax rise was 1%. Full details of the budget can be found within his report or on WB website.

He also confirmed that the Members Bid funding was available towards for community projects, the amount allocated is to be shared across the 4 parishes that DC Pask represents.

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5. To receive the Clerks report

5.1 Financial Update

	Payments	Receipts	Balance
Balance as at 24th January 2022			£ 15,045.67
Income			
Interest received Feb/Mar		£ 0.23	
		<u>0.23</u>	
Payments			
Salary Feb'22	234.00		
VH Rental	180.00		
	<u>£414.00</u>	<u>0.23</u>	
Balance as at 14th March 2022			<u>£ 14,631.90</u>

Payments due

C Heath Expenses	£26
Midgham Green Survey Fee	£300

PRCEPT April £4,750

5.2 It was **RESOLVED** to approve C Heath expenses and Midgham Green survey fee for payment

5.3 Update on 2021/2022 Audit

The Clerk advised that Mr David Weller had agreed to audit the PC's accounts for 2021/2022 at a cost of £35, which had already been approved in the budget for 2022/23.

6. To discuss Village Hall matters

6.1 Village Hall Notice Board

Discussions took place to find a resolution to the difficulty in seeing and updating the notice board due to its position. **ACTION – Clerk:** Contact Highways in respect of moving it.

6.2 Update on hall from village hall committee

The Treasurer and Secretary provided an update as follows:

- They continue to look for someone to Chair the VH committee.
- Since the restrictions have been relaxed, the hall has been used a few times and the WB grants are helping to keep their heads above water.
- A new heating system has been installed and a water pipe replacement.

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- There are a number of repairs required including the roof for which they have received a quote for £14,000.
 - The main function at the hall is the Wednesday coffee morning 10am-12pm every fortnight.
 - The members thanked the Clerk for her assistance and guidance during the time the new committee was being set up and presented her with a small token of appreciation.
 - They are hoping to have Website set up soon at no cost
 - They presented a book by Derek Collier, covering the history of Midgham, including the parish council. There were only 100 printed. The VH notice board contains information on how to obtain a copy.

7. Queens Jubilee Celebration at the Playing Field

A resident had requested use of the field for a parish picnic for one day during the bank holiday weekend in June. The VH Committee provided further detail of the proposed event.

ACTION – Clerk: Check PL insurance and when the grass will be cut.

8. Councillor Training

The Chairman advised, that everyone should have read the Good Councillors Guide and Standing Orders, which provide good information on the roles and responsibilities of being a parish councillor. The Local Government Association also do a series of on-line courses should a councillor wish to extend their knowledge.

9. Thatcham Development

DC Pask advised that there have been further delays with planning, no decision has been made.

In respect of the Thatcham Group the Chairman advised that we are still awaiting copies of minutes of the meetings already held, together with details of the financial structure.

ACTION – Clerk: Contact the group

10. Planning matters

10.1 Decisions

- **21/03231/HOUSE** – Hunts Cottage, Midgham Green - External alterations to residential outbuilding PC had no objections at meeting 24th Jan 2022. **GRANTED**

10.2 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 DC advised:** DC Pask advised that this may come to Planning Committee shortly
- **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**

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- **21/02571/HOUSE** - Extension comes under Woolhampton – **PC have no objections**
 - **22/00031/CLASSR** – Hall Court Farm – Change to D2 use – Extraordinary meeting 7th March 2022 – **PC have objected**
 - **22/00143/HOUSE** - 10 Webcroft Midgham Green - Refurbishment and roof extension of existing outbuilding. **PC have no objections**
The applicant was present at the meeting and provided details of the work to be carried out. The existing building will be refurbished to provide an office space, the footprint will remain the same.
 - **22/00153/FULD** – Hall Court Farm – Change of use to C3 – **PC have no objections**
- 11. Other matters the Chairman believes necessary**
The Mercure Hotel – an application to WB had been made to renew their wedding licence
- 12. The Annual Parish and Annual General Meetings will be held on 18th May 7pm**
- 13. Part I of the meeting closed at 19:50**