

MIDGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Email: clerk@midghamparish.co.uk

Tel: 0118 348 58440

MEETING MINUTES

PART I

27th July 2022 Village Hall

Attendees:

Chair: Tony Markham	Vice Chair: Anthony Fenn	Clerk: Christine Heath
Councillors: Francis Long		Members of Public: 2

This meeting will be conducted strictly in accordance with Standing Orders as adopted by Council in May 2021. All Councillors are reminded to acquaint themselves with these Standing Orders.

Public Session

Village Hall

Mrs Sharon McKellar – VH Committee member provided the following update:

The Village Hall Licence rules have changed and it is no longer necessary to have a license unless the VH wishes to hold events up to midnight. The Committee decided they were happy to finish at 11pm and would like to go ahead and surrender the current license. As the original license was in the name of the Parish Council the surrender document needed to be signed by the PC and a Committee member. All those present agreed and the Chairman duly signed the surrender document.

A Fire Officer has inspected the VH. There are a number of things that could be done to improve the safety; lights outside, smoke detectors and a thumb screw lock on the front door to enable exit in the event of fire without unlocking the door with the key. These were all advisory changes, but the VH Committee would like to go ahead with the changes. Greenham Common would consider helping with the funding along with other sponsors.

The building is in a poor state of repair, the Coffee morning group has paid for paint for the outside and a local painter has agreed to carry out the work at no cost.

At the back of the building soil from the field is backing up against the wooden wall, a new fence is required to retain the soil. The side path also needs updating with membrane and stones at a cost of £400.

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The VH are looking for funding from the PC.

Mrs McKellar also reminded those present of open day on the 20th August

1. Apologies

Cllr Lombardo due to illness.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none

3. Approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 18th May 2022

The minutes were approved, signed and entered into the minute folder.

4. Correspondence received

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

5. Update on the Village Hall parking area

Mrs McKellar advised that the path from the pull in area is steep and very narrow. At the end of the season, it will be improved and a hand rail installed. Some tidying to the pull in area will take place as part of the path upgrade.

6. Noise nuisance

6.1 Barking dogs

Complaints have been received. The Chairman had reviewed the legislation on this topic and advised that the welfare of the dog should be reviewed if they are barking continuously. Continuous barking before 7am for more than 30 minutes at a time can be classified as a statutory nuisance.

6.2 Construction noise

This falls under the Environmental Protection Act 1974. Construction work without a licence can only be carried out between the hours of 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday 8am-1pm on Saturday and not at all on Sunday.

7. District Councillors Report

District Councillor sent his apologies. His latest report can be viewed on the PC website

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8. Clerks report

8.1 Financial update

Balance as at 18th May 2022 £ 17,654.89

Income

Interest received Jun/Jul	£	0.27
		<u>0.27</u>

Payments

Salary May/June	476.20
Insurance	472.69
Grass Cutting	954.61
Web hosting	160.00
Tree Survey	300.00
Data Protection subscription	35.00
	<u>£2,398.50</u>
	0.27

Balance as at 19 July 2022 £ 15,256.66

Treasurers Account	£	540.13
Savings Account	£	14,716.53
	£	<u>15,256.66</u>

8.2 Clerks position

The Clerk will be leaving at the end of September. The position has been advertised. The committee will discuss an application received in Part II

8.3 Update on Midgham Green quotes

Two quotations had been received and were sent to the committee prior to the meeting for review. The Chairman proposed to accept the quotation from Foxes Tree Specialists, which was within the allocated budget. It was seconded by Cllr Fenn and agreed by all those present. **ACTION – Clerk:** Make arrangements for the work to be carried out and inform the residents of Midgham Green.

8.4 Funding for Village Hall maintenance

The PC had received a request for funding which was outlined by the VH Committee in the public session. The total required to complete the necessary updates and repairs is £800. Anticipated funds from Greenham trust £500. The Chairman proposed to donate to the VH £300, seconded by Cllr Fenn and agreed by all those present. **ACTION - Clerk:** Arrange the bank transfer

9. Request from Swings & Smiles Charity for a donation

Swings & Smiles is a Thatcham based charity proudly supporting disabled children and their families, with 900 families registered at the time of writing. Each year they must fundraise £440,000 to allow them to continue to provide this service.

They do this via trust applications, events and community support. The Chairman proposed donating £100, seconded by Cllr Fenn and agreed by all those present.

10. Request from Greenfest program for a donation

It was agreed by all those present not to donate at this time.

11. Planning Applications

11.1 Decisions

- **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 **GRANTED**

Cllr Fenn raised concerns regarding the decision and advised that the PC and residents will be able to present their many concerns once a full planning application has been submitted. In particular noise and light pollution, increase in traffic and challenging whether this would indeed create local employment.

- **21/02571/HOUSE** - Extension comes under Woolhampton – PC have no objections. **GRANTED**
- **22/00031/CLASSR** – Hall Court Farm – Change to D2 use – Extraordinary meeting 7th March 2022 – PC have objected – **WB Decision – Not Required**
- **22/00903/HOUSE** – 1 Midgham Green - Section 73a: Removal of Condition 4 (Overdevelopment Restriction) of previously approved application 15/00581/HOUSE – PC No objections **REFUSED**
- **22/00708/CERTP** – Hunts Cottage, Midgham Green – use of outbuilding as ancillary residential annexe – PC No objections (voted 3-2) **APPROVED**

11.2 Awaiting PC feedback

22/01635/HOUSE – Midgham Court - Single storey extension with associated works **ACTION – Clerk:** Send Observation Sheet to WB with PC’s decision **PC do not object**

11.3 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 Planning Committee meeting 11th May. REFUSED**
- **22/00153/FULD** – Hall Court Farm – Change of use to C3 – **PC have no objections**

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12. Other matters the Chairman feels necessary

There were none.

13. The next meeting will be held on 19th September

14. Part I of the meeting closed at 19:40

By virtue of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public are excluded from Part II of the meeting during consideration of the following item(s) of business under Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.