

MIDGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

C/o 2 Old Orchard, Upper Woolhampton, RG7 5TE

Email: clerk@midghamparish.co.uk

Tel: 07896321058

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

21st November 2022, Village Hall

Chair: Tony Markham	Vice Chair: Anthony Fenn	Clerk: Alice Owens
Councillors: Francis Long, Barbara Grey, Derek Lombardo		Members of Public: 4

This meeting was 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

Mr Bruce and Ms Ward who live at Carlettdene raised the ongoing issue surrounding their dispute with the Village Hall Committee around the shared use of the septic tank; they felt the PC should help to resolve this. The Chairman clarified that the PC does not have control over the village hall and therefore the PC meeting is not the place to raise this.

Mrs Sharon McKellar of the Village Hall Committee reported that work to the side of the Village Hall has been completed, more work to be carried out in the Spring to improve access.

Mrs McKellar stated that a member of the parish wishes to hold a charity sale on the play area – advised she should contact PC herself directly.

Mrs McKellar wanted permission for knitted poppies to be attached to the noticeboard next year– all in agreement

A suggestion was made to hold a picnic on the playing field for the coronation of HM The King- all in agreement.

A member of the public raised the issue of water running down Church Hill – road is collapsing on the edge. District Cllr Graham Pask confirmed this is an issue to be raised with Thames Water, he will raise the issue at the next council meeting.

- 1. To receive apologies**
There were none
- 2. To receive any declarations of interest**
There were none
- 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2022**
Minutes approved and added to the Minutes folder

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4. To receive correspondence

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

5. To receive the District Councillors Report

- NE Thatcham housing – document will become public on the 24/11/22 (can be accessed through the West Berks Council website) when the council will look at going to Reg19 (consultation period where members of parish might like to make comment) which is the next consultation phase. Cllr Grey advised there will be a public meeting at Bucklebury village hall on 2/2/22 at 7pm. Cllr Grey suggested that since part of Midgham Parish is being subsumed into the proposed Thatcham NE Development plan, Midgham Parish Council should make a contribution to Bucklebury's "Say No to NE Thatcham" fund. The Chairman asked that she provide a detailed proposal to justify this request.
- District Cllr Pask announced the Cost of Living Hub – this will be match funded by Greenham Trust and can be accessed by members of the parish who require hardship support.
- Community volunteer of the year nominations are now open – details on website.
- District Cllr Pask reported budget pressures due to inflation and increased demands on social services since pandemic.
- On the subject of road repairs, please contact Street Care to report issues.

The Chairman raised the register of interest – is not on the council website, finding it hard to contact the person responsible for this, District Cllr Pask will chase this up.

6. To receive the Clerks report

- 6.1 Financial update – request for donation to Berkshire MS Society – The Chairman requested more detail on how this could benefit the parish **ACTION** – Clerk to contact applicant

Payments	Receipts	Balance
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Balance as at 20th September 2022

£ 11,116.58

Income

Interest received Oct Nov

£ 0.48

£ 1.59

Precept october

£ 4,750.00

Payments

Salary October 358.10 A Owens- Norton

14.99

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C Heath expenses	31.20
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£404.29	4,752.07
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Balance as at 15th November 2022

£ 15,464.36

Savings Account

14, 866.58

Treasurers Account

£ 597.78

£15, 464.36

- 6.2 Change of Bank Details – The Chairman signed appropriate documentation **ACTION**
Clerk to post form to Lloyds to finalise change of address.
- 6.3 Budget – all in agreement with changes. New auditor has been found, recommendation
from previous auditor **ACTION** – Clerk to seek reference

7. To receive/review any Planning Applications

7.1 Decisions

22/02148/FUL – The Flat, Berkshire Arms Hotel- New oak framed pergola with a polycarb roof **GRANTED**

- **20/03028/OUTD/MAJ** - development Bath Road/New Road Hill 16 dwellings, including 6 affordable units. **REJECTED**

7.2 Awaiting Planning Decision

- **22/00153/FULD** – Hall Court Farm – Change of use to C3 – **PC have no objections**
- **22/02209/HOSUE** – 8 Rowlands Copse – Rear extension – **PC have no objections**

7.3 Awaiting PC Decision

- **22/02450/FUL** – The Nurseries, Bath Road- Retention of three cabins for Class E G(i) Office use and Erection of four buildings to provide mixed B2 general industrial and B8 Storage and Distribution use – **PC OBJECTS on grounds of overdevelopment. ACTION** – Clerk to return observation form to planning department

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8. Other matters the Chairman feels necessary

- 8.1 Computer security and emails – is it appropriate that clerk can access the councillors email accounts as the administrator? District Cllr Pask pointed out that this is not unusual and there should be an element of trust between councillors and Clerk as the sole administrator to oversee PC email.
- 8.2 Control of dogs in the countryside – complaints made about dogs worrying cattle and killing pheasants at woods near Midgham Park. Having dog out of control can be a criminal offence; it is important that dogs don't worry livestock.
- 8.3 Contribution to WB Libraries – agreed that PC would continue to support the libraries.

9. To determine dates for the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 23rd January 2023 at 7pm

10. The meeting closed at 8.05pm