

MIDGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES

13th May 2023

Chair: Tony Markham	Clerk: Alice Owens
Councillors: Anthony Fenn, Francis Long	Members of Public: 1
District Councillor: Chris Read	Apologies:

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

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a time not exceeding 10 minutes is available to the public to address the Members of the Council on any matter relevant and within the Council's responsibility or which affects its area.

1. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 18th May 2022

Minutes approved and signed

2. To receive the Chairman's Annual Report

The Chair spoke about the most important matters that had occurred in the previous year.

There was particular concern about development in the area. There are two large scale developments currently in the planning process. The first is the 1500 houses at Thatcham Northeast which will impinge slightly on Midgham on its western boundary.

The second large development that affects Midgham parish is currently in the planning process. This is the plan to build houses at the junction of New Road Hill and the Bath Rd. this land has been put forward to be in the "local plan". The parish council view this as development in the countryside.

Concern was also expressed about the ribbon development along the A4 and infill development in the parish itself. Whilst the parish council would not wish to impede people seeking to improve their homes in a reasonable manner the Parish Council did have considerable concerns about development in the countryside and outside the settlement boundary.

The Chair expressed concern about the increase in traffic through the parish. It is not unsurprising that people tend to use the Parish roads in order to escape the traffic. However it is now noteworthy that there are a much greater number of large commercial vehicles using the roads in the parish. This is of considerable concern as the roads are narrow and the verges and road surfaces are easily damaged or destroyed.

The chair has noted the outstanding work performed by the Village Hall Committee who continue to make a success of it. There have been two major events with the Queen's Jubilee and the coronation being celebrated using the play area.

The chair noted that one Councillor had resigned during the year.

3. To receive the Village Hall Report

The treasurer of the Village Hall gave the following report:

Once again this has been a very busy year for the Village Hall Committee. Substantial improvements have been made to the structure and maintenance of the hall: following the advice of the Fire Inspector all his recommendations have been implemented, and improvements to the groundwork have improved access to all areas of the grounds, and have greatly enhanced the external appearance. The Committee are grateful to Greenham Trust and to the Parish Council who helped to fund these important projects. All these improvements have been made possible the generous donation of many hours of committee members' time, with help from the villagers. Once more temporary repairs have been made to the roof and the Committee is aware that a more solution needs to be found.

This years' events (Jubilee, Coronation and coffee mornings) have been well attended and supported by the villagers. Events take place at the play area on Birds Lane due to greater footfall however this is weather dependent. Hallcourt Farm has been offered as a place for the village to convene in the next year.

Total income was £5745 and total outgoings were £5279, leaving a profit of £465.

The Chairman offered thanks from the Parish Council to the Village Hall Committee for their services to the village.

4. To record the meeting closed

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