

MIDDLETON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held remotely using Zoom
On Wednesday 21st October 2020

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs Haywood (Chairman), Davies, Ball, Harris, Mrs Johnson, Jones, Knight, Mansfield, Mrs Mills, Newton, Mrs Pendleton and the Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES (Approved) – None
(Noted) - None

2. PRESENTATION – RAMPION 2 WIND FARM – Chris Tomlinson and Eleri Wilce of Rampion Offshore Wind gave a power point presentation to members of the Parish Council and members of the public attending the meeting. The project presentation of Rampion 2 covered the following,

- Introduction to RWE
- Why are we considering expansion of Rampion
- Offshore project “Area of Search”
- Grid connection & onshore options
- Current status
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Community engagement & consultation
- Indicative timeline

After the power point presentation there was a question and answer session. Questions from parish councillors and members of the public covered many areas, some for clarification and some for areas of concern with regard to the project. Rampion Offshore Wind are still at the survey and investigation stage and no firm agreement has been made on a number of issues that need final decisions so that more understanding of the project can be ascertained. Due to the time allowed for this presentation any questions that have not been raised are to be sent to the Clerk who will forward them onto Chris Tomlinson at RWE.

3. MINUTES – The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th September 2020 having been circulated were approved. Minutes will be signed once meetings on Zoom are not required

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Councillor Mrs Mills declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 10(c) being a nearby resident to HELAA proposed housing developments.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD – Seven members of the public were present. Pamela Godfrey was concerned with the A259 survey which includes Comet Corner and that West Sussex County Council have met with stakeholders and if the business case is approved funding will not be reviewed until 2023 which is totally unacceptable and asked what the Council was doing about it. County Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the costing for the proposed improvements of the A259 from

Hoe Lane to Wick Roundabout is around £29 million. Due to COVID-19 there is a risk that it may be delayed.

Dr Ross raised further issues with Rampion 2 which in his opinion is not necessary and stated a number of reasons why the Parish Council need to strongly object to the proposed project. Mr Moorcroft stated that cabling reaching the shore will be at Climping. Mr Paul supported the statements made above with regard to Rampion 2 and that the wind farm does not meet the government recommendations that Rampion 2 should be 25 miles from the shore.

Mr Hurrell who could not attend the meeting requested that the Clerk read out the following question to the Chairman Mrs Shirley Haywood.

“Whilst fully accepting the right of individuals to express their opinions, no doubt as a public servant, with standards to maintain, you would accept this should be done in an appropriate manner and based on verifiable, factual information, without highly emotive language and erroneous accusation.

Accordingly bearing the above in mind, would you care to take this opportunity to formally apologise to the Trustees, Friends and numerous volunteers of the Middleton Pond and Green for your lack of judgment and sensitivity when originally expressing your views on the work conducted by this Group of local people, who in your absence at the Parish Council Meeting on 16/9/20, received their vote of confidence and ongoing support”.

Should you decline to offer an apology and thus not be in accord with your fellow Parish Councillors opinions, would you not agree that your position is untenable and that as a minimum you should tender your resignation as Chairperson of the Parish Council, if not as a Parish Councillor?

Councillor Mrs Haywood had nothing to add.

6. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members.
7. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT** – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members
- DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT** – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members.
8. **ITEMS not otherwise on the Agenda which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency due to special circumstances** – The Chairman stated that she proposed to lay the Parish Council wreath for Remembrance Day at St Nicholas Church by the Silent Soldier. This was agreed by members.
9. **FORWARD PLAN** – The Clerk having previously circulated an update covering main and secondary goals was noted by members

10. MATTERS ARISING

- a) **Update on actions from previous meeting** – The Clerk having previously circulated a report was noted by members
- b) **Meeting with Elmer Residents – Parking** – The Chairman requested that any councillor who would be interested in taking on the role of looking into traffic issues within the parish to contact the Clerk. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that it was not possible to supply body cameras to parking enforcement officers due to the costs involved. Councillor Jones stated that body cameras are not expensive and that enforcement officers are at risk. The Clerk was requested to contact Arun District Council on this matter.
- c) **Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) & Neighbourhood Plan.** – Due to time restraints members agreed to defer discussion on this item until the next Parish Council meeting or an earlier meeting if deemed necessary.
- d) **Update A259 Bognor Regis to Littlehampton Feasibility Study** - Due to time restraints members agreed to defer discussion on this item until the next Parish Council meeting or an earlier meeting if deemed necessary.
- e) **Christmas Tree Festival** – Members agreed for the Parish Council to take part in this event. The Clerk was requested to contact St Nicholas Church and register our interest.
- f) **NatWest Bank Communication Issues** – Due to time restraints members agreed to defer discussion on this item until the next Parish Council meeting or an earlier meeting if deemed necessary
- g) **Letter from Minister of State for Constitution & Devolution – May 2021 Polls & Elections** – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members.
- h) **Consultation – Feasibility Study Active Travel across the district** – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members.
- i) **Consultation – Arun Gypsy & Traveller & Travelling Show People Site Allocations Development Plan Document** – Following discussion on this item the Clerk was requested to respond to the consultation on the basis of objecting to any expansion of the current site.

11. **Development Control Committee** – The minutes dated 2nd September, 16th September and 7th October 2020 having been circulated to members were noted

12. **General Purposes Committee** – Nothing to report.

13. **Parish Land & Property Committee** – Nothing to report.

14. Correspondence:

- (a) Clerks & Councils Direct
- (b) WSCC Highways, Transport & Planning October 2020 Newsletter
- (c) WSCC News Release – Children’s Trust
- (d) WSCC News Release – Trial pop-up cycle ways now open
- (e) WSCC News Release – pop up cycle ways
- (f) WSCC News Release – Change ahead for concessionary travel in West Sussex

(g) WSCC Coronavirus Updates

(h) Arun DC – Coronavirus Updates

15. Finance Committee:

(a) Bank Accounts:	Current	£1,250.00
	Business Reserve	£112,197.50
	Total	£113,447.50

(b) Accounts for payment

Bognor Regis TF	Repairs	*	£191.88
Came & Co	Insurance	*	£1500.70
Royal British Legion	Wreath	*	£25.00
Glasdon UK	Village Gateways	*	£1857.61
AVG	Website	*	£35.88
Arun DC	Car Park Contribution	*	£1780.00
WSCC	Payroll Admin	*	£47.30
Admor Ltd	Middleton News	*	£1107.00
Gillian Fowler	Middleton News	*	£465.92
WSCC	Payroll	*	£1226.56
Friends Pond & Green	Part of Grant	*	£497.35
	Total		£8735.20

* Issued prior to meeting

16 Any Other Business

There being no further business the Chairman reminded members that the next meeting will be held on the **16th December 2020** at 7.00pm and the meeting closed at 9.03pm

Unconfirmed