

MIDDLETON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held in the rear hall at the Jubilee Hall, Middleton-on-Sea
On Wednesday 1st September 2021

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs Haywood (Chairman), Ball, Ms Godfrey, Harris, Hayes Mansfield, Mrs Mills, Newton, Mrs Pendleton and the Clerk

1. APOLOGIES (Approved) - None

(Noted) - Councillor Mrs Johnson, Jones, Knight

2. MINUTES – The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st July 2021 having been circulated were amended. Following the amendment the minutes were approved and signed.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were none.

4. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD – Nine members of the public were present. All members of the public attending spoke about the Rampion 2 Wind Farm and raised a number of issues in respect of the lack of consultation by Rampion in respect of this project and wanted to know what position the Parish Council are taking. One member of the public was in support of Rampion 2 and could see no problem with the proposals.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – The Chairman reported of her meeting with other Parish Council chairman, the main areas of discussion were tree planting and the Queen's Jubilee Party. A new Vicar has been appointed on a temporary basis at the moment. The Chairman issued an invitation for the new Vicar to attend the next Parish Council meeting. The Chairman stated that two wreaths needed to be ordered the same as last year.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – County Councillor Mrs Pendleton reported that the closing of children and family centres are in the process of being discussed, Felpham will stay open.

7. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Nothing to report

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 – There were none.

9. FORWARD PLAN – No report for this meeting. Councillor Ms Godfrey stated that much of the report is out of date. The Clerk was requested to update the report.

10. MATTERS ARISING

a) Update on actions from previous meeting

ALERA/Lodge Close Drainage Scheme - Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that a further meeting has been arranged with ALERA and Lodge Close.

Dew Pond – A company that looks into old buildings and dates them have been working on Newlands Barn on the Guernsey Farm site and it was suggested that this company may be able to provide some information with regard to the possibility of a dew pond on the Yapton Poultry Farm site. The Clerk was requested to contact the company to see if they would be interested in looking into this.

b) Co-option of Parish Councillor

1) Presentation from applicant – Mr Colin Hayes gave a presentation to members and stated that following his move to Middleton-on-Sea he wants to get involved in the community, he has joined Middleton Sports Club and after reading an article in Middleton News about becoming a Parish Councillor believes his experience and environmental knowledge will be beneficial to the Parish Council.

2) Questions from Parish Councillors – Councillor Harris thanked Mr Hayes for his presentation. Councillor Mrs Pendleton asked that the Parish Council have important issues to address and how would you feel about speaking to the public. Mr Hayes stated that he has no qualms about speaking with the public, he will put his position and represent parishioners.

Following the questions the meeting went into a ‘Confidential Business’ session under Standing Order 63 and the applicant, public and press left the meeting to consider the applicant.

The meeting then came out of the ‘Confidential Business’ session and returned to the normal meeting. Members then advised Mr Colin Hayes that following their discussions members agreed unanimously to elect him onto the Parish Council. The Clerk informed members that Mr Colin Hayes has signed the necessary documents. Mr Colin Hayes then took up his position on the Parish Council

c) Rampion 2 Wind Farm – Support or Object? -

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council represents the whole village, The Parish Council is not the decision maker, Arun District Council is not the decision maker, and the Secretary of State for the Government will make the decision based on what is best for the country. The Parish Council needs to make a group decision on Rampion 2, Arun District Council will be looking at Rampion 2 at a meeting on the 8th September 2021 and this will go to full Council on the 15th September 2021. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that residents need to put their views across and decide to support or object. This is a difficult issue,

environmentally wind farms are fine but Rampion 2 breaks government guidelines and so cannot support and it needs to be further out to sea which is not possible. Councillor Mansfield stated that he is sympathetic to wind farms but concerns with it being too close to the shore and being lit at night is a step to far. Councillor Mrs Mills stated that the Parish Council have on many occasions provided information on the Rampion 2 proposals to gauge public opinion the public meeting was poorly supported and the Parish Council needs to object to Rampion 2. Councillor Ms Godfrey stated that climate change is important and the popular opinion is to object. However when data is presented to residents and the Parish Council by Dr Ross there are certain omissions within the data provided, such as the biggest wind farm approval in the whole world in the Dogger Bank. Councillor Ms Godfrey will object to Rampion 2. Councillor Ball stated that we need to take account of what parishioners want, with only 20-30 people attending the public meeting we need to make a decision now based on a small percentage of local residents. The Chairman stated that Felpham Parish Council are not making any representation in respect of the Rampion 2 proposals as they are not able to canvass all the people in the parish, we could take that route and abstain. Kingston Parish Council are objecting but East Preston Parish Council will support. Councillor Newton stated that he supports renewable energy and wind farms. Being a member of the Development Control Committee decisions have to be made on the plans received, Rampion 2 only provides options none of which are finalised and I therefore object to Rampion 2

The Chairman stated that it looks likely that the Parish Council will object to Rampion 2 and comment on the consultation process. If we object then the Rampion 2 Formal Consultation Response form needs to be completed and letters sent to WSCC, ADC, Local MP's and others. If we object then a draft letter to be drawn up for members to review and make any amendments.

The Chairman called for a show of hands in objecting to Rampion 2 proposals, 7 members voted in favour, none against and 1 member abstained.

Proposed planting of hedgerow at Shrubbs Field

Councillor Mansfield stated that he has requested from three suppliers to supply 33 trees for small plantation in Shrubbs Field. There is a budget of £1,000 for planting of trees and if the cost of the trees and planting is under £1,000 then more trees will be ordered. Costs will not be known until around October 2021, the contractor will plant them and have requested smaller trees. Need to water the trees on a regular basis and look at setting up rota system amongst members. Councillor Harris enquired if an automatic watering system could be installed. Councillor Mansfield stated that there would have to be an outside tap. Following further discussion the Clerk was requested to investigate the possibility of an outside tap from the Sports Pavilion. Councillor Mrs Mills raised a question on the future maintenance of the trees. The trees by the Duke's Motors roundabout are in urgent need of work. Councillor Mansfield stated that the planting is on Arun DC or West Sussex County Council land. The Clerk was requested to

advise either ADC or WSCC to carry out the necessary work to the trees at the Duke's Motors roundabout

- d) **Shrubbs Field Proposed Surface Water Drainage Scheme**
Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the proposals have been recommended by the Trustees of the Playing Field. Southdean Residents Association will pick up some of the costs but there will be some costs that the Trustees/Parish Council will need to consider. Councillor Mansfield requested to know where the two drainage areas link and where the water will go. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the water will go to the new manhole in the Church car park, under the road into Lucking Lane and onward. Councillor Mansfield stated that it needs the drainage in Ancton Lane to work as there could be a lot of water into the system and it could become overloaded. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that following the flooding in 2012 the problems in the Church have now been rectified, Ancton Lane ditch needs to be cleaned out but will check to see if this has been done. Councillor Mrs Mills stated that the work will be beneficial to the whole of Shrubbs Field. Councillor Mrs Mills proposed acceptance of the work to be undertaken on Shrubbs Field, this was seconded by Councillor Mansfield and approved by members.
- e) **WSCC Asset surplus to operational requirements – Elms Farm Ancton Lane**
Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that if the asset is not required then it would possibly be put up for sale, if a housing development follows then there are certain areas (Flint Walls) within Elms Farm that need to be saved and these need to be included into the design. Councillor Hayes stated that large housing developments will increase the population in the parish by a significant number. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the infrastructure needs to be put in place. Councillor Hayes and Councillor Mansfield both raised concerns in respect of sewer problems. Councillor Ms Godfrey stated that the discussion on the Neighbourhood Development Plan is not just about building houses but the need for the infrastructure to be in place.
- f) **WSCC Local Flood Risk Management Strategy** – Councillor Mansfield stated that when he investigated the maps he could not find Middleton-on-Sea included. The Clerk was requested to get the parish listed on this report
- g) **Review if Parish Councillors contact details should be on website** – Following discussion members agreed that the contact details of Parish Councillors do not need to go onto the parish council website.
- h) **Public Rights of Way Routine Maintenance** – Due to Councillor Mrs Johnson absence from the meeting no report was provided, this was noted by members.
- i) **Protection to Quiet Lanes & Rural Lanes – inclusion in response to WSCC Transport Plan** – The Clerk having previously circulated an email on the above

was noted by members. The Clerk was requested to speak with Councillor Mrs Johnson

j) Arun Infrastructure Investment Plan - The Clerk having previously circulated a report to members in respect of the refurbishment of the toilet block was noted. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that unfortunately Arun District Council did not inform the Parish Council that this work was starting and therefore the Parish Council have had no input into the refurbishment that has taken place.

k) Award of Contract – Electric Vehicle Chargepoint Network – The Clerk having previously circulated the report was noted by members.

11. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

(a) The minutes dated 21st July, 4th August and 18th August 2021 having been circulated to members were noted.

12. GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

No minutes to circulate.

13. PARISH LAND AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

No minutes to circulate

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Clerk & Councils Direct
- (b) WSCC – Coronavirus Updates & latest news (*7reports circulated*)
- (c) Arun DC – Coronavirus Updates & latest news (*2 reports circulated*)
- (d) WSCC Environment & Climate Change Newsletter (*circulated*)
- (e) WSCC Funding to West Sussex Records Office (*circulated*)
- (f) WSCC Plans to get buses back better (*circulated*)
- (g) Local Resident emails to Parish Council and responses (*circulated*)

15. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) Bank Accounts -

The Clerk reported on the following **Bank Accounts**

Current Account	£ 1250.00
Business Reserve	£128499.62
Total	<u>£129749.62</u>

b) Accounts for Payment

Brandon Hire Station	Emergency Equipment	*	£3239.59
KJB Contractors	Stage Payment Operation Watershed	*	£24000.00
Scanstation Computers	Computer Repair	*	£120.00

WSCC	Payroll	*	£1225.87
Flo Churchill	NDP Advice	*	£75.00
Bognor Regis Town Force	Repairs	*	£537.84
Total			£29198.30

- *Issued prior to meeting*

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Ms Godfrey requested a review of the General Purposes Committee and the length of time between meetings. Councillor Mrs Mills asked Councillor Hayes if he would like to be part of the General Purposes committee as an observer. Councillor Hayes was happy to be included.

There being no further business the Chairman reminded members that the next meeting will be held on the **20th October 2021** at 7.00pm and the meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Unconfirmed

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