

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 15th February 2023

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs Haywood (Chairman), Chuter, Harris, Knight, Dr Hayes, Mrs Johnson, Mansfield, Mrs Mills, Newton, Mrs Pendleton and the Clerk

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

2. MINUTES – Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st December 2022 were proposed by Councillor Newton and seconded by Councillor Chuter. A vote was taken and agreed unanimously by members that the minutes be approved.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were none.

4. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD – 7 members of the public attended
Mr Coster stated that it is very important to get tree protection orders along the full length of Ancton Lane and to include hedging. It is not usual for Arun District Council to approve tree protection orders on West Sussex County Council land but an application is needed. If Ancton Lane is to be the access for the proposed housing development it will destroy this country lane. A more sensible route will be to widen Lucking Lane and provide access into the village.

Mr Dudley-Warde stated that it appears that West Sussex County Council have no statutory obligation to manage the farms and are being left to deteriorate, the houses are now derelict and their fiduciary responsibilities are also derelict.

5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – No report for this meeting.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – County Councillor Mrs Pendleton reported that the flooding at bottom of Yapton Road was caused by the weight of the water collapsing the drain. The A259 development from Hoe Lane to Littlehampton Bridge continues its investigations and funding needs to be spent by 2025. Ecology reports are at present being prepared. The Crematorium access is close to finishing, Councillor Harris stated that he had heard that this had been extended for a further 5 weeks. Regarding Ancton Lane proposed housing development no planning application has been received yet. WSCC have a fiduciary responsibility to spend public money wisely.

7. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – District Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the Environment Agency have objected to the Golf Course application. Councillor Dr Hayes questioned why and Councillor Pendleton will look at 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 are none.

9. FORWARD PLAN – No report for this meeting

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Following a short discussion Councillor Dr Hayes proposed the following resolution ‘The Parish Council produces a Neighbourhood Development Plan’ this was seconded by Councillor Harris. Councillor Mansfield called for a named vote and this was recorded as follows. Nine Councillors voted in favour of the resolution (Councillors Harris, Knight, Newton, Mrs Pendleton, Mrs Mills, Dr Hayes, Chuter, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Haywood) there were no votes against the resolution and one abstention (Councillor Mansfield). The resolution was passed and approval given to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

11 UPDATE RAMPION 2 PROPOSED WINDFARM

No report for this meeting.

12. MATTERS ARISING

a) Update on actions from previous meeting

The Clerk having previously circulate a report to members was noted. The Chairman stated that she would like to take agenda item 12(d) now so that members of the public can decide if they want to stay or leave the meeting. Councillor Mrs Pendleton proposed that item 12(d) be discussed now and this was seconded by Councillor Chuter, following a vote members agreed unanimously.

b) Flooding Yapton Road

Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that the drains are continually blocked and a schedule needs to be drawn up so that they are cleaned and inspected regularly and she will try and influence the schedule. Councillor Knight stated that two attempts were made to clear it and a notice advising of work to be carried out on Friday 17th February 2023 may provide more information. Councillor Mansfield stated that the drains are supposed to be cleaned every 3-4 years and has not seen this being done for at least 10 years. Councillor Dr Hayes asked if climate change factors were being made as this is an important component. Councillor Mrs Mills stated that the roads and pavements are not being cleaned and leaf clearing has been done by her husband and local residents and it urgently needs a schedule.

c) Flood Watch

Councillor Dr Hayes reported that a meeting to discuss this under the Neighbourhood Development Plan Infrastructure Task Group has taken place. Councillor Dr Hayes took members through the scope and purpose of Flood Watch and that two Flood Watch Coordinators have been appointed and they will be appointing Flood Watch Wardens (possibly 12). A form has been agreed which will give details of flooding to include surface water and sewage. Councillor Mrs Pendleton stated that this was an excellent idea.

d) Tree Preservation Orders & Hedge Line Ancton Lane

Councillor Mrs Johnson stated that hedgerows are protected if they meet certain criteria. Councillor Mansfield stated that the hedgerows are long and covers the criteria and West Sussex County Council and the developer need to be informed. The tree protection orders requires an in depth survey and this is a big job and needs a professional firm of Arboriculturist to undertake. Councillor Mansfield proposed that estimates for the work be obtained, this was seconded by Councillor Mrs Pendleton and agreed unanimously by members. The Clerk was requested to obtain estimates and to set up meetings so that a survey can be undertaken.

13. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes dated 7th December 2022 and 21st December 2022 having been circulated to members were noted.

14. PARISH LAND AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

No minutes to circulate.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Clerk & Councils Direct
- (b) WSCC News Release – Speed Limit Policy Changes (*circulated*)
- (c) Arun DC – Arun Community Transport Plan (*circulated*)
- (d) WSCC – New Highway Online Reporting Tool – (*circulated*)

16. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) Bank Accounts -

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

Current Account

£ 1250.00

Business Reserve

£79248.31

Total

£80498.31

b) Accounts for Payment

J.Lake	Stationery	*	£116.42
J.Lake	Tesco Vouchers, AVG Security	*	£427.59
Trustee Playing Fields	Donation	*	£5140.00
NBB Outdoors	New Benches	*	£1117.80
Nicky Mills	Warm Room Facility	*	£238.71
WSCC	Payroll	*	£1341.78
J.Lake	Warm Room Facility	*	£158.73
Signquick	Warm Room Facility	*	£153.60
Gillian Fowler	Middleton News	*	£432.40
Admor	Middleton News	*	£1195.00
Total			£10322.03

- *Issued prior to meeting*

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following items to be placed on the next agenda of the Parish Council

- Councillor Pendleton – review of Parish Council schedule of meeting dates
- Councillor Mansfield – Finger Post signs
- Councillor Mrs Johnson – A259 improvement advisory group, request for meeting updates from Councillor Ms Godfrey

17. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – Standing Order 63

In view of the business being transacted it was proposed and seconded that the public and press were excluded from this part of the meeting where the Rescission of a previous Resolution will be considered.

There being no further business the Chairman reminded members that the next meeting will be held on the **15th March 2023** at 7.00pm and the meeting closed at 8.17pm.

Unconfirmed

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