

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 30th JULY 2021
AT 5:00 PM AT THE RECREATION GROUND PAVILION

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Julian Cusack – Chair
Cllr. Roy Dowding – Vice-Chair
Cllr. Steve Thorpe
Cllr. Chris Reynolds
Cllr. Lesley Taylor

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Colin Whitbread – written and accepted
Cllr. Lynda Whitbread – written and accepted
Cllr. Dennis Peel – written and accepted

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO

2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Casual Vacancy

The Chairman reported that he wrote to all residents, listed on the electoral roll, who reside south of the B1122 and invited them to apply for the Councillor vacancy. To date, one resident has expressed an interest. The Chairman, Cllr. Lesley Taylor and Cllr. Lynda Whitbread agreed to meet all applicants for an informal chat with a view to co-opting a new member at the September meeting.

4. Progress Reports

- a) Sizewell C – the Chairman reported that the written transcripts from the Issue Specific Hearings were submitted to the Examining Authority.
- b) Village Hall Roof – Cllr. Chris Reynolds reported that he is still following up quotes for the asbestos removal and that the Management Committee may be able to source a grant to contribute to the cost.
- c) Recreation Ground Pavilion Flooring – Cllr. Chris Reynolds reported that he had obtained a cheaper quote for similar hardwearing flooring at approximately £1,615. Cllr. Reynolds was authorised to accept the quotation and to choose the colour. The Chairman advised that as this was capital expenditure it would be funded by The Recreation Ground Trust.
- d) Middleton Moor – the Chairman reported that he and Cllr. Lesley Taylor met with a number of residents. The meeting was constructive and focussed on the expiry of the Natural England funding and the desirability of updating the Management Plan which will be required to apply for future funding. The Chairman reported that Suffolk Wildlife Trust can update the Management Plan for £1,500 and he has applied for £1,000 of funding to contribute to this from the Green Print Trust. A further meeting was held with the Moor Management Group. Day-to-day matters were discussed including a blocked culvert and the clearance work at Norwood House which may be in contravention with the planning conditions, particularly regarding the ponds and trees. The Chairman agreed to look at the planning conditions to ascertain if any have been breached and whether enforcement is needed. The Chairman reported that the volunteer resident who currently mows the paths and the bench area may not be able to continue so a solution may need to be found next year. The Chairman agreed to contact Vertas, who currently mow the Recreation Ground, to ask if they are willing to quote.
- e) Drop-In Centre – Cllr. Lesley Taylor was authorised to submit an application for £500 of funding from the East Suffolk Council Small Grants Scheme.

5. Planning

- a) The Council considered planning application DC/21/3086/FUL and DC/21/3087/LBC - proposed internal and external alterations - Marsh Acres, The Causeway. The Chairman reported that he met the owner on site. The changes are mostly internal and the external works include the removal of an outbuilding which will improve the profile of the main building. Cllr. Chris Reynolds said the outbuilding was late 19th century and contributes to the history of the property. The Chairman replied that it is not aesthetically pleasing and it is an unwanted later addition. The Chairman proposed that the Council supports the application to improve and preserve this important heritage property. All in favour.
- b) The Council ratified the decision to support planning application DC/21/3143/VLA - Variation of Legal Agreement - Land Adjacent To Mill House, Mill Street.

6. Finance

- a) The Council agreed to close the bank accounts at HSBC and open new accounts at Barclays (which allow for online payments with dual signatories) and authorised the use of internet banking.
- b) The Council authorised the payments below:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
British Gas	Pavilion Electricity	£18.06	LGA (MP) 1976 s.19
Drop In Centre Supplies	Lesley Taylor	£67.36	LGA (MP) 1976 s.19
Pavilion Cleaning	Iulia Gutunoiu	£80.00	LGA (MP) 1976 s.19

The meeting closed at 5:40 pm.