

MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 13TH JUNE 2023 AT 7pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

1 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Julian Cusack – Chair
Cllr Steve Thorpe
Cllr Graham Lacey
Cllr Chris Reynolds

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Lesley Taylor
Cllr Charles Macdowell

In attendance:

Rachael Salcombe – Parish Clerk
One member of the public

2 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. None.

3 Public Forum

- a) A member of the public addressed the Council regarding a new advertisement board erected outside Norwood House and whether permission is required for such a sign. Cllr Cusack confirmed that permission is not required. Cllr Lacey added that as a temporary non fixed structure, permission is not normally needed. **Action: Cllr Cusack to seek confirmation that the sign is temporary and for how long it will be there.**

An enquiry was also made regarding County Broadband and the location of the cabinet on the Moor. Cllr Cusack confirmed that the Parish has objected to the location of the cabinet and that he is still waiting for a response.

There are 4 ploughs stored at The Bell Inn, they have been cleaned and painted and are looking for a new home. Councillors were asked to give this some thought.

- b) County Councillor report. None.
c) District Councillor report. None.

4 Minutes

- a) The Council approved the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting on 16th May 2023 as accurate.
b) The Council approved the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting on 16th May 2023 as accurate.

c) Matters arising

Cllrs Reynolds and Thorpe are yet to declare any Declarations of Interest. **Action: Clerk to check that Cllrs Thorpe and Macdowell have submitted their Declarations of Interest.** The Clerk confirmed that Richard Turner has been advised that Cllr Lacey will be representing the Parish Council at the Village Hall Management meetings. Cllr Cusack confirmed that Cllr Macdowell has the next meeting, with local Parishes, regarding Sizewell C, in hand. Cllr Thorpe has sourced a local company to provide a plaque for the replacement bench at a cost of £35. Authorisation was given to order and purchase. Cllr Cusack advised that he is yet to prepare a new signage request for Fordley Road. Cllr Thorpe to address the issue of the outstanding fallen sign along with numerous others and reminded Councillors of the Highways Portal for the submission of known fallen signs.

Cllr Cusack continues to pursue the issued of permissive paths but had nothing to report at this stage. Cllr Thorpe confirmed that he has introduced himself, via email, to the Summer Wine Group.

5 Councillors' Reports

- a) Village Hall. **Action: Cllr Lacey to get in touch with Richard Turner, as the new contact.**
- b) Middleton Primary School. Nothing to report, other than it is the school's annual sports day on 14th June.
- c) Energy Project, including Sizewell C. Cllr Macdowell absent.
- d) Highways, footpath and trees. Cllr Thorpe raised the issue of dog mess on the footpaths. **Action: Cllr Thorpe to contact holiday let companies to ask that their patrons be mindful of the pathways and clean up after their dogs.** A request was also made that the footpaths across fields are made wider. **Action: Cllr Thorpe with talk with local farmers.**

6 Middleton Moor

Cllr Cusack advised that the south end of the pond is rapidly growing an island of willow. He met with a grounds work contractor who, in turn, recommended a pond specialist. Cllr Cusack reminded the Councillors that the Parish are responsible for the pond. To date it is planned to erect a temporary ramp and use a digger to extract material from the island. Cllr Lacey suggested that there are long reach machines available that could eliminate the need for a ramp. Although this piece of equipment would be more expensive to hire, it could potentially be more cost effective. Cllr Cusack advised that proper disposal of the waste material will need to be considered too, respecting local fauna and flora. **Action: Cllr Lacey to investigate the option of a longer reach machine.** Cllr Cusack recommended a window of opportunity to carry out the work to be November/ December and that the Middleton Moor fund currently holds £3,000, which is intended for such works.

7 Finance

- a) The latest financial position was received and accepted by all.
- b) £300 is budgeted for the village newsletter. Barbara Barker has reported a deficit at the present time and Cllr Cusack has suggested an additional one-off donation of £500. This was agreed by all.
- c) Authorisation was given for the payment of £12 to IONOS Cloud Ltd.

8 Planning

Planning application DC/23/2037/FUL. It was agreed that this application is considered to be a suitable redevelopment of the property. **Action: Clerk to enter approval on Planning Portal.**

9 Correspondence

A local resident has written to Cllr Cusack regarding fast traffic on Back Road. This is a 20mph zone. The resident has suggested installing chicanes; however, it is thought that the road is too narrow, Cllr Cusack suggested speed bumps. It was decided that the Councillors should give this matter some thought and for an article to be published in the parish newsletter to gauge reaction in the village.

10 Items for the Next Agenda. None.

11 Next Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11th July 2023

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

