**MIDDLETON STONEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 7PM.**

**PRESENT**

Mr. A J Fulljames Chairman

Mrs. D. Pay

Mr. P. Brown

Mr. Champion

Mr. S. Moore

Miss. R. Makari

Mr. M. Keighery Clerk

**1] APOLOGISES:**

Mr. Vadivale was absent.

**2] DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

There were no interests declared.

**3] MINUTES:**

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd July 2018 were approved after the chairman read them out.

**4] MATTERS ARISING:**

**Salt Requirements:**

Members discussed the likely salt requirements for the forthcoming year. Mr Brown informed the council that there are significant salt supplies on his premises. Therefore, it was agreed not to order further supplies.

**Heyford Masterplan & other traffic issues:**

There was considerable frustration with regard to the lack of progress in relation to the council’s requests for clarity on this and the general traffic issues in the village.

Furthermore, the chairman produced a letter from a parishioner who has been plagued by noise outside his house because of loose manhole covers.

The chairman also reported that he had made several calls to Oxfordshire County Council without any response.

Hence, it was decided that the problem should be escalated to the leader of the council. Mr Champion and the clerk will write to the leader and try to get a more effective response to the issues highlighted.

**Playground:**

It was agreed that the playground issue would be covered under the general meeting section.

**Code of Conduct Training:**

The chairman reported back on the training in July. He particularly highlighted the reported dangers of social media participation as this can become a minefield if care is not adopted when expressing personal views. Members agreed that caution needs to be adopted in such situations.

**5] FINANCE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the £130 credit received in April was a payment for election expenses and attributable to the village hall.

The only payment notified by the bank was for the fire inspection by MCNF for £54.94.

The clerk will send a financial report prior to meetings in the future.

**6] EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

At the last council meeting, the chairman asked for more effective recordings of such external meetings.

The clerk informed members that there were invites for the forthcoming proposed meetings:

13 Sept – Oxford-Cambridge Expressway, proposed route to be held at Chesterton.

17 Sept – Joint Statutory Spatial Plan, proposed by the Oxfordshire CPRE to be held at Banbury.

3rd October – Dewars’ Farm Quarry Liaison meeting – a future planning application is being sought.

Mrs Pay explained in the meeting the process and importance of the Dewars’ Farm meeting although one had not been held for three years. Mr. Champion volunteered to attend this meeting.

The clerk will attend the other meetings if members are unavailable.

**7] PLAYGROUND:**

The clerk confirmed the playground inspection was carried out in July.

Ms. O’Dwyer has now received several quotes for the repairs needed in the playground and she has been advised to appoint the relevant contractors. However, she is not in a position to provide a broader strategic plan to utilise the donation given to the parish council for the playground. Members understood her position, but would welcome any ideas or proposals, especially from the others who volunteer their time to improving the facilities.

**8] VILLAGE HALL:**

Mrs. Pay updated members by informing them that the summer barbeque had been another success with £543 raised.

The Harvest Supper will be on September 28th and she and her team are currently planning new events for the rest of the year.

The village hall had also benefitted from internal paintwork and the hope is that the kitchen floor is replaced next.

**8] CORRESPONDENCE:**

Recent correspondence was discussed by members who also asked for more information with regards to the Good Neighbourhood Scheme that has been offered to councils. Hence, the clerk will provide more details.

The chairman read out correspondence from The Royal British Legion that promotes The Silent Solider commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War. Members agreed that this was a worthy tribute, but also wanted to look at other options too.

**9] PLANNING MATTERS:**

The clerk reported that planning had been especially quiet in the summer months with no new notifications in the village.

**10] OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:**

The clerk highlighted the following briefings from OCC:

**Trees of Remembrance -** to commemorate the anniversary of the First World War Armistice.

**National Blue Badge –** the extension which incorporates further qualifying criteria.

**Minerals & Waste Local Plan, Issues & Options –** a consultationstarting later this month.

**New Operating Model** – widely publicised results of an analysis into potential efficiencies at OCC.

**Oxfordshire Matters July 2018.**

Members noted all of these but a wider discussion developed over the Trees of Remembrance with a firm commitment by members for the village to participate in this event especially. Consequently, the chairman asked for volunteers to manage the project and to come forward in the next few weeks.

**11] CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

The clerk signposted the following Cherwell District Council notifications:

* **Oxfordshire Highways Maintenance information sheet**
* **Street lighting investment - £41mn investment to LED lights.**
* **East-West Rail extension – next phase of building work has now started**
* **Cherwell/Oxfordshire Partnership – replacing the previous arrangement with South Northants Council.**

Members discussed each item on merit with particular discussion over the street lighting transition.

**12] TRAFFIC:**

Members agreed that we had covered the traffic issues earlier in the meeting.

**13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business discussed.

**14] NEXT MEETING:**

The next parish council meeting will be on November 5th at 7pm at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm