**MIDDLETON STONEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2018 AT 7PM.**

**PRESENT:**

Mr. A J Fulljames Chairman

Mrs. D. Pay

Mr. W. Champion

Mr. S. Moore

Miss. R. Makari

Mr. Vadivale

M. Keighery Clerk

**1] APOLOGISES:**

Mr. P. Brown sent his apologies for his non-attendance.

**2] DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

There were no interests declared.

**3] MINUTES:**

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd September 2018 were approved.

**4] MATTERS ARISING:**

* **Proposed Heyford Park Application & Meeting:**

Members discussed the reply received earlier in the day from the leader of OCC’s office. There was considerable frustration with regard to the lack of progress in relation to the parish council’s requests for clarity on this and the general traffic issues in the village. The chairman cited his attendance at a public enquiry when an officer from OCC had stated that there would be traffic mitigation in Middleton Stoney and how this intervention had influenced the final decision.

Hence, it was decided that the council would reply to the leader’s office. Hence, the clerk would again write to the leader and try to get a more effective response.

* **Dewars’ Farm Application:**

There was considerable analysis of the planning application made by Smiths at Dewars’ Farm Quarry. Mrs Pay and Mr Champion had attended the Dewars’ Farm Quarry Liaison meeting on October 3rd. At the meeting it was proposed that the contractor will make separate applications to bring materials into the site and then sell them. The company calculates the import and export of 39 truck loads daily. Further, they expect very heavy despatches from HS2 demand. Thirdly, they are seeking to expand in nominated areas the quarry further towards both Middleton Stoney and Ardley and to extend the quarry licence. To 2028. However, calculations by Mr. Moore suggested that the import/export daily lorry loads onto the site maybe an under-estimate of some ten per cent. The clerk will thus ask for clarification when the planning application is submitted.

* **Trees of Remembrance Commemoration:**

Members discussed the council’s commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War. Planning was finalised and agreement was made on Mr.Davenport’s recommendation of a common oak. Members also requested a plaque. The clerk would collect the sapling/whip and plaque from Bagley Wood Sawmill, Oxford and notify the vice chairman once collected. The planting would occur soon after the service on Sunday.

**5] FINANCE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the council had received a receipt of £1850 from Cherwell District Council for the half-year precept.

Since the last meeting, the council had made payments to MCNF for £45.60 [fire service], £80 for School Lane path clearance.

There are pending payments for ComputerPro for £150 [Annual website fees], Ron Varney £388.80 [general hedge and verge trimming] and £30 [Royal British Legion, Poppy Appeal.

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

**6] EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**.

The clerk informed members that he had attended the recent Viridor meeting on October 10th and that the contractor has had no increase in tonnage since last meeting and the Yellow Card system for routeing remains.

There were invites for the forthcoming proposed meetings:

7th November – Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting to be held at Bodicote House.

23rd November – Expressway – Parish Engagement Event

28TH November – Cherwell, to be held at Exeter Hall, Kidlington.

**7] TRAFFIC:**

The volume of traffic through the village was discussed at great length by council members. In particular, Ms. Makari spoke of her correspondence and meetings with OCC officials, especially Jacqui Cox. Again frustration was expressed with the lack of support from OCC with suggestions of HGV monitoring, speed surveys and point restrictions to combat the traffic volume throughout Middleton Stoney and its neighbouring villages not entirely satisfying councillors. Furthermore, it was thought that officials at Cherwell District Council maybe obstructing progress by preventing the publication of a key report commissioned by Ms. Cox. Thus, Mr. Moore proposed that the parish council issue a Freedom of Information Request to Cherwell District Council to ensure the report is made by public. Prior to this, Ms. Makari will provide members and the clerk the notes of meetings and correspondence she has already held with both OCC and CDC officials.

**8] PLAYGROUND:**

Members discussed the playground, it was agreed there were no significant issues or concerns arising.

**9] VILLAGE HALL:**

Mrs. Pay updated members by informing them that the Christmas Bazaar will be held on 1st December morning.

In addition, Mrs Pay is seeking to tender for the village hall’s exterior painting for next year.

**10] CORRESPONDENCE:**

The clerk drew attention to the recent circulation from the Bicester Police Rural Community Resilience Group, which seeks to raise concerns with local policing, and that three villages had expressed concern particularly with traffic matters asking for greater police visibility in the area.

The clerk also drew attention to the Parish map. However, members decided against this promotion currently.

The clerk also reported that the McMillian Cancer Buddy literature had now been received and would be distributed within and outside the village hall.

The clerk drew attention to the email received from the county’s Lord-Lieutenant regarding the timing of the ringing of the Armistice bells.

The clerk also highlighted the Berkshire, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust response to the ‘Expressway’ announcement.

**11] PLANNING MATTERS:**

The only planning issue currently is the anticipated Dewars’ Quarry application.

**12] OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:**

The clerk highlighted the following briefings from OCC:

**Oxfordshire Matters, October 2018.** Key items included: investment in technology, Oxfordshire CC and Cherwell Partnership; Rogue trader clampdown; Getting Fit for a Family.

**Oxfordshire Matters, September 2018**. Key items included**;** benefits of Growth Dividend, Spatial Plan 2050, greater regulation of home education, response to Expressway announcement.

**13] CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

The clerk signposted the following Cherwell District Council notifications:

October County Briefing – including ‘growth dividend’, approval of ‘Operating Model’; care improvements transferring from hospital and Active Travel [walking and cycling initiative]

**14] ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Parishioners’ problems and concerns were discussed. In particular, the problem of the loose fitting man-hole plate outside Mr.Mckinlay’s property which had been initially fixed, but five days later was damaged again due to sheer weight of traffic. Fortunately, it has now been fixed satisfactorily.

The chairman’s succession was also discussed with suggestions of possible solutions articulated, including a rotation system. Other members pointed to next year’ elections and whether they will stand or not.

**15] NEXT MEETING:**

The next parish council meeting will be on January 7th 2019 at 7pm at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm