**MIDDLETON STONEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 4th MARCH 2019 AT 7PM.**

Mrs. D. Pay Chair

Mr. W. Champion

Mr. P. Brown

Mr. S. Moore

Ms. R. Makari

Mr. M. Keighery Clerk

**1] APOLOGISES:**

Mr. Fulljames sent his apologies.

Mr. Vadivale was absent.

**2] DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

 There were no interests declared.

 **3] MINUTES:**

 The minutes of the meeting of 7th January 2018 were approved.

**4] MATTERS ARISING:**

* **Oxfordshire County Council’s response to letter to council leader:**

In response to the parish council’s letter to Cllr. Hudspeth asking for clarity with regard to the traffic problems in Middleton Stoney, OCC sent two of their officials, Jacqui Cox and Andrew Kirkwood to present potential solutions to members. Such solutions involve in the short term carriageway repairs but more significantly HGV traffic restrictions. The costs of such solutions were also discussed and as a result of this discussion, members decided to initially start an informal consultation with neighbouring parish councils over traffic solutions in Middleton Stoney. Ms. Cox will start this consultation immediately and she stressed that she can be the contact for the parish council.

* **Dewars’ Farm Application Progress and Proposed Meeting:**

The clerk updated members on this application. In particular, the applicant is seeking to meet with the council to discuss this application and two further applications. Members asked the clerk to go back to the applicant and liaise with the applicant to ensure the best potential meeting dates for parish council members.

* **MCNP referendum:**

Members discussed the forthcoming referendum and the role of the parish council. Mr. Champion has been liaising with Martin Lipson of the forum about the council’s contribution. After this discussion, members decided not to distribute the leaflets on behalf of the forum, but agreed to publish election information on the website and on Facebook.

* **Parish Council Election:**

Members discussed the forthcoming elections in May. Mr. Champion informed members of a potential candidate for the parish council and thus he may step down if the council had its seven members to ensure the election remains uncontested. There was also a deliberation regarding the role of the Chair as Mr. Fulljames will be standing down. Cherwell District Council was holding a presentation at Bodicote tonight to inform of the protocol and responsibilities and the clerk is hoping to attend the event in part depending on the length of the PC meeting.

**5] FINANCE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the General Fund had seen a payment for grass cutting [£388.80] and no receipts since the January meeting. There were no transactions in the VHMF in the period. There were also no transactions recorded in the Playground account but there were two pending transactions.

Up-to-date bank reconciliations were requested for the next meeting.

The clerk also distributed a Risk Assessment to members for the forthcoming fiscal year.

**6] EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

There is an invite for the forthcoming meeting:

Open Conversations 2019, Friday 26th April, at Strudwick Drive, Oldbrook, Milton Keynes

Mrs. Pay queried whether the council was represented at the Oxford Resilience Group, at Kidlington Fire Station on Jan 15th. Members present were unaware of any such attendance.

**7] TRAFFIC:**

Members agreed that traffic issues had been covered substantially in the earlier OCC presentation.

**8] PLAYGROUND:**

Members discussed recent investments in the playground and the clerk informed the council that there were invoices to be paid after the inspection. The clerk informed members that he had sent Mrs. O’Dwyer information regarding Playground Inspection Training in March. The clerk also noted that Mrs. O’Dwyer was currently looking into the Pocket Park proposal.

**9] VILLAGE HALL:**

Mrs. Pay updated the council of recent events in relation to the village hall. She informed members that there were confirmed bookings for the hall and that the barbeque is booked for 30 June. In addition, she plans to get a quote for the damp prevalent on some parts of the internal walls and she will check the roofing guarantee to see if it will cover this problem. The kitchen floor still needs to be replaced and regular cleaners have been appointed.

**10] CORRESPONDENCE:**

The clerk drew attention to the recent circulations:

The Spring Clean Announcement of Jan 31st which has also been circulated to the playground leader, Mrs O’Dwyer, as well.

The clerk also highlighted the newsletter sent from the Rural Services Network bulletin that was sent to members in February.

**11] PLANNING MATTERS:**

The council has received the following application.

Viridor – MW.0012/19 – The applicant is seeking to restore a pathway.

Members deliberated over the application and agreed to object because the applicant has not explained why the extension is needed and why it cannot complete on the original timescale. The clerk will formally object therefore to the application on such grounds.

**12] OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:**

The clerk highlighted the following briefings from OCC:

**Oxfordshire Matters, February 2019 -** Key items included: Local Government Association Peer Review for OCC; OCC budget setting – including a doubling of the budget for children’s social care by 2023; Oxfordshire County Council’s participation in the recent parliamentary debate on children’s’ care needs; Oxfordshire’s councils preparing for Brexit.

**13] CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

The clerk signposted the following Cherwell District Council notifications:

**County Briefing**  – distributed by Cllr. Corkin. Key points – budget setting and priorities; Health & Well-being Strategy launched; cash boost for future of transport in Oxfordshire; 40,000 road defects repaired in the county; CQC acknowledgement of improved outcomes for Oxfordshire’s residents.

**HGV breaches** – distributed by Cllr. Corkin. Originally from Trading Standards regarding road traffic persecutions in the county. None of which occurred in the village.

**14] ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business.

**15] NEXT MEETING:**

The next parish council meeting is planned will be on 13th May 2019 at 7pm at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 8.51pm.