

# MIDDLETON AND SMERRILL PARISH COUNCIL

## ***Minutes of the Meeting of Middleton and Smerrill Parish Council held by Zoom under Covid lockdown conditions at 8:45pm on Wednesday 10th March 2021***

Present: Cllr Helen Brocklehurst, Cllr Dianne Jeremy, Cllr David Mallaband, Cllr Pat Musgrave, Cllr James Wigley (Vice-Chair),

In attendance: Matthew Lovell (Clerk) and 3 members of the Public  
Part 1 Non-confidential items

994 To receive apologies for absence  
No apologies necessary

995 Variation of order of business and time constrained items  
No items

996 Declarations of Members Interests  
Declaration was made by Cllr P Musgrave as applicant for Castle Farm at item 1000 who left the meeting while council debated and decided their response.

997 Public Speaking  
Apologies received from DCCllr Simon Spencer, District Councillor Graham Elliott, and PCSO Ben Morris. PDNPA Member Andrew McCloy gave advice on Local Boundaries

998 To confirm the Non-exempt minutes of the previous meeting  
RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

999 To determine which if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded  
– none

1000 Planning decisions/applications received since last meeting & planning related matters  
Decisions received: NP/DDD/1220/1218 Castle Farm - S.73 application for the variation of condition 15 on NP/DDD/1020/0910 – granted conditionally

### Applications for discussion:

NP/DDD/0221/0193 (0194 Listed) Castle Farm – proposed installation of outdoor swimming pool and conversion of ground floor barns to changing rooms

Council supports this application as the site will be screened by trees and have no overlooking issues. Building alterations are internal and expected to be sympathetic to other high standard works carried out to date.

1001 Footpaths and Highways and related issues

Reclassification of Whitfield Lane to a Restricted Byway – no news

Green Lane – Council agreed to write to the County Councillor as discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting to ask DCC carry out substantial repairs.

1002 Report of the Clerk/updates and Decisions:

a) Village Assets: Playground – the wall repair is to be carried out shortly. The trees are noted to have dead wood and the Climate gardeners would like some thinning out in the picnic area. Advice will be sought and prices to undertake this work.

Website – the clerk is happy to update the site when uploading agendas and minutes providing details of what and where are received.

Bateman Tomb – PDNPA have fundraised £1500 so far towards repairs through their charity and their timetable to supervise and assist is being sought to complete before November 8<sup>th</sup>.

b) Bateman 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

The Seven part plan is progressing although the village portrait project needs fleshing out. Council's input is the two Information boards: Tomb and Bateman History (in the square).

We have sponsorship for the cost of the Tomb board and new fingerpost and the clerk will ask Weston Park and Buxton Museums for ideas for wording/pictures etc for: Bateman the Archaeologist.

The Bateman history board is to be a locally compiled layout with PC finding grants to pay for. It was agreed that prices be sought for an approx. A3 landscape size board mounted on a post in a lectern shape for the tomb and Square.

c) Village Hall Management Committee report

Hall remains closed until legislation allows. The committee will discuss next week what if any events are possible and canvas village feelings for such eg an open air village social.

d) Village Hall next steps

Greencroft Farm/Church – interest to be maintained.

DDDC solicitors – have responded to suggest two options. They are prepared to Compulsory Purchase the Hall as they consider all reasonable attempts have been exhausted. As Council was advised that adverse possession can cost tens of thousands then DDDC option is the preferred route but with the proviso of ascertaining a budget for costs as our funds are limited.

The structural repairs to door and window need further quotes and then a decision on whether to present to the owners will be chased from DDDC. The work must be carried out before next winter.

e) Climate Change Group

"Bee Friendly Middleton" will commence planting on 29<sup>th</sup> March in the community areas. The litter pick around the parish collected 71 bags which DDDC collected today and future events are planned. Thanks were expressed to Youlgrave Parish Council for the loan of their equipment. It was noted that the River Keeper promised a consultation on the weirs and a guided tour of Haddon's plans at last year's APM and this will be followed up by the clerk.

### 1003 Local Government Boundary Changes

Awareness of the plans to abolish the Lathkill Ward and give Middleton and Harthill to Winster and Monyash and Youlgrave to Bakewell needs circulating. All are asked to go to [Local Government Boundary Commission for England Consultation Portal \(lgbce.org.uk\)](http://LocalGovernmentBoundaryCommissionforEnglandConsultationPortal(lgbce.org.uk)) and have your say on Derbyshire Dales proposals. The local parish councils are of one mind that they do not wish to be segregated and maintain a village identity with a dedicated District Councillor to champion this. Other likeminded parishes wish to join us to make up the electoral numbers needed. A formal response will be made by Council before 12<sup>th</sup> April deadline and copied to District, County and MP to ask for them to support the continuation of the expanded Ward.

### 1004 Dalc information and other e-communications

Derbyshire 20 is plenty campaign was outlined but it was noted that the village has no speed limit signs. Councillors noted that Dalc Training is available and to ask the clerk to be booked on. The Defibrillator is a self-contained unit but its battery will deteriorate if the cabinet loses power so councillors promised to check when passing that the green light at the top is on.

### 1005 Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment		VAT
Dpayt	HM Lovell (Mar salary)	£131.11
Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£9.70
Dpayt	HM Lovell (expenses)	£10.20
Dpayt	Dalc subs	£70.39
Dpayt	Unity charges	£18.00
Dpayt	HM Lovell (Apr salary)	£131.11
Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£9.70
Total		£380.21

(b) Income

Climate Change Group Sustainable Fund £300.00

(a) Budget Appraisal/Risk Assessment

Unity Account £2169.06

after above £2088.85

Unity Instant access savings £7850.78

£7850.78

The accounts for 2021 are being completed for internal audit and with a restricted activity year show a profit although with existing funds depleted for Batemans Tomb and requirements for the 200th Celebrations, any surplus will need to be earmarked for this.

1006 Date of next meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 starting at 8:15pm by Zoom (as Covid 19 requirements are still in force)

Forthcoming Dates: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 15<sup>th</sup> September, 10<sup>th</sup> November

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION - none

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:40 pm