

MIDDLETON AND SMERRILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Middleton and Smerrill Parish Council held in Middleton by Youlgrave Village Hall at 7:15pm on Wednesday 15th November 2023

Present: Cllr Lisa Bingham, Cllr Helen Brocklehurst, Cllr Dianne Jeremy (Chair), Cllr Pat Musgrave and Cllr Jamie Wigley

In attendance: Matthew Lovell (Clerk) and 3 members of the Public

Part 1 Non-confidential items

1236 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from – none required

1237 Variation of order of business and time constrained items

No items for variation.

1238 Declarations of Members Interests

Cllr Bingham declared an interest as the applicant for the Camping Barn application
No other interests were noted.

1239 Public Speaking

The applicant for Green Farm attended to outline plans for the barn conversions including the protection of bats.

Apologies received from DCCllr Simon Spencer and PCSO Anthony Boswell.
District Councillor Laura Mellstrom noted that the alliance were still working on policies and the the Clean and Green Review has seen no major issues with Bin collections.

She noted that DCC are consulting on changes to their recycling centre service and urged all interested to make their views known:

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have-your-say/consultation-search/consultation-details/proposed-changes-to-recycling-centres.aspx>

Council asked if there was any news on the Toilet Block review as our DDDC operated toilet block needs to be open year round for walkers as there are no alternative facilities.

1240 To confirm the Non-exempt minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 13th September 2023. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

1241 To determine which if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded – none

1242 Planning decisions/applications received since last meeting & planning related matters

Decisions received: none

Applications returned: none

for discussion:–

NP/DDD/1023/1294-5 Flaxdale House Install a heat pump into the barn which is in the curtilage of a listed building. The proposal also involves putting more radiators into the barn based on the calculations of the heat pump installers.

Council supports this attempt to make green energy work in old properties.

NP/DDD/0823/0931 Land SW of Hopping Farm - Proposed conversion of a redundant stone agricultural barn into a camping barn.

Council supports this innovative idea noting that with no vehicle access, composting toilet, solar panels and woodburner this is a good use of a disused barn that might otherwise become another casualty of neglect.

NP/DDD/1123/1336(listed consent) and 1337 Green Farm Church Barns – Repair and conversion of barns into two C3 dwellings/holiday lets

As this arrived today, Council deferred this item to a separate meeting on 22nd November at 7:15pm in order to receive representation from parishioners before Council makes it's decision.

Other matters: none

1243 Footpaths and Highways and related issues

DCC - gully leaf blockage to be reported to clear The Rakes. DDDC need to sweep the roads and pavements in the parish once leaf fall has finished to prevent accidents.

1244 Report of the Clerk/updates and Decisions:

- a) Village Assets: Playground – grant received and Tarmac prepared this week. Weather permitting the tarmac will be laid on Wednesday 22nd November.
Commemorative Stone – the family has decided not to go ahead with this.
- b) Bateman's Tomb – Paul Jeremy was thanked for weeding the area.
- c) The Rear of Village Hall – grant received for greenhouse. Ex-school toilet block re-roofed from reserves and entrances secured. County Councillor is making an award which will hopefully cover the new doors – application accepted but awaiting final sum. A clear up operation is already underway in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee with volunteers removing waste to tip and clearing the site in preparation for bringing the area into use.
- d) Village Hall Management Committee report –
The Christmas programme commences with the children's party and the Silver Band playing with the Christmas Tree lit. The Community Party follows. The 2 ½ year improvement plan will conclude with the final batch of gallery pictures being installed this week.
- e) Climate and Nature Group
Grant from our District Councillor for 2 water butts and a wheelbarrow has been received and the District Councillor was thanked for approving it. New bulb layers have been planted along with daffodils and the scented garden is doing well. The group have cleaned areas of the village of leaf debris to ensure safe walking and our resident hedgehogs are starting to go into hibernation.

1245 Dalc information and other e-communications

PDNPA Parishes Day discussed the PDNPA Settlement Strategies and workshopped planning affordable housing and climate change.

The DCC Market Place provided good contacts in the new Rural Action Derbyshire lead Rhona Rawson, the Million Trees project will see both our Royal Trees logged and an interest from DALC in our Climate Change and Nature Group.

1246 Finance

Resolved to approve the following:

(a) Accounts for Payment		VAT
Dp	GP nightingale Roof replacement	£3650.00
Dp	M Simpson mowing	£60.00
Dp	CHT Battery	£48.60
Dp	HM Lovell (Nov salary)	£190.99
Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£14.13
Dd	Mcafee auto renewal	£79.99
Dp	HM Lovell expenses 3months	£31.98
Dp	The Bugle	£30.00
Dp	HM Lovell (Dec salary)	£338.79
Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£25.07
Dp	Service charge	18.00
	Total	£4425.57

(b) Income

DDDC Grant £250.00 A4A Grant £9999.00 Savings Interest £54.21

Unity Account £3343.33	after above £11666.76
Unity Instant access savings £7981.48	£5535.69

(c) Precept and Year to date

Council resolved to set the precept for 2024/25 at an increase of £280.00 which amounts to £0.08 per week per household subject to any changes agreed at the January meeting. This takes the precept to 4980.00

1247 Date of next meeting - 22nd November 2023 at 7:15pm in the Village Hall

Forthcoming Dates 2024: 10th January, 13th March, 8th May, 10th July, 11th September, 20th November

7:15pm remains the time for future meetings

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

1248 Nalc Pay Award – the increase is backdated to 1st April and is in accordance with the current contract with the clerk.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8: 15 pm