

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 10th January 2024

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

In attendance: Matthew Lovell (Clerk) and 4 members of the Public

Part 1 Non-confidential items

1255 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from – none required

1256 Variation of order of business and time constrained items

No items for variation.

1257 Declarations of Members Interests

No interests were required.

1258 Public Speaking

Apologies received from DCCllr Simon Spencer.

PCSO Anthony Boswell noted nil crimes and one resolved incident in the last 3 months. The north of our patch are experiencing burglaries and vehicle crime – bicycle theft has seen a success with 3 SYorks suspects remanded on bail. The Derbyshire Talking Survey monthly results continue to make speeding and parking its highest priority and solid white line offenders on Alport Lane, Grindleford and Hathersage were issued tickets last weekend.

District Councillor Laura Mellstrom noted she is chasing the 52 week a year opening of our loos – the working group on toilet block provision has yet to report. DDDC are noted as focused on the South of the district but Matlock Bus station is to see some refurb although the cinema is on hold again. DDDC is challenging DCC for more provision of bus services in the northern areas. Progress on the air quality final statement will be chased.

A member of the public voiced concerns on the solar panel application as a dangerous precedent to ruining the traditional looks of the area around the Square.

1259 To confirm the Non-exempt minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 15th and 22nd November 2023. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

1260 To determine which if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded – none

1261 Planning decisions/applications received since last meeting & planning related matters

Decisions received: none

Applications returned: none

for discussion:–

NP/DDD/1123/1423 Site address –Corner Cottage, Unnamed Road From The Square To Coldwell End Listed Building consent - Installation of loft insulation, installation of

positive input ventilation unit in loft to prevent loft condensation and Installation of 6 long 425w solar pv panels - 2 panels to rear left outrigger, 1 to main house rear and 3 to front roof.

Council objects to this application on the grounds that it is highly visible in the village square and the panels will detract from the traditional stone roof aspect of this part of the conservation area. On a practical note, there are several tall trees, not within the curtilage, surrounding this property that will detract from the viability of the panels. Council has no issues with insulation and a positive ventilation unit but cannot support the panels which will be intrusive to the historic environment. It considers alternative technologies need consideration such as air-source pumps once they become efficient enough for use in older properties.

NP/DDD/12223/1440 Proposed rainwater harvester system for use with existing agricultural buildings – Arbor Low Farm, adjacent to Upper Oldhams.

Council supports this environmentally friendly project that will enhance a working farm with negligible change to any visibility near the historic site.

Other matters: none

1262 Footpaths and Highways and related issues

DCC - potholes continue to be reported. The grid is blocked and Cllr Wigley thanked for volunteering to clear again. The grit bins are full with 10 bags remaining – if snows arrive next week, the clerk will liaise and order a 70 bag pallet for collection. Noted that footpath 27 bridge is underwater and the steep path needs attention.

1263 Report of the Clerk/updates and Decisions:

- a) Village Assets: Playground – tarmac completed.
Council has reapplied to register the Village Hall as an asset of community value and will receive confirmation next month when the committee meets. Note that this automatically expires after 5 years so will need renewing if the title isn't resolved by 2029.
- b) Maintenance contracts – Mowing and strimming
Agreed to send out mowing as is but check extra items and leave the number of strims the same. Tenders to be sent out shortly.
- c) The Rear of Village Hall – greenhouse to be ordered. £2000 received from County Councillor to provide doors for the refurbished block. Quotes to be asked for within the budget.
- d) Village Hall Management Committee report – Batemans Arms is open on 10th February from 6pm. Planning is underway for the market on 25th May and Middleton Rocks will take place on 1st June. The Hall has joined Rural Action Derbyshire's affiliate scheme
- e) Climate and Nature Group - gardeners are keen to get going with lots of clear up behind the village hall in preparation for the greenhouse. DDDC will be asked to remove debris in the Square.

1264 Dalc information and other e-communications

Latest bulletin received.

1265 Finance

Resolved to approve the following:

(a)	Accounts for Payment			VAT
	DP	N Fox tarmac	£6500.00	£1300.00
	Dp	HM Lovell (Jan salary)	£207.41	
	Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£15.35	
	Direct debit	ICO registration	£35.00	
	DP	J Aston 6m website	£102.00	
	Dp	DJ chair presentation	£60.00	
	Dp	HM Lovell (Feb salary)	£207.41	
	Direct debit	NEST (monthly)	£15.35	
		Total	£8442.52	

(b)Income
Interest £38.94 DCC Grant £2000.00

Unity Account £11595.56	after above	£5153.04
Unity Instant access savings £5535.69		£5574.63

1266 Date of next meeting - 13th March 2024 commencing after the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting which starts at 7:15pm in the Village Hall
Forthcoming Dates 2024: 8th May, 10th July, 11th September, 20th November
7:15pm remains the time for future meetings

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
none

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8: 10 pm