

Middridge Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at 6.30pm on Monday, 6th January 2025
in Middridge Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Harold Howe (Chair)
Paul Dicker
Lesley Moyle
Tony Towers
Avril Haines

Official: Glenn Gibson (Parish Clerk)

1/25 NOTICE OF MEETING

The Notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive Apologies for Absence.

None were received

3/25 DECLARATIONS

Cllr Avril Haines was reminded that she must declare an interest in all matters relating to the Middridge Village Hall Associated if discussed within the meetings of the Parish Council

4/25 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr T. Tower and seconded by Cllr P.Dicker

Resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 4th November 2024 be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the last minutes

6/25 MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

There were no members of the public present and no public correspondents received.

7/25 ACCOUNTS

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment was considered.

RESOLVED that the following Accounts be approved for payment:

Name/ company	Purpose/ description	Amount
Clerks Salary	Back dated pay rise added.	755.00
HRMC	Salary tax	188.80
Croner	November & December	136.43 x 2
Ryan Olley	Help with Christmas tree light problem	30.00
DCC lighting	Walkers Lane yearly bill	472.60
10 x various transactions	Midridge Village Christmas Party	1069.96
Planning Advice Plus/ Shaun Hanson	Letter/ summary about NP wording and MPC concerns	250.00
Colin Gray	Auditor (late payment)	75.00
Midridge Village Assoc.	Remembrance Day wreaths & crosses	+ 40.00
DCC Parish Paths	Re-imburement for maintenance Parish Paths	+1350.00
DCC Cllrs	Contribution Christmas Party	+990.00
Midridge Village Assoc.	Contribution Christmas Party	+300

Proposed – Cllr P. Dicker & seconded by Cllr L. Moyle

The Council received another verbal update from the Parish Clerk and regarding the ongoing issues about method of accessing account. It was reported that he still having ongoing dispute with Barclays.

Resolved – that the verbal report be accepted

Bank account as off 30th December 2024

Current Account -- **£2647.14**

Reserve/ Business Account-- **£5246.21**

7/a -- 2025/26 Budget

Following the Budget working party meeting held on Thursday 28th November 2024 the following was agreed.

To approve and adopt the DCC precept + a 3% increase. Therefore, the total precept for financial year 2025/26 will be **£23341.47**

Proposed – Cllr **P. Dicker** & seconded by Cllr L. Moyle and passed unanimously.

Resolved – That the budget for 2025/26 be £23341.41 and relevant paperwork signed and forwarded to DCC before the 19th January 2025

8/25 ROAD TRAFFIC

There was no report received from Durham County Councillors.

The Clerk mentioned in their report that still no reply from DCC had been received regarding costs for traffic calming measures after contacting them once again.

9/25 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & POLICING

There was no update and anything to report.

10/25 PARISH ISSUES (both Village and Eldon Whins)

There was a small discussion regarding s106 funding still available and members and the clerk reviewed the options.

Resolved – that the clerk now submit the completed form with all agreed acquirements.

A small discussion took place regarding the Village maintenance for 2025/26.

Resolved – that the Contractor for 2024/25 be asked to continue for the coming financial year 2025/26.

11/25 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

The members were informed that Shildon Town Council had installed the new play area bin and 2 bags of lawn sand to treat the moss was on order.

12/25 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

An update was given by both the chair and parish Clerk, that MPC had a summary drawn up and sent to DCC with concerns on the re-phasing of the NP by the independent examiner

Resolved – that the update be noted and await reply from DCC

13/25 VILLAGE SUPPORT

- Christmas Party – Chair gave thanks for all involved for a fantastic event.
- Fayre committee – That MPC are expecting contact for use of the Village green land for the 6th July 2025.
- Coffee mornings – It was reported that these are funded for fortnightly meetings for the next year.

- Congratulations were offered by MPC for those involved in raising £500 for the MS society at the Adult Christmas Party.

14/25 GAMP & CDALC

A verbal update was given by Cllr T. Towers on the future of GAMP regarding the set-up, staffing & funding and what effect it may have on Middridge. Awaiting DCC confirmation

Resolved – that the update be received and the Chair offered thanks to Cllr T. Towers for continued MPC representation.

There was nothing from CDALC to report.

15/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications to consider.

16/25 Clerks report

A written report from the Parish Clerk was circulated.

A discussion took place about the ongoing issues with Barclays regarding using personal devices/ cards to access MPC account

It was reported that all actions from the last meeting carried out and Cllrs updated.

Resolved – that the clerks report be accepted

17/25 Exclusion of Press and Public

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council now excludes the press and public on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public.

There was nothing to report or discuss.

18/25 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/ ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Flyer received via email from PCP promoting a warm & welcoming place to visit.
- The Chair informed the meeting that MPC now has no representation at Byerley Park School.

19/25 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, 10th March 2025** at 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.08pm