

DRAFT

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE STATUTORY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, MIDDRIDGE ON MONDAY 9th MAY 2016 AT 6.45PM

All Electors in the Parish of Middridge are invited and may speak at this Meeting which will be chaired by Cllr A. Clarke, the Chair of Middridge Parish Council. Members of the Parish Council will be present.

AGENDA

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

2. MINUTES

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th May 2015.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DRAFT

MIDDRIDGE PARISH

Minutes of the proceedings of the Statutory Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall, Middridge on Monday 11th May 2015

Present: Councillor Mrs A Clarke (Chair), Councillors Mr J Clarke, Mr W Mellors, Mr H Howe, and Mr P Makinson.

In Attendance: Mr G Wilde, Ms J Reynolds, Mrs J Gray (DCC Councillor)

1/15 NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

2/15 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Statutory Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th May 2014 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3/15 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair briefly summarised the Parish Council's activities during the preceding busy year, and made the following points:-

- i. She thanked Alan Jordan for a successful first year as Parish Clerk.
- ii. Persimmon Homes & "Eldon Whins" – this Planning Application has made a lot of extra work for the Council. Following the recent rejection of the Draft County Plan, the current situation is unclear.
- iii. Neighbourhood Plan – Middridge now designated as a Neighbourhood Area. Reasonable progress has been made on developing the Middridge Plan, but what exactly needs to be in the Plan is currently unclear.
- iv. Parish Paths Partnership – we have a good relationship with Elaine Crow, who is very supportive, particularly with respect to modifications to the Stiles on Path 7, and repairs to the Noticeboard. We have contributed to an Audit of Paths in the Newton Aycliffe & Shildon Area, and hope to see improved access on to the new Locomotion Way. This year's Path Maintenance will be affected by Budget Cuts.
- v. She thanked Ian Hayman for his excellent service with the Village Green Maintenance Contract, and those Residents who continue to maintain Tubs on the Green, and the Flower Display at the War Memorial.
- vi. Police & Community Together (PACT) – she thanked our Police Community Support Officer Michael Hutchinson for his work in dealing with any reported incidents, and particularly in supporting our efforts to reduce Speeding.
- vii. The Council gave its usual Donations to the British Legion and to the Village Association for a Fête Raffle Prize. In addition, it provided a substantial Donation for the re-rendering of the Village Hall.
- viii. The Council provided the Christmas Tree as usual. In addition, it has carried out a permanent repair of the Roof of the Northside Bus Shelter.
- ix. The Council was regularly represented at Meetings of the Great Aycliffe & Middridge Area Action Partnership (GAMP) Board, and GAMP Local

DRAFT

Council Committee, and the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) Forum and Executive Meetings. Especial thanks are due to Steve Ragg of CDALC, who provides excellent support on technical matters.

- x. Finally, she expressed her thanks to our County Councillors, Joan Gray, John Clare and Mike Dickson for their support and advice.

4/15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Speeding – Mr G Wilde expressed his regret that there were no fixed Speed Cameras in the County for historical reasons. He also considered that there should be 40 mph Limits on the C35 between Newton Aycliffe and Shildon and the Village 30 mph Limits. There was some discussion of the Council's efforts over the years to deal with these issues, and it was noted that Speeding is the current PACT priority. It was suggested that Residents might become more involved in this issue if the Parish Council had a Facebook page.

Ms J Reynolds said that she was proposing to undertake various fund-raising activities with a view to providing a new Bench on the Village Green in memory of Claire Humphreys who died recently. There was some discussion of this proposal, and it was agreed that:-

- i. The new Bench would be installed on the triangle of land in front of the Village Hall, which is owned by the Parish Council.
- ii. Ms J Reynolds will be responsible for purchasing the new Bench and Memorial Plaque, and will liaise with Cllr A Clarke.
- iii. The Parish Council will investigate the feasibility of their providing the Concrete Plinth for the installation of the new Bench.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council would support this proposal on this basis.

There being no other business, the Meeting was closed at 7.15 pm.