

Middlezoy Parish Council

Minutes of the Middlezoy Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 21st May 2024 where the following business was transacted.

Present: Chairman Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Ian Campbell, Cllr Becky Turner, Cllr Barry Paffey, Cllr John Grisman and Cllr Boulton. In attendance 2 Parishioners and the Clerk.

1. **Apologies for absence and any declarations of interest in items on this agenda and dispensations granted** – County Cllr Martin sent his apologies
2. **Minutes of the meeting of 16th April 2024** – were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Paffey and seconded by Cllr Campbell.
3. **Chairman's Report** – has still not had any response from Somerset Council re the purchase of the playing field. The Clerk to ask County Cllr Martin to enquire. Cllr Baker had looked at the possibility of CCTV for the hall, but due to the costings it was agreed to put on hold for the time being. He has had discussions with Chris East and Rob Blake who have volunteered to maintain the footpaths in the near vicinity. A special machine they need (costing £200 approximately) was agreed by the Parish Council for them to purchase.
4. **To receive any reports – Police** – None. **Somerset Council** – None
5. **a) Affordable Housing Needs Survey** – There has been personnel changes at Homes in Sedgemoor re Affordable Housing. As SHAL are going to be agent to look after the affordable housing at the Back Lane development, it was agreed that Cllr Baker and Cllr Turner to arrange a meeting with the CEO to clarify the situation.

From the latest data available from the Housing Development Officer at Sedgemoor there is a need for 19 houses for Back Lane, but the developer can only deliver 10 houses (4 one bedroom, 2 two bedrooms + 2 shared ownership, 2 three bedrooms) The Parish Council strongly advise, that if applicants requiring an affordable house with this scheme **MUST register their interest on the Somerset Home Finders site** www.homefindersomerset.co.uk Cllrs Baker and Turner will report back at the next meeting following discussions with SHAL

b) Emergency Plan update – Cllr Campbell informed the meeting that all was now in place and copies will be posted in the notice boards, along with social media and the website.

c) Welcome Pack update – Cllr Campbell stated that the booklet had been very well received, and some of the small amends will be altered for the next small print run.

e) **Annual Parish Meeting** – The Chairman stated that there had been a lot of interest from Village organisations to speak on the evening. Cllrs were asked to arrive early to prepare the room ready for the meeting

6. Planning – NONE

7. FINANCE

a) Clerk's Salary April 2024	£332.80
b) Clerk's PAYE April 2024	£83.20
c) Clerk's expenses April 2024	£73.75
d) Hire of hall – April - inv 670	£24.00
e) G Wagden James – April maintenance	£324.01
f) Media Edge – printing/design welcome booklet	£138.00
g) Maxwells Accountants payroll Jan/Feb/March	£90.00
h) Internal Audit – Richard Young	£50.00

All invoices include VAT where applicable.

Proposed by Cllr Turner and 2nd by Cllr Campbell – all in favour

The above items will be paid by the clerk through the Parish Council's Unity Trust banking facility

APPROVAL OF AUDIT ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

- a) Annual Governance Statement
- b) Annual Statement of Accountants

These were approved by the Parish Council and the Chairman and Clerk signed them off

8. **Middlezoy Community Project update** – the Chairman updated the meeting that the AGM will be in 2 months' time. Tenders had been sent out for the refurbishment of the bar. Plans are also in place for a new modular stage for the Hall, which will free up some much-needed space. **Date for your diaries – VILLAGE FETE JULY 6th 2024 – over 40 stalls booked!!!**

9. **Cllrs matter of reports** – Cllr Boulton had been looking into the costings and various models for a new shelter at the skate park. Grants are also being looked at and will report back over the next few PC meetings

Cllr Grisman – gave his apologies for the June meeting

Cllr Turner - asked the Clerk to write to Highways about the possibility of moving and speed indication sign on the A372 – Westonzoyland/Othery road. He is to copy in County Cllr Martin

Clerk – asked if the Cllrs were averse to change the time of all PC meetings to a 7pm start. This was agreed unanimously. The Clerk informed the meeting that he will be away on holiday for the June meeting. A locum Clerk would be asked to cover, if not the meeting could take place depending on the content

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 18th June starting at 7pm In the Village Hall