

Minutes of a meeting of Middlezoy Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall on

Tuesday 11th March 2025, starting at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Paul Baker (Chairman); Becky Turner; Ian Campbell; Barry Paffey; Sophie Boulton & 3 members of the public.

020/25 Public speaking on any agenda items

Two members of the public spoke regarding their planning application 34/25/00002

One resident spoke about plans for the defibrillators.

021/25 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Martin's apologies were accepted.

Cllr Turner will not speak on planning application 34/24/00013 as she has submitted a personal response to the application.

022/25 To approve the minutes from Tuesday February 18th, 2025

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Paffey Seconded: Cllr Campbell

023/25 Chairman's report

Cllr Baker updated everyone on his attendance at a meeting regarding the new Local Plan. Somerset is required to build an additional 4,300 new homes per year and concerns were raised over the lack of infrastructure including schools, doctors' surgeries, dentists etc

It was noted that there would be a road closure in Burrowbridge from April 14-17th. This would be advertised on social media.

The latest two fund-raising events in the Hall has raised £1,307 for the defibrillator fund – an excellent effort by all concerned.

024/25 PLANNING

(a) Planning application number: 34/25/00002/JMS

Proposal: Single storey rear extension.

Location: 2 Weymont Close, Middlezoy, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0JU

It was unanimously agreed to support this application, which has previously received permission from the local council officers and is now being re-submitted under the new owners.

Councillors agreed that the project was of good design, an improvement to the property making it suitable for a larger family and would have no detrimental impact on neighbouring properties.

(b) Planning application number: 34/24/00013/JMS

Proposal: Erection of two storey side West and rear North extensions on site of existing single storey extensions (to be demolished).

Location: The Old Fire Station, 2 Nethermoor Road, Middlezoy, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0PG

It was unanimously agreed that the council would submit a holding objection until such time as accurate plans were available to view.

025/25 Policy Documents

To approve the following documents: Code of Conduct; Finance; Standing Orders; Social Media; Complaints; Freedom of Information; Asset Register.

It was unanimously agreed that the policies would be adopted en bloc with some minor amendments which had been made by the Clerk ahead of the meeting.

Finance – 2.6 – it was agreed that someone other than the Chair would sign the Bank Recs/Statements on a quarterly basis.

026/26 To receive reports from County Cllr

No report had been received but it was noted that Cllr Martin has been proactively working on speed/traffic related issues that were a major concern on the A372.

027/25 Middlezoy Community Project Update

The next event is a casino evening on April 12th

Improvements to the outside area are planned to include a smoking/drinking area which will be particularly useful in summer.

Decorating & new security lights are planned for the near future.

Plans for installation of the new tiles to extend the car parking area were discussed and help from Cllr Paffey and a local resident were offered.

Mexican food will be available this weekend and it was noted that the profits from the bar were doing very well.

028/25 LCN Reports

Cllr Turner is attending the Highways Working Group on March 12th.

Cllr Baker will be attending the parishes conference at Wembdon VH on Saturday 15th March which Sir Ashley Fox (MP) has organised.

029/25 FINANCE

1. (a) Clerk's Salary (February 2025) £340.42
- (b) Clerk's PAYE (February 2025) £85.20
- (c) Clerk's expenses (February 2025) £128.78
- (d) Middlezoy Community – Hall Hire £24.00
- (e) G Wagden James – Grounds – February £428.00
- (f) Zoytec – Website support £119.00
- (g) SALC – Training £70.00

All invoices include VAT where applicable.

The Clerk was given permission to set up the payments above with Unity Bank.

1. Bank Reconciliations for January/February

The reconciliations were approved and signed as being accurate by the Chair.

2. To appoint the contractor for dog/waste bins for 2025/26 at a cost of £1,014 p/a

It was unanimously agreed to use Somerset Council as contractors for 2025/26

3. To appoint an internal auditor for 2024/25 - Richard Young

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Richard Young as internal auditor of the accounts for 2024/25

4. Defibrillators

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk could make payment of £1538.20 for the new defibrillators details of which Mike Birks would send to him via email.

030/25 Councillors Matters of Report

Discussion took place regarding the new markings and lack of adequate signage in the village, especially around the new development and the junction of Main Rd/A372.

Cllr Campbell was given approval to meet with the site contractors and build up a good working relationship with them, rather than sending official emails to head office.

The Clerk will contact Traffic Management and arrange a site meeting with Cllr Baker.

Date of next meeting – TUESDAY APRIL 22nd, 2025, at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.