

MICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Mickleton Parish Council held on Wednesday 25 January 2023 held in King George's Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

J. Piper-Bourn (chairman) (JPB), G. Mayling (GM), A. O'Neill (AON) and G. Tyler (GT)

County Councillor Lynden Stowe (LS) and the clerk, Mrs E. Fuoco-Lang (EFL), were also in attendance

Plus 3 members of the public

230125/01 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from E-M. Hall (EMH), T. Jones (TJ), E. Waddell (EW) and district councillors G. Blomefield (GB) and Tom Stowe (TS).

230125/02 To make declarations of interest on the items on the agenda

None declared.

230125/03 To confirm the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 30 November 2022

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 30 November 2022, which had previously been circulated to all members, were AGREED BY COUNCIL as being a true and accurate record, accepted and signed by JPB.

EFL

230125/04 To confirm the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 6 December 2022

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 6 December 2022, which had previously been circulated to all members, were AGREED BY COUNCIL as being a true and accurate record, accepted and signed by JPB.

EFL

230125/05 To receive the clerk's report

Matters arising

- The clerk has submitted the measurements of mowing area and a plan to Highways regarding the mowing of verges and is awaiting a reply.

Clerk's report

- MPC is awaiting to hear from GCC regarding the public right of way/Bearcroft House drive [see appendix C].
- Precept request form has been sent to CDC prior to the 31.1.23 deadline.
- Accounts have been reconciled to the end of December 2022.
- PKF Littlejohn have been appointed as external auditors up to 2026–2027.

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- Graffiti update: MPC is only responsible for clearing graffiti on its own property, as advised by its insurance company and CDC. CDC is only responsible for its property. All companies which have been affected have been informed: BT, Gigaclear, Royal Mail and National Grid.
- MPC is still awaiting answers to questions regarding the junior playing field boundary – this is with Miller homes/Ground solutions who manage the Oak Grange development.
- MPC is not responsible for clearing snow except from its own property, as advised by its insurance company. The clerk has circulated information from the insurance company and GCC's adverse weather plan to councillors.
- Tonight GAPTC have a session on the election process – information will be circulated to council. The clerk will be attending a CDC zoom session in February.

230125/06 Finance:

a. To receive the financial statement

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

b. To approve payments

AGREED BY COUNCIL SEE APPENDIX B

EFL

c. To note receipts

SEE APPENDIX A

230125/07 To provide members of the public/press with the opportunity to comment on items on the agenda or raise items for future consideration – in accordance with Standing Orders this will not exceed 15 minutes and five minutes per person

A member of the public enquired about the possibility of bins for salt/grit in the snow. They were informed that the last bins were set on fire and the salt was sent to the wrong location.

A member of the public queried why a £10 receipt had not been noted in appendix A. JPB informed them that it was correctly noted as a receipt at November's meeting [minute reference 221130/06c].

A member of the public asked if MPC was aware of the South Warwickshire Local Plan. JPB confirmed it was.

230125/08 To receive a report from Cotswold District Council

[Provided by GB read by JPB]

CDC had a full council meeting last week where the main agenda item was to go through the Peer Group Review carried out in October and November. There were strengths and weaknesses identified in the report with some major areas of concern with the Overview & Scrutiny not having full efficacy due to the lack of officer support; staff morale which was low after the pandemic;

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lack of clarity in the right person for a member to take a particular issue and no system to benchmark the importance of the issue raised nor the timescale in which it should be answered; the comparison of the performance of CDC only against other councils which also use Publica rather than other councils across the country which the LGA identify as having a similar profile and the difficulties in quantifying one of the administration's core priorities of 'Delivering the highest standards of service'. It was also recommended that the new and existing councillors after the May elections were given more training and guidance in their role.

In future, in order to vote at a polling station you will now be required to show photographic ID. CDC will be setting up a system where voters without a passport, driving licence or other valid ID can get verified and show this document at the polling station. Please support all residents who require this to apply well before the elections in May 2023. This does not affect postal votes.

If the parish is interested and can identify or are the owner of a potential site, a £2,000 kick-start grant from CDC could be made available. On top of that, GCC will reimburse the parish £67.26 for every tonne produced! Are you interested in starting a Community Composting site? Let me know if you might be interested and GB will do everything she can to support you.
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/.../community-composting>

National Grid Priority Service Register If you are a vulnerable person you should register with the National Grid for special consideration during electrical failures. Are you a pensioner or do you rely on electricity for medical reasons, electric bed, stair lift, heating etc?
https://www.nationalgrid.co.uk/customers-and-community/priority-services?fbclid=IwAR0QQI9sXf8olxTH7CU_zhw0bl_-ofBhkqWBEAg6FOdlapxVPWjW-03Cjr4

GB continues to have regular meetings with Bromford, most recently on 9 January, which continue to be helpful in resolving residents' issues and improving communication. Please continue to raise with me matters relating to Bromford. In addition, CDC is planning to have a joint meeting with the police to see how it can work more closely together when appropriate.

Finally, GB has been strongly recommended the following national website 'Fix My Streets' https://www.fixmystreet.com/?fbclid=IwAR0T_TtD0-s8hijkyhoo2mCASJ271bHh_gUs6EoU8ZjUsiPcfeFRLkSbFo

This allows everyone to report potholes; barriers, cones etc left behind by contractors; flooding and so on. Fix My Streets will then contact the relevant council to report the problem and apparently it works very well.

Initialed.....

230125/09 To receive a report from Gloucestershire County Council

The Granbrook Lane speed survey has been set up.

Following a cabinet meeting, GCC's council tax will probably be raised by 4.99%. This is higher than it wanted, but pragmatically speaking this is ½ the rate of inflation and 2% of this is ringfenced for adult social care.

GCC did receive a good settlement from government, so it is not looking at cutting services. There are still issues still regarding recruitment.

An accident on Bakers Hill in icy weather LS is looking to get this road onto the gritting route, but gritting lorries cannot go on all rural routes.

If MPC does have sites for grit bins ask LS and he will see what funding is available, then the grit bins can be used as the delivery point for the salt.

EFL

230125/10 To consider/note the following planning applications:**a. 22/04282/TCONR Works to trees in conservation areas at Walnut House Gloucester Lane**

Noted that there was no objection. [The clerk stated that this application has already been decided by Cotswold District Council].

b. 22/04438/FUL Erection of a single storey rear extension at 14 Sovereign Fields

Clerk to submit objection comment – to be provided by GM

GM/EFL

c. 22/04459/FUL Erection of first floor extension, front extension, dormers and associated works at 47 Meon Road Mickleton

Clerk to submit comment of no objection

EFL

d. 22/04436/FUL Erection of a rear single storey extension at 5 Market Garden

Clerk to submit comment of no objection

EFL

e. To consider urgent planning applications received since agenda publication

Further to additional information regarding Stratford District Council's 20/02315/FUL 20/02315/FUL Proposed development of 124 dwellings at Long Marston Airfield

Clerk to submit objection comment – to be provided by GM

GM/EFL

230125/11**To receive a report from the footpaths, pavements and roads/safer walking and cycling working group**

The report is included at APPENDIX C.

230125/12 To resolve to set up a climate emergency working group and invite members of local community groups/businesses to put forward representatives to attend meetings

Council agreed to write to community groups and businesses.

JPB

230125/13 To consider and resolve to appoint an independent auditor

Council unanimously agreed to use Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC) for its internal audit service for 2022–2023.

EFL

230125/14 To authorise the clerk's membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

230125/15 To consider and approve the Junior Playing Field mowing contract for 2023

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

230125/16 To update standing orders:

a. 7a, AGREED BY COUNCIL

b. 15 xv AGREED BY COUNCIL

c. 26b AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

230125/17 To consider and resolve arrangements for the Coronation of King Charles III

Council agreed to write to community groups to suggest a community meeting to discuss further.

JPB

230125/18 To resolve to set the date of the annual parish assembly

Council agreed to hold the meeting in early March. Clerk to check hall availability.

EFL

230125/19 To consider and resolve the adoption of the following:

a. Sickness absence policy

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

230125/20 To receive correspondence

- Assets of community value forms have been submitted for the allotments and community vineyard and received by the solicitor – awaiting an update.
- Parking at Mickleton Primary School – MPC has been informed that the police will attend where possible and ticket for obstruction if necessary.
- A resident raised concerns in relation to privacy regarding 22/04438/FUL.
- A resident raised concerns over damage to properties from HGV vehicles on Granbrook Lane.

230125/21 To note agenda items for the next parish council meeting

Defibrillator information for MPC's website.

Plaque and latch for churchyard gate.

EFL

230125/22 To confirm the date for the next parish council meeting: 22 February 2023

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 8.23pm

Initialed.....

APPENDIX A

Grant application for village planters from Cotswold District Council	£113.33
Carol service collection for the defibrillator maintenance fund	£235.00
Interment fees	£275.00
Prepurchase burial plot	£2350.00
Interest from accounts	£20.53
VAT refund	£751.82

APPENDIX B

NAME	AMOUNT	METHOD
BT phone and broadband (November's uncollected payment BT error)	£51.54	DD PAID
BT phone and broadband	£51.54	DD PAID
Grundon cemetery bin November	£44.00	DD PAID
Grundon cemetery bin December	£44.14	DD PAID
Nest pension November	£178.32	DD PAID
Nest pension December	£89.63	DD PAID
Sage payroll December	£8.40	DD PAID
Sage payroll January	£8.40	DD PAID
Google email addresses November	£9.20	DD PAID
Google email addresses December	£9.20	DD PAID
Smartcut grounds maintenance December	£495.49	FP PAID
Smartcut grounds maintenance January	£495.49	FP
GAPTC planning training x2	£70.00	FP PAID
Bretforton silver band carol service	£120.00	FP PAID
Wrapping paper and tape	£9.00	FP PAID
Wrapping paper	£6.00	FP PAID
SLCC membership	£187.00	FP
T. S Services bench work outside cemetery	£191.50	FP
E Fuoco-Lang December salary	£1154.95	FP PAID
National insurance December	£146.39	FP PAID
Graffiti remover	£26.00	DEBIT CARD

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Home Bargains batteries for keyboard	£3.29	DEBIT CARD
Squab shredding four bags paid for, two shredded	£28.00	DEBIT CARD
Churchyard gate final payment 2/2	£600.00	FP
Tops plants for troughs	£41.20	FP
R. Slatter mowing JPF	£635.00	FP
HP instant inks	£22.49	DD

APPENDIX C

LS has confirmed that the GCC Highways speed survey on Granbrook Lane is going ahead. He also advised that the work to install 14 dropped curbs at 7 sites across the village will also be completed in the new year. He apologised for the lack of timely response from Highways and advised of the significant resourcing challenges in the Transport and Planning team.

We have also commenced a joint audit of the condition of all footpaths within the parish boundary and any issues identified will be recorded on our footpath tracker.

Public right of way/Bearcroft House – The clerk has followed up with GCC Highways who are investigating the possibility of levelling the surface to improve the condition and avoid the build up of large puddles