

MICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Mickleton Parish Council held on Friday 01 December 2023 in King George's Hall at 7.30pm.

Mickleton Parish Council (MPC)
Gloucestershire County Council (GCC)
Cotswold District Council (CDC)

PRESENT:

Joanne Piper-Bourn (chairman) (JPB), Geoff Mayling (GM), Andy O'Neill (AON) and Graham Tyler (GT)
The clerk, Elaine Fuoco-Lang (EFL), was also in attendance. District councillor Tom Stowe (TS) and County councillor Lynden Stowe (LS) did not attend.
Plus 3 members of the public

011223/01 To note that Councillor Hall has tendered her resignation
Noted. JPB thanked Councillor Hall for her contribution to MPC.

011223/02 To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were received from district councillor Gina Blomfield (GB).

011223/03 To make declarations of interest on the items on the agenda
None declared.

011223/04 To confirm the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 25 October 2023
It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 25 October 2023 as a true and accurate record of that meeting, accepted and signed by the chairman.

011223/05 To receive the clerk's report
No electors came forward since advertising the latest vacancy, so MPC can continue to co-opt. We have identified ways to try to engage with the electorate to stand as councillors. As reported at last month's meeting, just four members does not give any scope regarding holidays/sickness, as decisions cannot be made without a full council.

EFL discussed with CDC elections to see if we could reduce the number of seats from 11 to nine, so that meetings could be conducted with three councillors, but it would mean running an election for the whole 'new' parish council with a shortened term of office up to the 2027 ordinary elections. This may also have cost implications, and it was unclear if this would be able to be held next year.

Signs belonging to the contractor and highways which were left in/near the information shelter have been removed.

Signage at the skatepark has been replaced.

Initialed.....

MPC has a new phone number for the games area and temporary signs have been put up at the games area. A new sign at the JPF has been put up and the website has been updated with the correct number.

Flooding was mentioned at last month's meeting in public time, and GB has informed us that parishioners could attend the flooding meetings which are organised by Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, so this will be advertised in future. We were advised that it be good for representatives from Mickleton to attend the next meeting so that they could give an account of the issues.

EFL raised the issue of leaves on pavements in the village with GB, who chased the contractors. They will do their best to get a truck to the village before Christmas. Further information was also given regarding voluntary groups to collect leaves in the village. EFL asked JPB to expand on her contact with the Interim Waste Contract Manager who advised if there was any appetite at a local level to set up such voluntary groups, bags tools etc would be provided and CDC would collect the full bags for recycling after the volunteers have helped. A benefit of this is that all leaves which are handpicked can be recycled and go for composting, leaves that are machine swept are deemed to be contaminated with low-level hydrocarbons and are unable to be recycled. JPB will be looking into this further.

We are waiting delivery of the games area defibrillator, which has been chased.

We have received comments regarding grass cutting being missed at the cemetery and an issue of overgrown plots in the cremation area. EFL has raised this with the burial authority and has met with contractor who has agreed to do this as it should have been picked up.

MPC funds the planting up of various planters in the village, and these were recently renewed by Mickleton Gardening Club, we thank the volunteers for their work and pictures are on the website.

Thank you to chairman Piper-Bourn for laying a wreath at the remembrance service at St Lawrence's Church.

It has been over a year back and forth with Highways regarding receiving payment for verges we cut, we are still awaiting the final confirmation.

Last month the cemetery wall was raised to be an agenda item, but this has been discussed with current contractor and is scheduled for the new year. Any further delays will bring the matter to a future meeting if necessary.

EFL attended course in relation to upcoming legislation Martyn's Law hosted by the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), with speakers from the home office. Following terrorist attacks at Manchester Arena, Martyn's Law is one of the most significant developments for local councils since the General Data Protection Regulation and will impact everyone and stressed the need for consistent

Initialed.....

training and support on counter terrorism. EFL will continue to update MPC regarding the impact of this.

Various items advertised either on website/noticeboards/Facebook, including

- Cotswold District Council Budget Consultation 2024/25
- Carol service details
- Mickleton walkabout on the Cala development
- Various road closures

011223/06 Finance:

a. To receive the financial statement

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

b. To approve payments

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

c. To note receipts

NOTED BY COUNCIL

EFL

d. To note bank reconciliation: 1–31 October 2023

NOTED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/07 To receive any representations/questions from members of the public – 15 mins max

Q1: Parishioner raised issue of fireworks causing distress to animals. JPB to follow up with advice from EFL

EFL/JPB

Q2: Corner plot Mill Lane is an eyesore and there is broken glass on the pavement.

JPB advised the resident to speak to GB as she has already spoken with the owner.

Q3: Query regarding overgrowth on pavements.

Q4: Query regarding the grave in the churchyard which is a grade II listed monument.

EFL provided an update that graves are not MPC's or the church's responsibility but are the responsibility of the family. However, following from a conversation with the church, EFL will research the Table Tomb Fund and report back.

EFL

Q5: Greening Mickleton asked to be supported by MPC regarding previously agreed issues. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged to discuss outstanding projects.

011223/08 To receive a report from Cotswold District Council

No report received

011223/09 To receive a report from Gloucestershire County Council

No report received

011223/10 To consider the following planning applications:

Stratford-On-Avon District Council

Initialed.....

a. 23/01223/VARY Long Marston Airfield An amendment/additional information has been received

MPC: Objection. This is relating to a previous application to amend the trigger point from 300 dwellings to 360 dwellings being occupied before the community building etc is built. It is unfair and unreasonable to deprive the current occupants of this development the opening of this building until all bar 40 dwellings of this 400 dwelling development are occupied. The existing occupiers would have purchased dwellings with the knowledge and expectation that this building would be within a reasonable timescale. A longer delay in building this facility will provide problems to the local infrastructure and local facilities.

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

23/03670: Erection of rear single storey extension, front storey extension and garden room at 1 Ballards Close

MPC: No objection to this application. The west elevation is incorrectly noted, but this is just a technical issue.

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

23/03664: Erection of first floor rear extension at 32 Granbrook Lane

MPC: Planners should satisfy themselves that there will be no undue adverse impact to neighbours at 30 Granbrook Lane.

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

b. To receive an update on planning permissions/refusals
Cotswold district council has permitted/has no objection to:

23/03306/TCONR Works to trees in conservation areas for Horse Chestnut - prune branches from tree at 2 Tudor Cottages back to property boundary at 2 Tudor Cottage, High Street

23/03076/TCONR Works to trees in conservation areas for T1 & T2 pair of Leylandii growing in close proximity. Fell - Trees are becoming too large for garden and there is evidence of subsidence cracking on the cottage at Ivy Cottage High Street

23/02383/LBC Listed Building Consent for Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with new single storey extension and erection of detached annex at Orchard Cottage, Chapel Lane

23/02382/FUL Full Application for Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with new single storey extension and erection of detached annex at Orchard Cottage, Chapel Lane

23/02756/FUL Full Application for Erection of porch and log store and retrospective consent for addition of link extension, replacement of rainwater pipes, opening up of external wall, fenestration alterations, internal alterations and associated works at The Cedars Ivy House Lane consultation decision

Initialed.....

23/02543/LBC Listed Building Consent for Erection of porch and log store and retrospective consent for addition of link extension, replacement of rainwater pipes, opening up external wall, fenestration alterations, internal alterations and associated works at The Cedars Ivy House Lane

23/02702/CLEUD Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development under Section 191 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for erection of a dwelling with associated residential garden land at Mickleton Nurseries, Stratford Road

23/02814/FUL Erection of boundary wall The Old Vicarage, Church Lane

23/02815/LBC Erection of boundary wall The Old Vicarage Church Lane

23/02372/FUL Full Application for Erection of a porch, conversion of the loft and other associated works –19A Pound Lane

22/02148/FUL Full Application for Detached garage with ancillary accommodation in roof space Grey Gables Church Lane

011223/11 To note the adoption of 2023/2024 pay award backdated to 1 April 2023
NOTED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/12 To agree the parish council's draft budget for 2024/2025
AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/13 To agree to the following in relation to the community speed watch camera:

- a. to sign the service level agreement

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

- b. to approve the data protection impact assessment

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/14 To agree to move to a government (.GOV.UK) website and council-specific emails

AGREED BY COUNCIL to accept the quotation from Parish Online.

EFL

011223/15 To agree to clear the boundary and fences in the churchyard of brambles and nettles

AGREED BY COUNCIL. This has been agreed in principle by the church, who will be contacted to confirm the decision.

EFL

Initialed.....

011223/16 To agree to carry out a tree survey on areas that are owned/maintained by the parish council

AGREED BY COUNCIL to accept the quotation from Stockwell-Davies.

EFL

011223/17 To agree to accept the offer of street furniture currently at the Three Bees Garden

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/18 To confirm renewal of the BT contract

AGREED BY COUNCIL to remove outgoing calls only, as clerk has a mobile to dial out

EFL

011223/19 Policies to adopt/amend:

a. To adopt a games area hiring policy/agreement

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

b. To adopt a reserves policy

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL

012223/20 To agree to plant a hedge at the junior playing field (boundary with the Oak Grange development)

GM gave feedback regarding applying to the Woodland Trust for free hedging

AGREED BY COUNCIL

GM

011223/21 Biodiversity:

a. to note what action MPC is taking to conserve and enhance biodiversity

Action MPC is taking is to allow rewilding in the churchyard, until it is needed allow the cemetery extension to be a wildlife area. Planting up the planters in village. Considering biodiversity in planning applications. MPC's contractors only use environmentally friendly pesticides where absolutely necessary and only in ideal weather conditions. MPC also encourages residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs.

AGREED BY COUNCIL

b. to agree what further steps MPC should take to conserve and enhance biodiversity

EFL circulated the following: MPC could consider additional planting in the new cemetery, adopting a plan to support wildlife and diversity while maintaining the site in a way which enables visitors to experience quiet and calm remembrance. MPC could maintain and renew bird boxes in the memorial garden. Planting a hedge at the JPB will mean MPC can support hedge/tree planting and sympathetically maintain hedging here and in the new cemetery. JPB stated the importance of raising awareness, education and community engagement.

AGREED BY COUNCIL

EFL/JPB/GM/AON/GT

011223/22 To note weekly checks:

a. of the junior playing field playground

It was noted that all weekly checks had been received as per the terms of our insurance policy.

b. of the games area

It was noted that all weekly checks had been received as per the terms of our insurance policy.

c. of the defibrillators

It was noted that all weekly checks have been carried out and the clerk has conducted a monthly check of this via the online system.

011223/23 To vote on the recipient/s of the carol service collection

AGREED BY COUNCIL to donate funds raised to Cotswold Friends – GT declared an interest as he is a volunteer driver.

011223/24 To note formal acceptance of the gifting of the shipping container to Mickleton Poor's Land Trust

NOTED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/25 To note formal acceptance of the gifting of the Eco Hut to Mickleton Community Vineyard

NOTED BY COUNCIL

EFL

011223/26 Correspondence

Various burial rights have been dealt with by EFL and continued correspondence re unsafe headstones.

Thanks were received from a resident regarding the sweeping of the footpath from Milking Pail Lane to the Church, which were passed on.

Police informed MPC of break ins at sheds at allotments in Moreton-in-Marsh. This information was passed to Mickleton Poor's Land Trust.

MPC has received offers of help from groups and individuals in relation to the annual carol service, so thank you.

MPC was informed that a vehicle has driven over the green 'triangle' at Arbour Close.

011223/27 Agenda items for the next parish council meeting

Biodiversity update

Where to relocate the current flashing sign on Stratford Road

EFL

011223/28 To confirm the date for the next parish council meeting: Friday 12 January 2024

Initialed.....

Confirmed

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 8.34pm

MICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL		
Invoices for payment approval		
November 2023		
NAME	AMOUNT	METHOD
PAYMENTS		
BT Group – October	51.54	Direct debit
Grundon Waste – Cemetery bin	47.69	Direct debit
Microsoft 365	12.36	Direct debit
Google email addresses – October	9.20	Direct debit
HP instant inks – November	22.49	Direct debit
Lebara mobile clerk – November	4.90	Direct debit
Lebara mobile games area – November	0.99	Direct debit
Smart cut Grounds maintenance – October	633.92	Standing order
Nest pension – October	104.56	Direct debit
National insurance – October	244.24	BACS
Nest pension – November	128.97	Direct debit
National insurance – November	403.77	BACS
Clerk salary – November	1722.56	BACS
Defibrillator	3024.00	BACS paid
SLCC clerk training	144.00	BACS paid
Station nurseries	84.40	BACS TO PAY
KGH hall hire	30.00	BACS TO PAY
Stationery/Christmas misc	61.41	Debit card paid
Royal British Legion wreath	100.00	Debit card paid
Parish Online	92.40	BACS TO PAY
Replacement sign	60.00	BACS TO PAY
TOTAL	6983.40	
RECEIPTS		
Interest	55.16	
Cemetery fees	760.00	
TOTAL	815.16	