

**MIDDLETON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held in the back of Jubilee Hall, Elmer Road, Middleton-on-Sea**  
**On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

**PRESENT** – Councillors Wotherspoon (Chairman), Chandler, Copeland, Edey, Jeffrey, Mansfield, Mrs Mills, Mrs Willis, the Clerk, District Councillor Mrs Oakley and Mr Morrison.

1. **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Mrs Ross, Wilkinson, and County Councillor Mrs Freeman.
2. **MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 having been circulated were approved and signed.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Mansfield declared a prejudicial interest in both Item 5(c) and part of Item 12.

**4. ITEMS not otherwise on the Agenda but which the Chairman considered to be matter of urgency due to special circumstances** – The Clerk read a letter from Aldwick Parish Council inviting up to 3 members of the Parish Council to attend a joint meeting of Councils in the Western Arun Area on 3<sup>rd</sup> February at Aldwick Parish Council offices to discuss “Plans emanating from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for further housing to be built in southern England covering the period 2006 to 2026”. It is understood Nick Gibb MP will be attending. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, no member is able to attend and the Clerk will advise Aldwick Parish Council accordingly.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

**a) Off Site Play provision**

Arun District Council have advised that the matter is included in a report to JWAAC which will be discussed at 8<sup>th</sup> February 2006 meeting.

**b) Flying Fortress - update**

The Clerk reported that details of the proposed transport grant were declined by the Flying Fortress as they felt the Parish Council should make the transport arrangements. The grant has therefore been withdrawn and this was agreed, nem.con.

**c) Comet Corner**

The WSCC Highways and Transport Works programme 2006/7 has just been received and still includes Comet Corner as a Major Scheme with Design and Development scheduled for 2006/7 and Scheme Construction for 2007/8. However, this is all contingent upon funding being available, which at this stage it is not. The letter submitted to JWAAC on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2005 has been circulated to its members and will

be on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2006 Agenda. It is understood 3 members of the Comet Corner Action Group will attend and speak at the meeting.

*Mr Mansfield left the meeting during Item 5 (c).*

## **6. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

Copies of the minutes dated 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2006 were circulated and noted.

## **7. GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Copies of the minutes dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 2006 were circulated and noted.

### **i) Countryside and the Environment Advisory Sub Committee**

Mr Mansfield advised that he had given the Millennium Oak on Shrubbs Field a “makeover”. Mrs Willis reported bags containing dog faeces, intended for the dog bins had been strewn into the ditches along the boundary of Larksfield and Worms Wood and that there was a large scorch mark on the ground close to a dew pond in Worms Wood. The Clerk was instructed to advise Arun District Council about the former matter.

### **(ii) Joint Sea Defence & Land Drainage Advisory Sub Committee**

Nothing to report.

### **(iii) Liaison Advisory Sub Committee**

Details of the proposed Alcohol Restriction Area Consultation was advised to members who were supportive of the proposals. The Clerk was instructed to advise Arun District Council.

The Clerk advised:

- (a) SALC Christmas 2005 Newsletter had been circulated.
- (b) The Standards Committee minutes dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 2005 had been placed into general circulation.
- (c) The ODPM Discussion Paper entitled “Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future” had been placed into full circulation

Mr Copeland reported that work had commenced on the Larksfield Skate Park.

### **iv) Projects Advisory Sub Committee**

Nothing to report.

### **v) Roads & Transport Advisory Sub Committee**

In addition to the proposed Comet Corner major schemes work (subject to funding), the WSCC Highways and Transport Works programme 2006/7 also detailed two other works in this parish:

- (a) B2132/04 - Middleton Road Phase 2 - New or Improved Footpaths – Year 2005/6
- (b) C73/01 – Elmer Road, East of Beresford Pub – Drainage Improvements – Year 2007/8

Mrs Mills reported that she will be attending the Western Arun Area Transport Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February at which a Route Speed Management Scheme from Bognor Regis to Flansham will be discussed. Members agreed that Mrs Mills should proceed as she felt

appropriate. Mr Edey commented that he was concerned money was being spent in Felpham but no money was available for pedestrian crossings.

## **8. PARISH LAND AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Copies of the minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2006 were circulated and noted. The Clerk reported receipt of £20 from the Courts Service which represented compensation for damage to the pavilion. In addition to the compensation payment, the offender also received a Referral Order for 3 months.

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items had been received:-

1. 4 Sight – Letter of thanks for Community Support Grant
2. BR Neighbourhood Watch - Letter of thanks for Community Support Grant
3. Clerks and Councils Direct
4. Consumer Direct – Poster and details of new service
5. Mr Fitzgerald – Letter re Church Lottery Grant
6. Inspire Leisure – Healthy Walks in Arun
7. Local Council Review
8. Mr Petersen – Letter of thanks for Middleton News voucher
9. WSCC – Making West Sussex Safer
10. WSCC – Materials Resource Management Strategy
11. WS Fire and Rescue Service – Deliberate Fires Report
12. WS Fire and Rescue Service – Draft Year 3 Action Plan 2006/7
13. West Sussex Public Partnership Forum - Newsletter

## **10. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **a) Bank Accounts -**

The Clerk reported on the following **Bank Accounts**

Current Account	£ 1,250.00
Business Reserve	£29,510.23
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£30,760.23</u></b>

### **(b) Accounts for payment -**

The following payments were approved nem.con and made:

(i) 4 Sight (Community Support Donation)	£ 100.00
(ii) BR Neighbourhood Watch (Community Support Donation)	£ 100.00
(iii) Citizens Advice Bureau (Community Support Donation)	£ 100.00
(iv) Sammy Transport (Community Support Donation)	£ 125.00
(v) Sussex PFA (Community Support Donation)	£ 10.00
(vi) PBS UK (Photocopier rental/charges)	£ 85.69
(vii) Middleton-on-Sea Playing Fields (Partial grant drawdown)	£1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£1,520.69</u></b>

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **12. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

Mrs Waller reported that she attended Felpham Parish Council's January meeting, together with Mrs Brown, and both spoke about Felpham's revised position regarding Comet Corner. They were most upset by the position adopted by the Felpham Parish Council's Chairman who allegedly said that the Parish Council had a copy of a letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2005 from Middleton Parish Council to WSCC Highways which 90% supported Felpham Parish Council's position. Mrs Waller was unaware of this letter which put her at a disadvantage. However, having now seen the letter, she contends that the Chairman's statement was inaccurate and will be writing to each member of Felpham Parish Council to advise them accordingly. She also asked that Mrs Brown receives copies of any letters written by the Parish Council which relate to Comet Corner, as she is a co-opted member of the General Purposes Committee, to which members agreed. *Mr Mansfield left the meeting during this part of the Public Discussion Period.*

Mrs Waller also raised the issue of the proposed Route Speed Management Scheme from Bognor Regis to Flansham and said the transport committee needed to take into account the future rise in HGV traffic when the Materials Recycling Facility at Ford is opened.

Mrs Mulvany thanked the Clerk and Parish Council for their efforts in obtaining a footpath sign for the footpath adjacent to Villa Plage which has been missing for about 10 years. A member of the public who has recently moved into the area asked about the political make-up of the council and was advised by the Chairman that it has always been non-political. Mr Wood said he could not hear proceedings because of the public seating arrangements and poor hall acoustics. It was agreed to move the public seats onto the western side of the hall.

District Councillor Mrs Oakley was concerned about the potential impact of a likely drought and was particularly concerned if approval is given for yet more houses to be built. She also continues to be involved in sea defence issues.

**There** being no further business the Chairman reminded members that the next Meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006 **at 6.30 p.m.** and the Meeting closed at 7.07 p.m.