

MIDDLE RASEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 17/4/18

Present:-

Mr M Stamp (Chairman), Mrs S Smith, Mrs G Dennis, Mrs J Ranby, Mr P Dawson, Mr M O'Connor, Mr T Smith and Mrs J Trotter (Clerk)

Visitors:- Lincolnshire Highways Team (Flood Alleviation Team), Cllr L Strange

1) Apologies for Absence:- Cllr D Pattison.

2) To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th April 2017:-

The minutes were signed as a true record.

3) Chairman's Report:-

Council Members:

The Council had one change of membership over the 2017-18 period. Cllr G Dixon was replaced by Cllr T Smith in a co-option which took place in November 2017.

Planning Applications:

21 Applications – 7 less than 2017. However, some of these permissions have been for developments which have been less than popular, but nevertheless either agreed at committee level or by the Planning Inspectorate. It is likely that given the transition in the planning department, some permitted development has been passed without the Parish Council's knowledge.

Grants:

Middle Rasen Charity Gala - £142.50
Middle Rasen Bowling Club - £500.00
Market Rasen Development Trust - £50.00
West Lindsey CAB - £50.00
Poppy Appeal - £50.00

Precept:

Following at least 6 years where the Council have agreed to maintain the Precept, it was accepted that a modest rise in precept for Year 18-19 would be necessitated. The Precept applied for 2018-19 - £17,000.00 – a rise of £290.00.

Contractors:

A mention to both Green Grass Contracting and Lincolnshire Landscapes for their work over the year. These contracts remain in place for 2018-19 period in line with best value contracting arrangements agreed by the Council in 2017/18. The standard of the Contractors' grass cutting has undoubtedly enhanced the parish.

Lincolnshire County Council will continue to provide a biannual safety cut on amenity grass sites within the parish.

Winter Weather contracting arrangements were enforced this February, following the snowy and icy conditions – and a special note of thanks to Green Grass Contracting for their continued efforts over this period.

Parish Maintenance:

A new noticeboard was purchased for The Furlongs Estate, due to repeated vandalism of the older wood noticeboard. Unfortunately, even with the move to place the new metal noticeboard in a less sheltered area, vandalism was an ongoing issue, resulting in a further 2 repairs to the glass/Perspex. However, our thanks to AC & AG Gibson for their quality workmanship, and assistance in ensuring that the repairs were carried out with the minimum delay and to ensure the safety of the parishioners following damage.

The Council have been involved with the Highways Department in discussing the proposed flood alleviation scheme for the A631 to ensure that flooding in the parish is minimised in the longer term. It is likely that this

scheme will be completed by the end of 2018.

The Council entered into an agreement with the PCC with regard to servicing arrangements for the Millennium Clock sited at St Peter and St Paul's Church.

Parish Engagement:

The Council held its first Christmas meet and greet event prior to the December meeting, and more events of this nature may be planned in the forthcoming year.

4) Financial Report:-

The Clerk presented the financial overview for the year 2017-18 to the meeting. Overspends and underspends were issued prior to the meeting, and Councillors were asked for queries – none. The Clerk reported that this is the first year of the new External Audit process under the transparency regulations. The financial information will be available to view on the website as per regulations, and the Council will file an exemption certificate given that Council spending for the 2017-18 period remained under £25,000, the audit procedure will be changed as from next year. The public rights notice will be placed in line with regulations.

5) Open Meeting

The Highways Team disseminated a handout to the Councillors. The Senior Engineer explained the process to date, minor works undertaken in the interim, and the proposed arrangements to alleviate the flooding issues around the A631 and Wilkinson Drive area. Cllr Strange is supportive of the scheme but accepts that it is likely that issues may occur with the diverted traffic. The scheme is being funded under partnership agreements, and it is hoped that the approvals and funding will be in place by the end of May 2018. The cost of the scheme is likely to be around £500k, and funding is being provided by the Environment Agency, LCC and Anglian Water. Access on Manor Drive may be restricted but not closed. Cllr Strange commented that the flood programme is being worked through following the floods in 2007. The Highways Team confirmed that a public presentation event will be held in May at the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.43pm.

Date.....

Signed..... (Chairman)