

Minutes of the meeting of Middleham Town Council held in the Garden Room, Middleham Key Centre on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr H Byford Cllr L Skelton Cllr S Watson
Cllr S Mashford Cllr D Palethorpe Cllr R Lappin Smith
Cllr I Pead-Jowett Ms R Hurst – Clerk Cllr K Sedgwick
PCSO Watson 1 Member of the public

24.81 Public Representations/Open Forum – Cllr Sedgwick updated the Council on a transport survey which was due to be delivered to residents and asked if these could please be filled and returned. Councillors were informed that the HSBC building in Leyburn had now also been sold and there was a planned open day on the 12th April 2024.

24.82. Apologies – None.

24.83 Declarations of Interest and any dispensation requests – None.

24.84 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28th February 2024 were approved as a correct record.

24.85 Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on Monday 11th March 2024 were approved as a correct record.

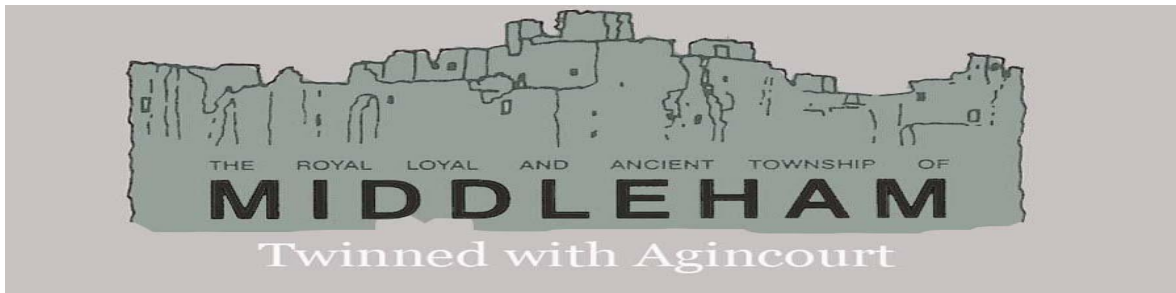
24.86 Confidential/Urgent items and order of the proceedings – No confidential/urgent items to be discussed.

24.87 Committees

- a. **Racing Welfare Committee** - Councillors discussed a representative to sit on the Racing Welfare Committee and **resolved** to nominate Cllrs Mashford and Watson to attend these meetings.
- b. **North Yorkshire Community Partnerships Steering Group** - The Council discussed a representative to attend the North Yorkshire Council Community Partnerships Steering Group meetings and **resolved** to nominate Cllr Palethorpe and in his absence Cllr Skelton.

24.88 Reports

- a. **Councillors to report any meetings attended and actions undertaken** – None.



- b. **Matters of local interest and concern as reported to Councillors or on Residents Facebook page.** – Cllr Watson had been approached by residents in relation to the planning application at St Alkeldas it was confirmed that the outline planning application had still not been approved yet. Cllrs Palethorpe and Pead-Jowett informed the Council that a sink hole had appeared in the play park, this had been filled but is now re-appearing.
Action – Cllr Palethorpe agreed to have another look.
Action – Clerk to contact the drain company to ask them to have a look whilst in Middleham.
The Council was also informed of parking issues outside a cottage on East Witton Road which is causing issues again and a rockery that has also been built in front of one of the houses on East Witton Road.
Cllr Watson reported a leaking water pipe outside the antiques shop in the Market Place.
Action – Clerk to contact Yorkshire Water.
- c. **Police and Fire Matters** - PSCO Watson updated the Council on a current national operation that took place in Middleham with a drug dog in March to deter the spiking of drinks. PCSO Watson also confirmed that the parking issues on Park Lane had improved.
- d. **Events in Middleham** – Middleham Open Day Friday 29th March 2024.
- e. **Clerks report** – Councillors have been invited to attend a public meeting sponsored by The Association of Rural Communities on Tuesday 30th April 2024 at 7.30pm in Leyburn Methodist Church Hall. Cllr Palethorpe confirmed he would be interested in attending.

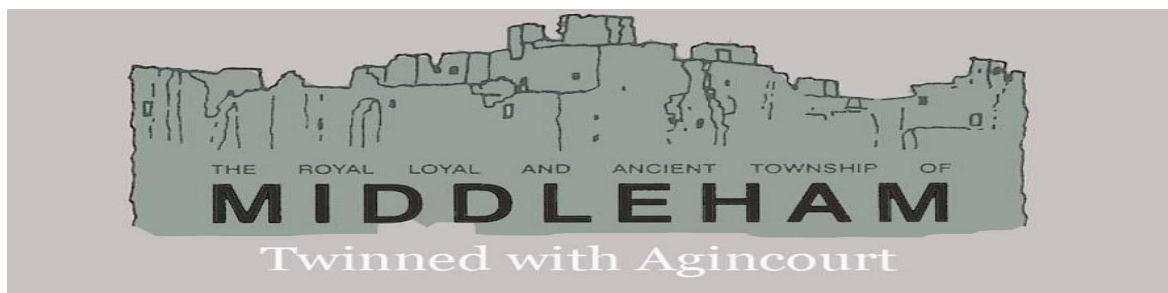
24.89 Policies and Procedures

- a. **Reserves policy** – Councillors reviewed the revised Reserves Policy and **resolved** to adopt this.
- b. **Complaints Policy** – The Council reviewed the complaints policy and **resolved** to adopt this pending an addition confirming the process to follow in the escalation of complaints if the complainant is not happy with the response received.

24.90 D-Day 80 – Councillors discussed the D-Day 80 event on the 6th June 2024 and **resolved** to take part by lighting the beacon.

Action – Clerk to get quotes for turning lights on and look at what surrounding towns and villages are doing.

Action – Cllr Skelton to advertise on Facebook.



24.91 Land Management – The Council discussed the request from Racing Welfare to hold the York North and West of Yore Hunt Pleasure Ride on 4th August 2024 and **resolved** to approve this.

24.92 Finance

- a) **Internal controls** – Cllr Lappin-Smith and Cllr Pead-Jowett agreed to complete an internal controls inspection on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 10am.
- b) **Reserves (to review the current level of reserves held)** – The Council **resolved** to defer this item to the next meeting in April.
- c) **Asset Register** – The Council **resolved** to defer the review of the Asset register to the next meeting in April.
- d) Bank Reconciliation Statement dated 29th February 2024 **approved**.
- e) Payments list **approved** and receipts list **noted**.
- f) Approval of invoices awaiting payment **approved**.

24.93 Middleham Key Centre

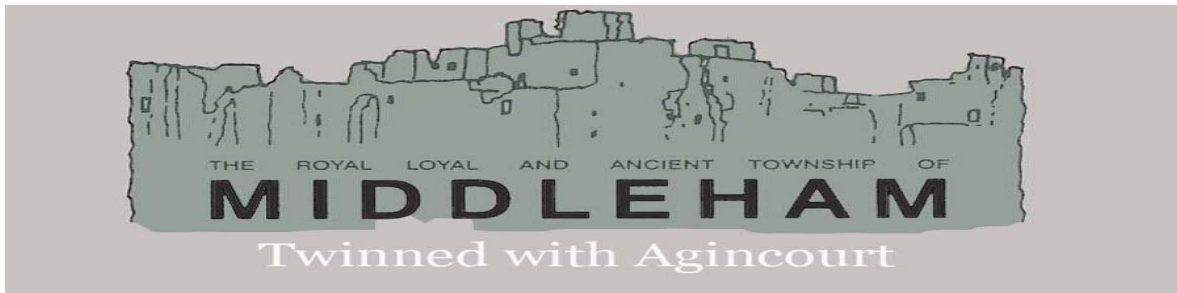
a) **Key Centre Lease** – Councillors discussed appointing a Solicitor to draw up a 6-month lease (with the potential for an extension to this) at a peppercorn rent as per the current lease to the Inhabitant Householders Charity and **resolved** to appoint Scotts Wright Solicitors.

b) **Resident Feedback** - Councillors discussed the feedback received from residents that attending the Extraordinary meeting on Monday 11th March 2024 and **resolved** to respond to the feedback/questions via the Middleham Herald copies of which would be posted out to residents.

Action – Cllr Watson and Cllr Mashford to draft a response to the feedback and circulate to all Councillors for feedback.

Action – Clerk to seek clarification on whether the Council can gift the Key Centre to the Inhabitant Householders charity.

24.94 Date and Time of next meeting – Wednesday 24th April 2024 6.30pm



APPENDIX

Police Report (Appendix 3)

Monthly Police Report – Feb 8th – Mar 13th 2024

We do not report crimes whereby victims could be identified, for example Domestic Violence or harassment although they are included in the totals below.

Crimes of note; overnight 14th Feb a Quad bike was stolen from the Angram area. Overnight 13th Mar a Mule farm vehicle was stolen from the New Biggin area.

14 – Abandoned calls.

2 – Stolen vehicles.

21 – Suspicious Circumstances (door to door sellers/ vehicles parked).

9 – Violence.

4 – Highways disruption (Floods/trees/animals).

8 – Road related offences (manner of driving/vehicles without tax or insurance and possible OPL).

5 – Fraud/Forgery (online/phone).

9 – Concern for safety.

12 – Road Traffic Collisions (minor).

2 – Criminal damage.

2 – Civil disputes.

2 – Lost/Found.

4 – Wildlife/Poaching.

5 – Theft.

2 – Anti social behaviour nuisance.

1 – Burglary.

In total 143 calls were received reporting either the above or making general enquiries.