

Minutes of the Middleham Town Council meeting held in the Garden Room, Middleham Key Centre, Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr H Byford Cllr S Watson Cllr L Skelton Cllr D Palethorpe
Cllr S Mashford Clerk Ms R Hurst PCSO D Watson
3 Members of the Public

23. 01 Public Representations/Open Forum

A resident expressed concerns over recent ongoing issues with the placement of temporary play equipment on the Green, Park Lane. The Council offered its support for the equipment to continue to be used on the condition that it was moved off the Green after the children had finished playing.

Another resident also reported concerns over the locations of the dog waste bag stations, the overgrown hedges on the plantation and the hedges down the ginnel to St Alkeldas Church.

Action – To check the contractors schedule to see if the hedges are on there and let Cllr Palethorpe know.

23. 02 Apologies – Apologies received from Cllr Burton Pye and reasons for absence approved.

23. 03 Declarations of interest and any dispensation requests – None.

23. 04 Minutes - Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 06th September 2023 were **approved** as a correct record.

23. 05 Confidential and Urgent Items and Order of Proceedings - Item 23.19 determined as confidential.

23. 06 Town Council – None.

23. 07 Christmas

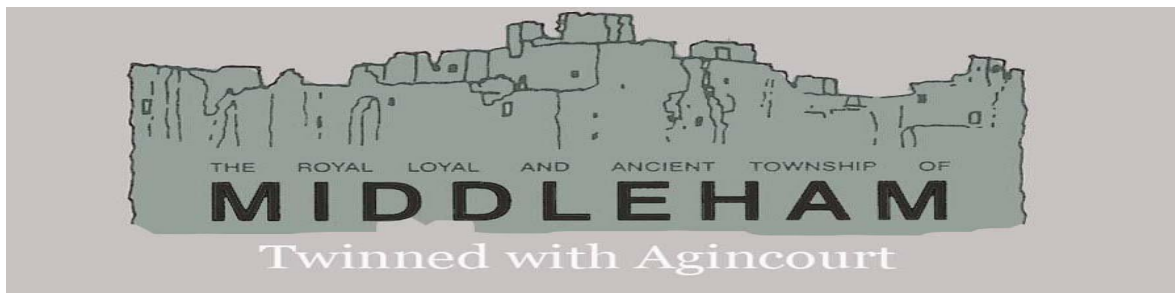
a) **Christmas Lights** – The Council discussed the quote received for the Christmas Light repairs and **resolved** to appoint Mr S Wheeler. The Council wished to express thanks to a resident who has also kindly offered to purchase the Christmas Tree for Middleham this year.

b) **Childrens Christmas Party** – The Council **resolved** to defer this matter to the November Town Council meeting for further discussion.

23. 08 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 was approached by a resident with concerns over the



large Ash Tree which lost a limb in the summer. Mr S Stockdale had been out to survey the problem and advised the tree be felled.

Action – Contact Mr Stockdale to remind him.

- c) **Police & Fire Matters** – Councillors received the monthly report and were also informed by PCSO Watson that the Rural Dales Watch messaging service was no longer active.

d) Unitary Authority

Housing Strategy Consultation – Councillors discussed the Noth Yorkshire Council Housing Strategy. Cllr Watson agreed to look at the key issues that might affect Middleham and circulate findings to Councillors.

- e) **Clerks Report** – Nothing to report.

- f) **Events in Middleham** – Christmas Lights Switch on Friday 1st December 2023 6pm, Childrens Christmas Party 16th December 2023.

23.09 Land Management Issues (Standing Item)

- a) **Pub Tables** – Councillors discussed the complaint received and confirmed that a new bin had now been put in place which the Council felt would resolve the problem with litter.

23.10 Review of Health & Safety and Environmental Matters (standing item).

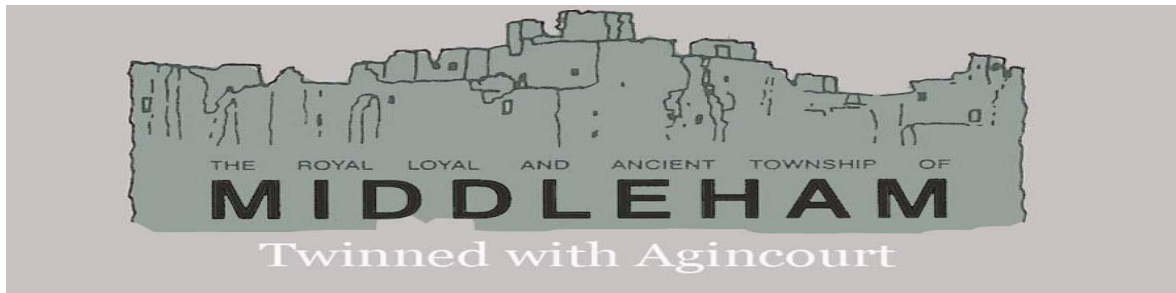
- a) **Play Areas** – The Council noted the recent inspection report and the items highlighted.
Action – To forward the section of the report relating to the Skate Park to MCSWA.
- a) **Road and Paths** – Councillors discussed the path area by the side of the tearoom which it felt was becoming overgrown with vegetation.
- b) **Environmental Matters** – Councillors discussed the complaint that had been received in relation to oil that had been found in the beck that runs through the busks.
Action – Cllr Byford to investigate and report back to Councillors.

23.11 Community Matters – None.

23.12 Remembrance Day – Councillors discussed a donation towards the Wreath for Remembrance Day and resolved to approve a donation of £100 under S137 of the Local Government Act.

23.13 Project Updates (standing item)

- a. **Burial Ground** – Nothing to report.
- b. **MSCWA** - Mr Fletcher, Secretary of the MSCWA confirmed his intentions to retire from his position as Secretary. Mr Fletcher will forward on an agenda and associated papers for the MSCWA AGM meeting due to be held in November.



c. **Funding** – Nothing to report.

d. **North Yorkshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund** – Councillors discussed the North Yorkshire UKSPF and **resolved** to see if there was anything that would be of interest to the Council.

Action – Cllr Byford to look at the documentation and report back to Councillors.

23.14 Planning Information

a. **Ref:** ZD23/00179/Full **Proposal:** Full Planning Permission for Conversion of Existing Stone Garage to Annexed Bedroom and En-suite **Location:** Springfields, Park Lane, Middleham

GRANTED

23.15 Planning Applications and Decisions – Nothing to report.

23.16 Finance (TC/IH)

a) Clerks timesheet dated 24.07.23 - 27.10.23 **approved**.

b) Invoices awaiting payment **approved**.

23.17 Suggested Agenda Items for the next meeting – Childrens Christmas Party, review Street Furniture License agreement and rental rates, Christmas Tree.

23.18 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBILC – the Council pass the following resolution:

“That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meeting) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matter on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.”

23.19 Future of the Key Centre – Confidential minutes recorded separately.

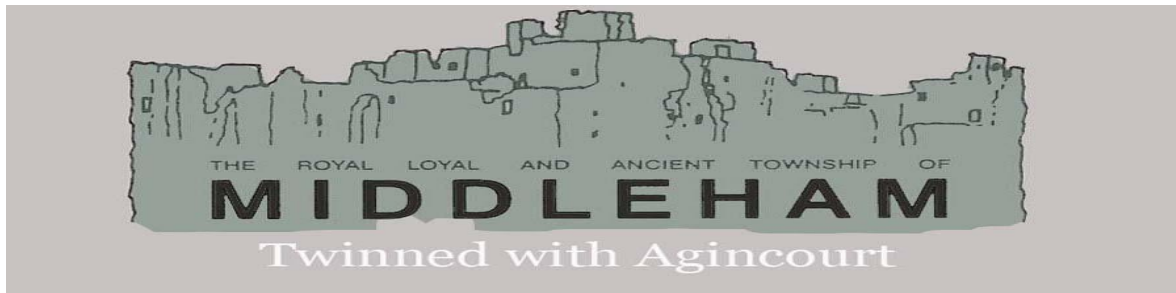
23.20 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 22nd November 2023, 6.30pm, The Garden Room, Middleham Key Centre.

APPENDIX

Signed:

Date:

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Appendix 1

[DRAFT Minutes of the Middleham Town Council Meeting held in the Garden Room 06.09.23.HB amtdsdocx](#)

Appendix 2

[Christmas Lights quote.pdf](#)

Appendix 3

Monthly Police Report – September 8th – October 7th

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 19th Sep Theft of GPS system and Tablet screen from a tractor in the Garriston area. 10th Sep report received of Theft of Quad bike and 3 x Air Source Heaters from Middleham area.

2 – Road Traffic Collision (Serious)

13 – RTC (Minor)

2 – Fraud (On Line)

12 – Concern for Safety

2 – Wildlife (Raptors) possibly persecution

20 – Violence

16 – Suspicious Circumstances (sus vehicles or persons)

9 – Road related offences (manner of driving/vehicles without tax or insurance)

2 – Theft

2 - Criminal Damage

2 – Lost/Found property

1 – Burglary

3 – Anti Social Behaviour (nuisance)

1 – ASB (personal)

1 – Missing Person

In total 142 calls were received reporting either the above or making General enquiries. The Team continue attending Parish/Town council meeting sand local Community groups, duties permitting.

You can sign up to North Yorkshire Community messaging by visiting the NYP site, or if you wish contact me, Donald.watson@northyorkshire.police.uk, providing your First Name, Last Name, House Number/Name. Postcode, Mobile number and email address and I will sign you up.

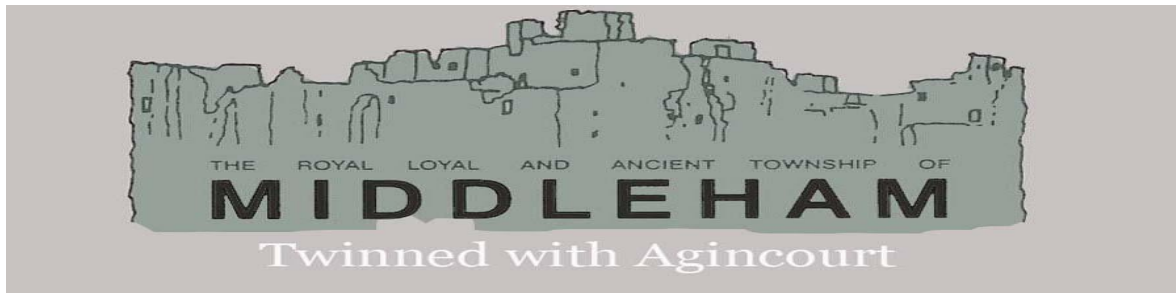
Stop Scams UK. Call 159 if you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details – stop, hang up and 159 to speak directly to your Bank. It works in the same way as 101 for the Police or 111for the NHS.

If you ARE REPORTING AN INCIDENT PLEASE REPORT VIA THE Force Control Room on 101 or 999 for Emergency.

Signed:

Date:

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PCSO 5232 Don Watson, PC 355 Heather Campbell, PCSO Sharon Diamond, PCSO Tracie Taylor – Page

Appendix 4

[North Yorkshire Council Housing Strategy 2024-2029 | North Yorkshire Council](#)

Appendix 5

Hope all is well. I was wondering if you can assist with an issue with refuse from the new owners of the Dante Arms. I would like to remain anonymous with this complaint but it has been talked about with other residents too. The management of the way they are using the bins is unacceptable and I have already asked that they sort this situation out. Following a windy day there was litter all down Castle Hill which I cleared up. Bin bags not in the bins are left on the floor and animals have been getting into them. It will also be attracting rats if not sorted. Please see attached photo.

It also does not look good for Middleham visitors who walk down from the Castle to see this.

Your help will be greatly received.

Appendix 6

[5.1 Middleham Inspection sheets\(2\) - Copy](#)

Appendix 7

To follow