# Minutes to the extra ordinary meeting of MIDDLETON-ON-THE-WOLDS PARISH COUNCIL

**Held on Monday 26th July 2021 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall on Station Road, Middleton on the Wolds**

**Present: Mike Kelly (Chair); Cllr L Jones (Vice Chair); N Jones; T Walker;**

**K Bentley; Sandra Morrison (Parish Clerk)**

**Via remote platform: Cllrs J Eastwood; J Fisher; and J Pratt**

**Guests: 10 members of the public**

**1418.Apologies –** Cllr A Wilson-Dodd; P Roe

**1419. Declarations of Interest (Code of Conduct 2012)**

1. Pecuniary - none
2. Non- Pecuniary Interests – Cllr L Jones declared an interest in agenda item 3 as a member of the Embankment Group

(b) Dispensations issued -none

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**1420**. As members of the public were in attendance to discuss concerns regarding the disused railway embankment Cllr Kelly gave a brief history and explained how the volunteers that made up the original Embankment Group have retired and that the Parish Council, wishing to see continuity of the work and maintenance, are working with ERYC who own the land, to continue the work within a legal framework, along with encouraging volunteers to work under a co-ordinated response.

Meeting closed at 7.15 and opened to the public

Several members of the public addressed the council with their concerns regarding the disused railway embankment and in particular the recent signs that the Parish Council had installed. These signs were information signs and were never intended to give offence. Cllr Kelly accepted that maybe channels of communication may have been better, and apologised for any upset caused. After listening to views from the public, Cllr Kelly proposed that a new committee be formed not just for the embankment but to cover all green spaces within the parish, with volunteers working together with the parish council in conjunction with the local authority ERYC, this being in line with actions and proposals outlined in the recently updated Middleton on the Wolds Parish Plan. A member of the public present volunteered to chair this new committee which should consist of 2 parish councillors, and 4 members of the public, if such a committee be formed. It was noted that not all members of the public were in acceptance of the parish councils continued involvement.

The open green spaces within the village are owned by either the Parish Council or the local authority and the council.

Meeting reopened 8.30

**1421**.It was proposed by Cllr Bentley and seconded by Cllr Walker to dissolve the current Embankment Committee. Passed

**1422**.It was proposed by Cllr Eastwood and seconded by Cllr Walker that a Middleton on the Wolds Green Space Committee be set up in line with the Parish Plan, consisting of a chair, 2 parish councillors and, initially, 4 volunteer residents. Motion carried.

**1423.**It was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Kelly that a flyer/leaflet be drafted and distributed throughout the parish, to ask for expression of interest from volunteers wishing to become a member of the new committee. Passed

**1424**.It was agreed that the leaflet would be drafted by Cllr Kelly, and the parish clerk would organise printing, for distribution by various councillors and volunteers, with responses to be left in the Reading Rooms Post box or forwarded to the parish clerk by email, no later than the 21st July 2021.

**1425**.It was agreed that once expressions of interest have been received all interested parties will be invited to a meeting to discuss and agree the formal structure of the new committee.

**1426**.Parish clerk to contact ERYC again re embankment lease.

**1427**.Parish clerk to respond to resident’s emails.

Meeting closed to the public 8.45pm

**1428**.It was confirmed that payment of the invoice for the new playground project should be made as due, and reserves should be utilised until commuted sums funding has been paid and VAT reclaimed.

8.55 pm Meeting closed

Signed as a true record Date:

Chairman