

MIDDLETON AND SMERRILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Middleton and Smerrill Parish Council held in Middleton by Youlgrave Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 8th July 2026

Present: Cllr Lisa Bingham, Cllr Helen Brocklehurst, Cllr Dianne Jeremy (Chair) and Cllr Pat Musgrave
In attendance: Matthew Lovell (Clerk) and 2 members of the Public

Part 1 Non-confidential items

1457 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Jamie Wigley

1458 Variation of order of business and time constrained items

No items for variation.

1459 Declarations of Members Interests

No interests were required.

1460 Public Speaking

Apologies received from PCSO Anthony Boswell. DDDCllr Laura Mellstrom noted the ban on weed killer continues with strimming and hand work preferred for removing weeds and leaving unless obstructing the highway. The Local Government Review decision is still awaited.

A member of the public remarked that the County Councillor has still not appeared and it was suggested that the dates of our meetings up to the Parish elections next year be sent to encourage attendance.

1461 To confirm the Non-exempt minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 13th May 2026. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

1462 To determine which if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded_– none

1463 Planning decisions/applications received since last meeting & planning related matters

Decisions received: none

Applications returned: none

for discussion:– NP/DDD/0526/0478 Chapel House - Installation of air source heat pump

Council supports this application noting the unit will not be visible from the public highway.

Other matters: none

1464 Footpaths and Highways and related issues

DCC- the bar on the Stone Meaning seat in Roughwood Hollow has been renewed. The drain at the top of the dale has been completely cleared and awaits the next downpour. Tree down across the footpath into Bradford dale just beyond last house.

1465 Report of the Clerk/updates and Decisions:

- a) Village Assets: Playground – plaque ordered - Sponsors to be contacted once it arrives. Multiplay rope bandage to be chased from the Play Company and loose

screws to be checked on one picnic table plus the wall repair is still awaited, but otherwise the Play Inspection Report shows no remedial issues at this time. Dead wood has been pruned from the front trees and a watch will be kept on the others. Basal growth was recommended for removal and has been cleared from the playground lime trees. DDDC have put up Toilet signs to guide visitors to the public loos.

Bateman's Tomb – trees and shrubs are ready for planting once the ground is prepared. An offer to assist with planting is being explored and an accessible water supply has been offered.

b) Village Hall Management Committee report

Great success with the Welldressing, Tractors and Village Market and then Middleton Rocks. The 20th July meeting will set the events for the coming year. Several projects since the Millennium created records that need technological updates and it is planned to complete these and add to the Diane Kettle loan library to share these historic village records. 2 new members have joined but more are sought.

c) Climate and Nature Group

Thanks expressed to the group for works on the playground. The group also cleared basal growth from the village hall lime trees. The Church Garden was the recipient of the lime chippings to renew the path around the church.

Council is also appreciative of the refurbishment to give new life to the existing timber on one of the benches on the square.

The village planter has summer plans and all the public spaces continue to be cared for. The greenhouse is being used by residents to grow tomatoes peppers and cucumbers.

d) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

The Police coordinator has submitted a bid for funding for signage and assistance in the set up of the scheme. Cllr Jeremy is down as a Co-ordinator and will be joined by Cllr Bingham but others are request to ensure each corner of the village is covered.

1466 Dalc information and other e-communications

Latest bulletins received. The Chief Executive at DALC is stepping down from this roll but remaining a part of DALC for now. Cllr Jeremy to attend DALC Day 15th October

1467 Finance

Resolved to approve the following:

(a) Accounts for Payment			VAT
UB	D Bacon strimming	£65.00	
UB	HM Lovell (July salary)	£226.14	
Dirdebit	NEST (monthly)	£16.74	
UB	J Aston 6m website	£114.00	
UB	HM Lovell expenses (4month)	£29.55	
UB	N&G Tomlinson tree dead wood	£1080.00	
UB	HM Lovell (Aug salary)	£226.14	
Dirdebit	NEST (monthly)	£16.74	
UB	Unity charges x 2	£14.00	
	Total	£1788.21	

(b) Income Interest £20.98

Unity Account £6463.01	after above	£4489.62
Unity Instant access savings £4315.07		£4336.05

1468 Date of next meeting - 9th September at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Forthcoming Dates: 18th November, 2027: 20th January, 11th March, 13th May

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION none

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:10 pm