

Middleton St George Parish Council

Monday 9th February 2009
7pm – 9.30pm

Present: Councillors – D Jones (Chair), B Jones, M Beadle, A Hill, J Quick
Clerk: C Dawson

PC Brown. Darlington Police

James Gilby. Youth Leader

Dave Bennett Youth Group Chairman

M Holmes, J Elmer, M Walker. MSG & District Allotment & Gardens Association

Cllr D Jones asked members to approve the Exemption Items at the end of the Agenda as a closed meeting

Resolved: All members approved

1 Apologies for Absence

Councillors: I Dodds, M Miller, M Walker, R Maybrey, S York

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hill declared an interest in Item 8.2 and Planning Application for 17 The Beeches

3 Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as a true record.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Storage Facility – Cllr B Jones although costs for lining a container were being investigated and alternative solution would be to extend the Model Boat Club building.

Resolved: Cllrs D Jones, A Hill and Clerk C Dawson to have site meeting with a builder to decide specification for Tender.

4.2 Weed Control – Cllrs considered a request from the Model Boat Club for financial contribution to the cost of weed control.

Resolved: Cllrs agreed to contribute £150 + vat to the Model Boat Club costs

4.3 Traffic System Feedback. Cllrs acknowledged an email from Darlington Borough Council apologising and in terms of completing the process, Mr Casey will complete the report and call a final closure meeting of the Residents Group to discuss the final content, then report to DBC and the Parish Council.

Resolved: This item to stay on future agendas

5 Police Report

PC Brown reported the following incidents – 2 burglaries from garages, 2 assaults, 1 stolen vehicle and 4 rowdy nuisance.

PC Brown reported that since their increased attendance out side the school responsible parking had improved.

PC Brown also stated that he had carried out 7 foot patrols.

Cllr J Quick informed PC Brown that there were still parking issues at Oaktree.

Cllr A Hill stated that he would like to see foot patrols one day a month.

6 Planning Applications

No comments were made on the following planning applications:

5 The Willows, MSG – Erection of rear conservatory

17 The Beeches, MSG – Erection of single storey extension

Ernest Bennett & Co Ltd, DTVAirport. – Modification of planning consent dated 20.5.08

7 Playing Field

7.1 Health & Safety Report – the report was not signed

7.2 Councillors acknowledged a letter from Low Dinsdale Parish Council with regard to their contribution to the Playing Field equipment

Resolved: If the Contractor who quoted for the replacement of this equipment can still offer the same price the Parish Council will go ahead with the replacement.

7.3 Councillors considered the Ground Maintenance Contract cost of £6492.67

Resolved: Cllrs accepted the contract cost

8 Water Park

8.1 Cllr D Jones reported that a meeting with Groundwork has been arranged for 24th February to discuss funding for the Water park development. Cllr D Jones stated that £10k grant had been awarded for the nature reserve and Northumbrian Water had donated £3k towards the general project.

8.2 Motorcycle Training. Councillors discussed the use of the old tennis court for the Motor Cycle Training.

Resolved: Charges for half day session would be £10 per session and must not to be held during school holidays or weekends.

8.3 Youth Club Funding. J Gilbey (Youth Leader) discussed with Cllrs the installation of a telephone in the Youth Club. Cllr D Jones requested that a representative of the Parish Council should be on the Youth Forum .

J Gilbey also asked for Youth Club money be handled by the Parish Council

Resolved: Councillors agreed that the cost of telephone installation would be paid for out of the Youth capital funds.

Parish Council representative to be Cllr S York

Parish Clerk to accept Youth Club funds and record through the Parish Council bank account.

9 Killinghall Allotments.

9.1 M Holmes (Allotment Association) explained to Councillors that security of tenure was required for Killinghall and Belle Vue, and Deed of Ownership was required for Sadberge Road, in order to obtain funding. Cllr B Jones suggested that the Parish Council write to the landowners to ask for 12 years security of tenure.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Landowners and ask for security of tenure.

Clerk to obtain Deed of Ownership from Land Registry

9.2 Cllrs acknowledged the letter from a resident but were unable to reply as the letter was anonymous. Cllr B Jones suggested that the Parish Council write to Public Rights of Way at Darlington Borough Council in support of the Allotment Association to ask if the stile could be reinstated.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Public Rights of Way, Darlington Borough Council.

10 Street Lighting and Hedges approaching Virginia Estate.

Cllr J Quick explained that residents were concerned on safety grounds about the lack of lighting and overgrown hedges between the railway bridge and the Virginia Estate.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Darlington Borough Council and ask them to look at the problem.

11 DTVAirport. Cllr D Jones gave feedback from the Airport Consultative Committee Meeting.

<p>12 Middleton One Row. Cllr M Beadle asked if the footpath on The Front from the pump house down towards the river could be restored. Resolved: Clerk to contact Community Services and ask if they would be interested in this as a project.</p>
<p>13 Code of Conduct Training. Cllr B Jones explained that training can be organized for all to attend but no dates were arranged as yet. Resolved: Clerk to write to Darlington Borough Council stating that Cllrs would attend training if it were to be arranged.</p>
<p>14 Website. Cllrs discussed the present website. Resolved: Cllr A Hill agreed to oversee the website content and work with the Webmaster.</p>
<p>15 Financial 15.1 Cllrs accepted the statement of accounts. 15.2 Payments approved as follows: Npower £532.13 M Palfreman Ground Maintenance £1545.87 Groundwork West Durham & Darlington £1150 Thorn Welding £92.00 Clerks salary £421.33 Lynn (litter Picker) £509.60 Wheeler (litter picker) £243.95 15.3 Budget figures were discussed and additional costing were discussed Resolved: Clerk to update the budget for the next meeting</p>
<p>16 Litter Picking. Cllrs discussed the litter picking provision in view of the resignation of the one Litter Picker. Resolved: Remaining Litter Picker to take over all Litter Picking duties. Clerk to ask Ferryhill Angling Club for a toilet key for the Litter Picker</p>
<p>17 Filing Cabinet. Cllrs discussed the need for a filing cabinet. Resolved: Clerk to order a 3 drawer filing cabinet at cost of £77+vat</p>
<p>18 Correspondence was noted.</p>
<p>19 Exemption Item. Cllrs discussed amendments to Agendas & Minutes, and dealing with complaints. Resolved: All letters to and from the Parish Council to be listed on agendas. Revised format for minutes. Salary payments to be listed in minutes Complaints to be listed and discussed at meetings and Cllrs to request issues arising from complain to be added to next agenda. The Chairman stated that it has to be the Clerk who will carry out the Health & Safety Weekly Playground Inspection when the Litter Picker leaves.</p>

Next Meeting Monday 9th March 2009

Signed.....

Date.....