

Middleton St George Parish Council

Date: Monday 9th March 2009 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: D Jones, S York, B Jones, M Beadle, A Hill, J Quick, M Walker, R Maybrey
C Dawson, J McBride – Clerks
D Roberts – Press
Inspector Louise Guest, PC Julian Brown – Darlington Police
Simon Clayton, Colleen Brown – NHS Darlington

1 Apologies for Absence

M Miller, I Dodds

2 Declarations of Interest

None

3 Presentation of the new NHS website.

The Chairman moved this item down the Agenda after Matter Arising from Minutes. Simon Clayton & Colleen Brown explained the new website. Members put forward suggestions they would like to be included.

4 Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

The Chairman welcomed the new Clerk – Mrs Joyce McBride - who will start on 1st April 09

5 Matters Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Cllr B Jones reported that an extension to the Model Boat Club house would be too expensive. Cllr Walker suggested using the redundant toilet building at Middleton One Row.

Resolved: Cllr D Jones to investigate feasibility of using the toilet building and Cllr B Jones still to investigate the cost and lining of a container.

5.2 Cllr D Jones stated that a report from Darlington Borough Council following the final closure meeting of the Traffic Control Group was expected in April and should be added to the next agenda.

5.4 The Clerk reported that Title documents had now been obtained and forwarded to the Allotment Association. Cllrs agreed that grants for the allotments could be applied for in the name of the Parish Council instead of the Allotment Association.

5.5 Cllr D Jones reported that after a site visit Darlington Borough Council were now looking into restoring the stile at Belle Vue beside the chemist shop.

5.6 Hedges & Lighting between MSG and Virginia Estate - Darlington Borough Council had emailed to say that land owners were being asked to cut back the hedges but there was not enough funding to install lighting as requested.

5.7 Cllr M Beadle reported that after a site meeting Community Services were checking out the right of way at Middleton One Row, and looking at funding then they will come back to the Parish Council with a cost.

5.8 Code of Conduct Training

Resolved: Cllr D Jones stated that the new Clerk and 1 Councillor should attend the Ethical Governance Workshop on 8th May 09 (J McBride & Cllr M Beadle)

5.9 The Clerk reported that Ferryhill Angling Club would arrange to give the Litter Warden a toilet key

6 Police Report

PC Brown reported that there had been 13 crimes in the last month which included 3 stolen vehicles, 3 burglaries, 1 arson, 2 criminal damage, 2 domestic assault, 2 rowdy nuisance.

Inspector L Guest explained the new PACT (Partners & Communities Together) with Darlington Communities giving communities the chance to meet with officers on a monthly basis to discuss local issues. Meetings would be held in Middleton St George.

Resolved: Cllr D Jones and Inspector Guest to arrange.

Cllr A Hill asked for the Police Report section on the website to be updated by the Police.

7 Planning Applications

Mown Meadows, 64 Middleton lane, MSG, DL2 1AD – Cllrs objected to this application on the grounds of cumulative impact on the conservation area as laid down by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

8 Playing Field

8.1 Health & Safety Report

The report was not signed

8.2 Cllrs discussed the revised quotation for the replacement of the Space Net.

Contributions to fund this are – Youth Trust £3750 & Low Dinsdale Parish Council £3000

Resolved: The quote was accepted and contractor to be asked to proceed.

9 Water Park

9.1. Cllr D Jones gave feedback from the Water park Subgroup meeting and reported that the nature reserve was now starting. Also the group was now working on the large grant application.

9.2 Cllr B Jones reported that CCTV was now installed at the Model Boat Club

9.3 Quotations for the exterior painting and replacement fascia board were opened.

Resolved: Copies to be sent to all members and discussed at next meeting

10 Best of Darlington Awards. Cllr B Jones reported on the Awards Ceremony.

Middleton St George received Award in Environment Section for work in the Water Park. Cllr B Jones proposed the certificate should be framed.

Resolved: Frame to be purchased

11 Financial

11.1 Cllrs accepted the statement of accounts

11.2 The following payments were approved

Tele Aerials (Aerial mast for Youth Club) £250

Meirhosting (Renewal of Website domain name) £9.98

Ultimate Security (CCTV in Water park) £3650

Wrights Office Supplies £88.55

Postage & Land Registry fees £7.17

Salaries – Wheeler £229.60, Dawson £421.33, Lynn £458.52

Shaw & Sons £11.75

11.3 Cllrs discussed the budget and amended as necessary

12 Cllr J Quick reported that some residents at Oaktree had allowed shrubs and hedges to obstruct the roads.

Resolved: Clerk to ask StreetScene to inspect the area.

13 Correspondence

Middleton Rangers request for funding.

Resolved: Clerk to ask Middleton Rangers for a copy of audited accounts and add to next agenda.

Great North Air Ambulance request for funding

Resolved: Clerk to send a donation of £150

All other correspondence was acknowledged without further actions.

14 Date of the next meeting – Cllrs discussed the date as the usual time falls on Easter Monday.

Resolved: The date of the next meeting will be Monday 6th April 09

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....