

# Middleton St George Parish Council

**Date: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 7pm**

**Present:** Councillors: D Jones, S York, B Jones, M Beadle, J Quick, M Walker, R Maybrey, M Miller  
J McBride, C Dawson – Clerks  
D Roberts – Press  
PC Julian Brown – Darlington Police  
Patrick Holms – Middleton Rangers  
Maz Holmes – Allotment Society

## **1 Apologies for Absence**

A. Hill, I Dodds

## **2 Declarations of Interest**

Mark Miller declared an interest in Middleton Rangers

## **3 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved.

## **4 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**4.1** Cllr D Jones reported that she had approached the Darlington Town Hall Directors with a view to using the redundant toilet building at Middleton One Row as a storage facility. They agreed subject to inspection and the condition that it be shared with Sadberge Parish Council. Councillors agreed to take as a storage area.

**Resolved:** Cllr D Jones to liaise with Darlington Town Hall Directors for their inspection and approval of use of the toilet building as a storage area.

**4.2** Cllr D Jones informed the meeting that restoration of steps at Middleton One Row cannot be carried out due to subsidence.

**4.3** Cllr J Quick reported that with regard to overgrown shrubs at Oaktree Estate hedges had now been cleared but one tree is still overhanging, as this is privately owned the Parish Council cannot enforce cutting back.

**4.4** Cllr D Jones showed copies of a report from Darlington Borough Council on the Middleton St. George traffic system. She gave a summary and reported that the chicane at the top of Middleton Lane would be replaced by a hump. However as funding is a problem, with funding criteria being based on accidents this is still ongoing and will go to the Public for suggestions.

**4.5** Copies of the Middleton Rangers accounts were distributed with regard to their request for football strip funding. Mr. Holms, a member of the club, explained to the meeting that 10 to 20% of the children are from outside the MSG/Dinsdale area. Whilst subscriptions contribute there is still a shortfall. Councillors, who are obliged to view accounts before donations are given, discussed the Middleton Rangers accounts that were submitted, noted that they were incomplete and have written to the Club to ask further questions.

**Resolved:** Clerk to put the questions in writing to Mr. Dave Watson.

**4.6** Cllr D Jones reported that the Litter Warden now has a key to the Water Park toilets.

**4.7** Cllr D Jones reported that the Education Department has now paid for Broadband requested by the Youth Club.

## **6 Police Report**

PC Brown reported that there had been 11 crimes in the last month which included 3 criminal damage, 3 burglaries, 1 arson, 2 thefts from motor vehicles, 1 theft of pedal cycle, 1 domestic assault, and that there had been 3 incidents of a rowdy nature reported including paintball fired at houses.

Cllr D Jones reminded that Police issues could be discussed at the new PACT (Partners & Communities Together) monthly meeting on 22Apr09 at 6.30pm in Middleton St George School.

## **7 Planning Applications**

**08/00773/OUT Yarm Road, MSG.** Outline planning permission for 36 residential dwellings – The Parish Council objected on the grounds of a) outside the development area, b) would add to Health and Safety issues, c) speeding and danger to cars accessing d) MSG infrastructure, e.g. Dr.'s Surgery, School, Sewage, traffic congestion, etc., cannot support any more housing.

**Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/N1350/C/09/2093793** – Enforcement Appeal Re: Field at MSG. – letter sent by Clerk C. Dawson on 30Mar09 to the Planning Inspectorate supporting DBC's refusal.

No comments were made on the following applications:

**09/00115/TF** Low Middleton Hall, MSG DL2 1AX – Work to trees protected under Tree Preservation Order (No4) 1986

**09/00125/FUL 17** The Greenway, MSG DL2 1EB – Erection of single storey lean to extension (porch) to front of property

**08/00904/FUL** Formation of a new vehicular access to Lancaster House (amended information received 20 March 2009)

## **8 Playing Field**

### **8.1 Health & Safety Report**

The report was signed

**8.2** Cllrs were informed of a letter from MSG Youth Trust reducing the amount of their donation towards replacement of the Space Net from £3750 to £3500 due to estimated bank interest falling well short of the amount anticipated. The contractor has been asked to proceed.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to chase up the contractor after the Easter holidays.

## **9 Water Park**

A further quotation has been received for the exterior painting and replacement fascia board. Cllrs discussed and agreed that replacement Upvc is preferred to painting the existing woodwork.

**Resolved:** Hold discussion until after the Year End accounts and the new year precept is in.

## **10 Allotments**

A reply from Mrs. Storey was read out setting out her request for security of the allotments to be addressed before giving security of tenure.

**Resolved:** The Allotment Association to liaise with the landlords on allotments security then come back to the Parish Council once this has been settled.

## **11 Financial**

**11.1** Cllrs accepted the statement of accounts

**11.2** The following payments were approved:

<p>Climb n Slide £6465  TV Licence Youth Group (from Youth Club’s own Funds) £139.50  Gt North Air Ambulance £150  Meirhosting (website hosting) £11.99  Salaries – 2 Litter Pickers £258.30 and £509.60, Clerk £537.31</p> <p><b>11.3</b> Payments coming in:  DBC 2009-10 Grant &amp; Precept £28,454</p>
<p><b>12 Correspondence</b>  Ethical Governance Workshop – Cllr B.Jones has secured a further 2 places for the half day Workshop on 8<sup>th</sup> May and asked for volunteers to join Cllr M. Beadle and Clerk J. McBride  <b>Resolved:</b> Cllr B Jones to secure further places on the course for Cllr M. Miller and himself.  Two permission requests to use the football pitch.  <b>Resolved:</b> Playground sub-group to deal with to ensure coordination  Model Boat Club letter suggesting rent and electricity increases  <b>Resolved:</b> Clerk to reply agreeing with suggested increases.  All other correspondence was acknowledged without further actions.</p>
<p><b>13 Date of the next meeting</b> – Cllrs discussed the date and time as it is the AGM.  <b>Resolved:</b> The date of the next meetings will be Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 09 as follows:  6.30pm – Annual Parish meeting  Followed by – Annual Parish Council meeting  Followed by – Ordinary Parish Council meeting</p>

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....