

Middleton St George Parish Council

Date: Monday 11th May 2009 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: D Jones, S York, B Jones, M Beadle, J Quick, M Walker, M Miller, I Dodds, A Hill
J McBride – Clerk
L Pyrah – Press
PC J Brown – Darlington Police
D Watson, L Hughes – Middleton Rangers
M Holmes – Allotment Society
S Shaw – spokesperson Belle Vue Allotments
M McBride, M Turnbull – MSG residents

1. Apologies for Absence

R Maybrey

2. Declarations of Interest

Mark Miller declared an interest in item 4.c. Middleton Rangers

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.a. Cllr D Jones reported that discussion on a storage facility be suspended until Item 6 MOR public toilets question had been resolved

4.b. Cllr D Jones gave a brief overview of the last Traffic system meeting.

4.c. Parish Councillors requested that Mr. D Watson provide them with up to date full accounts for Middleton Rangers howing the balance to date. Mr. D Watson explained that they would not be available until 1st July when they were audited. Cllr D Jones requested that he provide Parish Councillors with his audited accounts in July but in advance of the Parish Council meeting.

Resolved: Mr. D Watson to provide the Clerk with Middleton Rangers up to date audited accounts in advance of the 6th July Parish Council meeting.

4.d. Cllr D Jones proposed that we go out for tender again for quotations on decorating exterior and replacing facia on Parish Council Meeting Room.

Resolved: Cllr D Jones and Clerk to write out new letter of specification.

5. Police Report

PC Brown reported that there had been 26 crimes in the last month which included 12 lots of lead taken from roofs at St. Georges Gate in one night, 3 criminal damage, 2 burglaries, 1 bogus caller theft, 5 thefts from motor vehicles, 2 general thefts, 1 burglary other (shed)

Cllr D Jones reminded that Police issues could be discussed at the new PACT (Partners & Communities Together) monthly meeting.

Cllr A Hill asked whether the Police Report could be given at the PACT meeting only where there was opportunity to discuss in detail. He also reminded PC Brown that the website on Police needs updating.

Resolved: Police Reports to be given only at PACT meetings and not at Parish Council meetings in future. Also that PC Brown would arrange for the Police section on the website be updated.

6. Mr. M McBride raised the question of the public toilets at MOR which had been closed for over a year depriving various groups, e.g. Teesdale Way walkers, cyclists, visitors to the area, as well as residents. Discussion took place with regards to DBC withdrawal of funding and costs of refurbishing then maintaining.

Resolved: M McBride to investigate costs. Ward Councillors D Jones, S York and B Jones to take up the issue with DBC, letter of support from Parish Council to be sent to DBC.

7 Planning Applications – the meeting was advised of the following notices from DBC:

- 08/00904/FUL** Formation of a new vehicular access to Lancaster House (amended information received 20 March 2009) – permission granted subject to certain planning conditions.
- b. **09/00084/FUL** Erection of 2 No. detached residential dwellings, Mown Meadow, 64 Middleton Lane – refused.
- c. **09/00115/TF** Tree Preservation Order Grant, Low Middleton Hall – granted.
- d. **08/00773/OUT** Proposed Housing Development, Yarm Road, MSG – considered at meeting of 06May09.
- e. **Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/N1350/C/09/2093793** – Enforcement Appeal Re: Field at MSG – pending Public Inquiry 2 days 25-26Aug09.
- f. **09/00125/FUL** Erection of porch to front of 17 The Greenway, MSG – granted subject to certain conditions.

8 Playing Field

8.a. Health & Safety Report

The report was signed

8.b. Re. Space Net Replacement Cllr D Jones has followed up with the Contractors Climb ‘n’ Slide who say they will be starting work in the next few weeks.

9. Water Park

Minutes of Sub-Committee meeting on 08Apr09 were accepted.

10. Allotments

Mrs. S. Shaw reported on discussion with Mrs. Storey who feels she should be talking to the Parish Council not the Allotment Association, she requires security to be improved before she will give security of tenure.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Mrs. Storey asking for meeting between Mrs. Storey, her sister, Cllr D. Jones and two representatives of allotments, M. Holmes and S. Shaw.

11. Requests for help

11.a. Cllrs M Miller and I Dodds volunteered to put boxes in attic

11.b. Mr. M McBride volunteered to take cover off water fountain at MOR and store in his back garden.

12. Financial

12.a. Cllrs requested individual copies of statement of accounts be sent out by Clerk. In answer to a question by the Clerk they confirmed that reconciliations be performed monthly and not quarterly.

Resolved: Clerk to send out Statement of Accounts to Parish Councillors for their approval at the next meeting on 08Jun09.

12.b. The following payments were approved:

- Northumbrian Water Sadberge Road £8.53 (direct debit)
 - BT Youth Club telephone line installation £78.00

- British Gas £213.89
- Post Office Redirection £26.00
- 3Q Sports – Youth Club football strip £486.83
- Picture Framing & Refreshments Calor Village Competition £40.98
- Stationery Calor Village Competition £93.30
- SEM Electrical Ltd. Christmas Tree £205.39
- Complete Weed Control £172.50
- Scanner, stationery, postage £88.71
- Internal Auditor year ended 31Mar09 £150.00
- Printer Cartridges, £47.99
- M. Palfreman Ground Maintenance Contract £1545.87
- Charminster Developments dated 10Sep08 £31,804.58
(NB See Internal Auditor Report below)
- Wages – Litter Picker £486.59, Parish Clerk £413.33

12.c. Payments coming in:

- MSG Healthcare (Affinity) donation to the Youth Club £500.00 to be posted into Youth Club account.
- Allotment payments £990.00

12.d. Bank Signatory Change Forms – were completed by all bank signatories

12. e. Internet Banking Forms – were completed by 5 bank signatories

12. f. Internal Auditor Report – was accepted

12. g. Annual Return Statement of Accounts - was presented by the Clerk and accepted by all Cllrs. The Audit form was signed by the Chairman

12. h. Annual Governance Statement - was agreed and completed by all Cllrs and signed by the Chairman.

12. i. Mencap donation request – was refused

12 Correspondence

Ethical Governance Workshop – Cllr M. Miller gave an overview of the Workshop held on 08May09 and attended by himself, Cllr B. Jones and Clerk J McBride.

All other correspondence was acknowledged without further actions.

13 Date of the next meeting – is Monday 8th June 2009.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....