

Middleton St George Parish Council

Date: Monday 12th October 2009 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: Doris Jones (Chair), Brian Jones, Mark Miller, Jeff Quick, Maggie Beadle.

Joyce McBride - Clerk

Dave Roberts - Press

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Steve York, Martin Walker, Andy Hill, Ian Dodds, Rhys Maybrey

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th September were approved as a true record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.a. Tender for decorating of exterior of Parish meeting room - in abeyance.

4.b. Notice Boards at The Front, MOR – ordering of a new noticeboard for The Front was approved with refurbishment of existing noticeboard held in abeyance.

4.c. Conversion of MOR public toilets to a storage area has commenced.

4.d. The Clerk updated that a form has been obtained from Durham Land Registry to investigate the ownership of all land in front of the Devonport up to edge of highway.

Resolved: Clerk to include rough sketch showing exactly the footpath and carpark area under investigation in addition to sending O.S. marked map.

4.e. Discussion took place over MOR footpaths cleared by NWA volunteers.

Resolved: Clerk to write to DBC asking for large, dead tree hindering easy access to footpath by river at bottom of steps, MOR, to be removed and to write to Jane Moreland, NWA, thanking them for their work.

5. Discussion on Walkabout, The Railway Bridge, MSG

See Addendum for Minutes of Parish Council Walkabout Meeting held at 6pm 12Oct09.

6. Planning Applications - No Comment on any of the following:

6.a. 09/00598/FUL Erection of single storey dining room extension to east elevation, Thoburn Lodge, MSG Hospital.

6.b. 09/00603/FUL Notification carry out tree works in a conservation area – Felling 4 No. Leylandii Trees at 19 Church Lane.

6.c. 09/00619/FUL Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of garden room to rear at 9 Hill Rise.

6.d. 09/00664/FUL Erection of single storey extension at side and rear of The Briars

6.e. 09/00505/FUL Installation of solar panel, 10 The Front, MOR

6.f. 09/00676/DC Erection 10 No. Apartments & associated car parking & landscaping, potential residential development site, Dinsdale Close.

7. Christmas Tree and Lights

7.a. Rota needs to be set up to supervise between 8.30am and 4pm on Friday 04Dec09. Cllrs. Walker and Beadle requested early slots.

Resolved: Clerk to send out email requesting which 2 hours each member can cover.

7.b. Discussion took place over names to assist in switching on the lights and a brass band to play at the event.

<p>Resolved: Cllr. D Jones to liaise with MSG school re. their nomination of a pupil to switch on lights and to liaise with Darlington schools re. a brass band to play at the event.</p>
<p>8. Playing Field 8.a. Cllr B. Jones signed the Health and Safety report. 8.b. Discussion took place over DBC’s inspection of the playground Resolved: Cllr. D. Jones to contact Climb’n’Slide re. their review done in August09.</p>
<p>9. Allotments. 9.a. Cllr. D. Jones observed that as the number of people keeping chickens on the Belle Vue site was growing this needed to be closely monitored by Sub-Committee members. 9.b. Cllr. Walker reported via email to the Clerk that the allotment society needed to submit their grant application by end of September. 9.c. The Clerk updated that none of those replying to letters requesting them to share their full size allotments with others on the waiting list had agreed. 9.d. Cllr. D. Jones requested that continuing high water usage bills be investigated at the next sub-committee meeting. Resolved: Cllr. Beadle to raise at next sub-committee meeting.</p>
<p>10. Water Park Cllr. D. Jones updated that we were through to Stage 2 on the large grant application.</p>
<p>11. Financial 11.a. The quarterly statement of accounts were accepted. 11.b. The following payments were approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.M.A. Short Restoration Alan Walker bench £75.00 • The Devonport refreshments NWA workforce £87.57 includes VAT • Postage and 4 full sets colour printer cartridges £32.19 includes VAT • Wages – Litter Picker £486.59, Parish Clerk £421.33 11.c. Payments coming in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDPC contribution to Space Net replacement (25%) £2,357.50 11.d. Internal audit will be carried out by Cllr. Miller 11.e. External audit – Clerk updated that the BDO further requested information had been sent off in time to meet their initial deadline of 09Oct09. 11.f. 2010 Budget – members were requested to bring their budget forecasts for next year to the next meeting. Cllr. Miller suggested that an agreed set amount for charitable donations be included. Resolved: Clerk to write to all absent members requesting they bring budget forecasts to the next meeting.</p>
<p>12. Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion took place on the Royal Mail redirection expiry letter Resolved: Clerk to renew Royal Mail redirection for another 6 months. • Cllr. B. Jones informed that we had been awarded a plaque by the Tees Valley Rural Community Council for the Best Rural Community Group for Darlington. • All other correspondence was acknowledged without further actions. </p>
<p>13. Date of the next meeting – Monday 9th November 2009</p>

Signed..... (Chair) Date.....