

# Middleton St George Parish Council

**Date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Doris Jones (Chair), Brian Jones, Rhys Maybrey, Jeff Quick, Maggie Beadle.

Joyce McBride - Clerk

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Steve York, Martin Walker, Andy Hill, Ian Dodds, Mark Miller

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October were approved as a true record.

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

**4.a.** Tender for decorating exterior of Parish mtg. room - in abeyance until next Spring.

**4.b.** Notice Board at The Front, MOR – new noticeboard for The Front has been fitted.

**4.c.** Cllr. B. Jones informed that the plaque awarded by Tees Valley Rural Community Council for the Best Rural Community Group for Darlington was now on the Parish Meeting Room wall.

**4.d.** The Clerk updated that Durham Land Registry had returned three Title Nos. related to land in front of the Devonport up to edge of highway, which in turn have been investigated with two Title No. owners found but problems with the third title number await further investigation by the Land Registry.

**Resolved:** Clerk to further contact Land Registry setting out problems to date and requesting urgent investigation of the third title number.

## **5. Planning Applications - No Comment on the following:**

**5.a. 09/00699/FUL** Erection of a garage to side of 25A Church Lane

## **6. Christmas Tree and Lights**

**6.a.** Rota needs to be set up to supervise between 8.30am and 4pm on Friday 04Dec09. Cllr. D. Jones will let all know if and when required.

**Resolved:** Cllr. D. Jones will let Parish Councillors know if and when they are required.

**6.b.** Discussion took place over a brass band to play at the event.

**Resolved:** Cllr. D. Jones to liaise with Hurworth school re. a brass band to play at the event.

**6.c.** Cllr. D. Jones updated that a request had been received from Mr. Taylor of 2 Archer Road to have a Christmas Tree on The Front, Middleton-One-Row. It was agreed that although too late for this year £5K will be allocated in next year's budget for a tree.

**Resolved:** Clerk to let Mr. Taylor know of decision.

## **7. Playing Field**

**7.a.** Cllr B. Jones signed the Health and Safety report.

**7.b.** The Clerk updated that written and phone requests to Climb'n'Slide had not yet resulted in their carrying out their identified remedial work. Discussion took place over DBC's inspection of the playground and Climb'n'Slide's lack of remedial work to date.

**Resolved:** Cllr. D. Jones to contact DBC re. problems with removed baby swing and obtain quotation for them to take over H&S survey.

## **8. Allotments.**

Cllr. Beadle gave an update on the Allotments Sub-Committee Minutes. Discussion over costs and the long waiting list took place with suggestions for next year including:

**8.a.** Increasing rents

**8.b.** Charging for anyone using hose pipes/sprinklers.

**8.c.** Policing the rules more closely including looking at taking allotments away from people who do not maintain them.

**8.d.** Forms to be filled in by all allotment holders at next year's rent collection of any changes or proposed changes, this to be held in the Community Centre with extra tables and chairs and the Allotment Sub-Committee present to answer questions.

## **9. Water Park**

Cllr. D. Jones updated that we were through to Stage 2 on the £170K lottery fund grant application and that Lisa Kwok is setting up a meeting to gather advice on how best to advance further.

## **10. Financial**

**10.a.** The following **payments** were approved:

- Northumbria Water (DD) – Killinghall allotments £79.52
- Northumbria Water (DD) – Sadberge allotments £51.97
- Northumbria Water (DD) – Belle Vue allotments £40.04
- Land Registry Search £5.00
- Postage to BDO and PO Redirection 6 months £52.66
- Npower electricity payment (DD) £208.68
- HMRC – Employers PAYE qtr. end Sep09 £30.84
- M. Palfreman, Grounds Maintenance Jul-Sep09 £1623.15
- 16GB Flash drive (Amazon) to backup computer files £22.50
- DBC – legal fees out of 106 money £404.88
- MSG Community Association, Gas payment £24.19
- Whitehill Direct Ltd., Noticeboard The Front MOR £616.40
- HM Land Registry, search of 3 Title Nos, The Front MOR £24.00
- War Memorial Wreath - £20.00.
- Wages – Litter Picker £516.94, Parish Clerk £421.33

**10.b. Payments** coming in:

- DBC Payments towards Litter Picker - £2,800.00
- HMRC VAT repayment - £429.66

**10.c.** Cllr. D. Jones expressed appreciation for Cllr. Miller carrying out the Internal audit.

**10.d. 2010 Budget** – members discussed their budget forecasts for next year.

## **11. Correspondence**

All correspondence was acknowledged without further actions, including an anonymous letter which cannot be acted upon.

**12. Date of the next meeting** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009

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