

# Middleton St George Parish Council

**Date: Monday 6th April 2010 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Doris Jones (Chair), Martin Walker, Maggie Beadle, Andy Hill  
Joyce McBride - Clerk

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Steve York, Rhys Maybrey, Mark Miller, Brian Jones, Ian Dodds,  
Jeff Quick

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

None

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March were approved as a true record.

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

**4a.** Notice Board refurbishment at The Front, MOR – Mr. A. Short is now refurbishing.

**4b.** Millenium seat – Mr. A. Short will refurbish insitu in May when weather is drier.

**4c.** Cummins Tidy up half day, The Front, MOR – Cllrs. Walker, Beadle and the Clerk met with two Cummins representatives to discuss details. It was agreed that the hire or purchase of miscellaneous tools, e.g. brush cutter, up to the value of £200 be left to the discretion of Cllrs. Walker and Beadle. Cllr. D. Jones requested that the Clerk cease involvement due to her excessive average hours over the year.

**4d.** Ground Maintenance Contract Renewal – the Clerk referred to the 3 year Contract received from Mr. Palfreman and read out correspondence from him detailing work to be done at The Front, MOR.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to write to Mr. Palfreman agreeing to his new 3 year Contract and accepting the alternative work offered in lieu of hogweed control.

**4e.** MSG Scout donation request – discussion over the received accounts resulted in agreement to make a £100 donation.

## **5. Playing Field**

**5a.** Cllr. Walker signed the Health and Safety report.

**5b.** Playground Sub-Committee meeting Minutes were approved.

**5c.** Cllr. D. Jones to follow up with DBC on the missing baby swing.

## **6. Allotments**

**6a.** Cllr. Walker was presented with an attendance certificate for the Allotments Course and gave meeting members a summary of the course, including a proposal that all allotments holders be asked to self-manage in line with most other allotment holders across the country

**Resolved:** Cllr. Walker to introduce self-management proposal at the allotment rent collection day on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**6b.** The Clerk updated that the water leak at Sadberge Road allotments had been fixed by the second set of plumbers to attend, with a stopcock installed.

**6c.** Parish Councillors read a letter with attached photographs from Cllr. Maybrey regarding a Sadberge Road allotments break-in. After lengthy discussion it was decided that as a Parish it is a policing issue - as an allotment holder it is their responsibility to get Police in to every single incident and to attend the PACT meetings where such incidents

can be allocated higher priority - the next one being on Thursday 22Apr10 in Hurworth Community Centre, Hurworth Grange.

**6.d.** Cllr. D. Jones requested, and it was agreed, that Allotment sub-committee members manage all allotment matters themselves without support from the Clerk apart from letter writing and rent collection at the end of the year.

**Resolved:** Cllrs. Walker and Beadle to manage all allotment matters without the Clerk's support apart from letter writing and rent collection at the end of the year.

#### **7. Water Park**

**7.a.** A letter from the Model Boat Club regarding the application of weed control was read out with approval given for payment of the application of weed control, a total of £176.25 inc. VAT, the Model Boat Club to pay the cost of £528.75 for the herbicide.

**7.b.** It was also agreed to accept the Model Boat Club suggestion of rent payment of £385 and £699 for electricity for the year.

**Resolved:** Clerk to write to Ian Archibald, Model Boat Club, advising of both the above.

#### **8. St. George's Day – Raising the Flag**

Cllr. D. Jones requested volunteers to raise the flag on St. George's Day or the day prior.

**Resolved:** Cllr. Hill and the Clerk to ensure the flag raised accordingly.

#### **9. Planning Applications –**

**9.a. 10/00148/FUL** Erection of single storey extension to the side and rear to provide a sun lounge and study at 43 Woolsington Drive. **No comment.**

**9.b.** Cllr. D. Jones informed the meeting that she had visited the applicant and neighbouring objector of planning application **10/00085/FUL** Erection of single storey, utility room and 2 No. bedroom extension to side, demolition of existing timber glazed extension at 1 Church Close to which the Parish Council had objected on grounds of blockage of light, overlapping privacy and overbearing size. With Cllr. Jones the neighbours had negotiated changes between themselves resulting in a request to withdraw the objection.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to withdraw the Parish Council objection this evening.

#### **10. Financial**

**10.a.** The quarterly statement of accounts was accepted.

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

- Bank Charges 05Mar10 - £9.00
- Northumbrian Water – Killinghall Allotments £40.95
- Northumbrian Water – Belle Vue Allotments £28.10
- Northumbrian Water – Sadberge Allotments £50.14
- DBC out of 106 money, unblock Y.C. Toilets £206.99
- M. Palfreman Ground Maintenance Oct09-Feb10 £2,705.25
- MSG School, donation to Wildlife Garden £100.00
- Co. Durham & Cleveland Co. Trg. Partnership, Allotment Course for Cllr. Walker £27.00
- Meirhosting Ltd, Website Annual Hosting Services £14.99
- Wages – Litter Picker £516.94, Cleaner £210.00, Parish Clerk £421.33

**10.c. Payments** coming in: None.

**10.d. 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Internal Audit** by Parish Councillors – to be documented then approved by full meeting. Cllr. Beadle volunteered to carry this out.

**10.e.** The Clerk reported on a missing cheque that had been paid into the MSG Post

Office with Giro Bank Business Deposit Cheque Envelope on 9<sup>th</sup> February, for which receipt was obtained. It was a cheque for £500 as a donation towards tennis courts from Middleton Hall Retirement Village. Correspondence and emails ascertained that the cheque had gone into the wrong sorting bag at the Post Office and was lost, but today Middleton Hall had telephoned to say that the cheque had been cashed on 11<sup>th</sup> February. The Clerk has asked Middleton Hall to supply any details as soon as possible of who cashed the cheque.

**Resolved:** Clerk to follow up with Carolyn Howe, Middleton Hall Retirement Village and MSG Post Office.

**11. Correspondence**

**11.a.** Discussion over Debbie Maybrey’s sponsorship request for the Charity “Help for Heroes” resulted in agreement to make a £50 donation.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to ask Debbie Maybrey for the official name of the charity for purposes of making out the cheque.

**11.b.** All other correspondence was acknowledged without further actions.

**12. Date of the next meetings** – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010

6.30pm – Annual Parish meeting

Followed by – Annual General Parish Council meeting

Followed by – Ordinary Parish Council meeting

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