



Middleton St George Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th February 2019 in the Parish Council Meeting Room

Present: Councillor Mrs. C. Gilsenan (Chairman),
.....Councillor S. Crowther (Vice Chairman)
.....Councillor M. Beadle
.....Councillor A. Blacklee
Councillor Mrs. H. Bullock,
Councillor N. Embleton,
Councillor L. Foggett, (acting Clerk for this meeting)
Councillor M. Robertson
Councillor R. Sansom.
Councillor C. Headlam

Mr Andy Casey of Darlington Borough Council (Highways Dept) to discuss s106 (item 6 on the agenda)

The meeting started at 6.30 p.m.

799. Chairman's opening address

The Chairman welcomed Mr Casey.

- DBC Consultation on NDP Area Designation due to start on 13th February (ends 29th March). DBC would send a notice for us to display
- Gladman notified us of their proposals to build a housing development behind The Greenway. This was a pre-application consultation.

800. Public Participation Session

The Clerk reported that no members of the public had notified him that they wished to address the Parish Council.

801. Apologies for absence

Mr Alan MacNab the Parish Clerk is ill.

802. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interests were made.

803. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 10th December, 2018

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 14th January, 2019 were presented. The Parish Council **agreed** that the minutes were a true record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed minutes at the end of the meeting.

Planning

804 Section 106 Projects List and Costings

- a. Andy Casey (Darlington Borough Council)

Mr Casey spoke at length about the use of s106 monies with respect to highways and traffic management. He agreed to look at our proposals which concern highways issues and will report back to us. He was in agreement that certain areas of the parish were experiencing traffic issues and that this would only be exacerbated by further developments.

Andy also said he would check on s106 criteria other than highways issues (e.g. facilities for young people).

Andy would ask Dave Coates for what is being asked for in MSG.

He would also provide a map showing s106 projects, to enable a better overview.

- b. To receive Councillor updates

There were none

805 New Planning Applications for consideration:

there were none.

Financial

806. To receive reports on the following matters.

- a. Financial Report 2018-19 as at the 4th February, 2019

The financial report was discussed in detail

- b. Payments received and payments

January Payments In (Income):

Date	Customer	Amount
09.01.2019	Groundwork North East (Reimbursement re Tree Survey. The Front Project Phase Two)	£530.00
18.01.209	R. W. Maxey. Contribution to defibrillator	£1,046.00
31.01.209	Darlington and District Model Boat Club (electricity)	£62.68
06.02.2019	County Durham Community Foundation. Grant for the Middleton One Row Heritage Views Project	£2,396.00
	Total	£4,034.68

January Payments

Date	Supplier	Amount
07.01.2019	Scottish Power – Electricity Monthly	£122.07
09.01.2019	MSG History Group (re Remembrance Weekend 2018) (Projects)	£66.20
14.01.2019	Southern Electric	£81.00
14.01.2019	Scottish Power	£80.00
16.01.2019	Barclaycard Commercial. Asda Darlington. Flowers for the Freedom Ceremony	£5.00
23.01.2019	Julia Storey (re Allotments)	£125.00
23.01.2019	BT Hub Monthly	£40.49

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31.01.2019	Cleaner – C.I.Wood Pay	£70.00
31.01.2019	Litter Picker – J.D. Lynn Pay	£532.44
31.01.2019	Clerk – A.W.Macnab Pay	£633.60
	Total	£1,755.80

February 2019 Payments for Approval:

Date	Supplier	Amount
14.01.2019	Lesley Swinbank – Acting Clerk for 14/01/2019 PC meeting – Travel Expenses	£20.00
(undated invoice)	MSG Womens Institute (WI) re Remembrance Weekend 2018 (hire of room?) (Projects)	£100.00
21.01.2019	Cllr M Beadle (to have a set of keys cut at Timpsons) (set of front door keys to Parish Council building for Cllr Gilsean, Chairman)	£14.50
29.01.2019	British Heart Foundation (BHF) re Defibrillator (Projects)	£600.00
04.02.2019	Cllr H. Bullock (Porch Lights for Parish Council building)	£6.46
11.02.2019	Scottish Power Gas Monthly	£80.00
11.02.2019	M. Palfreman. Grounds Maintenance. December 2018	£679.83
11.02.2019	Darlington Borough Council. Repairs to the Play Area (RoSPA Recommendations)	£191.14
11.02.2019	BT Hub Monthly	£40.49
28.02.2019	Cleaner - C. I. Wood Pay	£70.00
28.02.2019	Litter Picker - J. D. Lynn Pay	£532.44
28.02.2019	Clerk - A. W. Macnab Pay (Statutory Sick Pay - 6 weeks @ £92.05)	£552.30
	Total	£2,887.16

These items were all approved by the Parish Council

c. Timetable of Controls for January 2019

Ref.	Activity	Completion
4.8	The Clerk/ RFO shall regularly provide the Parish Council with a statement of receipts and payments to date under each head of the budgets, comparing actual expenditure to the appropriate date against that planned as shown in the budget.	The Parish Council will receive a statement of receipts and payments to date under each budget heading with actual and planned expenditure in the form of the Progress against the Budget Statement at its meeting on the 11 th February, 2019.
5.2	The Clerk/RFO shall prepare a schedule of payments requiring authorisation, forming part of the Agenda for the Meeting and, together with the relevant invoices, present the schedule to the council. The council shall review the schedule for compliance and, having satisfied itself shall authorise payment by a minuted resolution.	A schedule of payments which require authorisation has been included in the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on the 11 th February, 2019.
5.6	The Parish Council will receive lists of regular payments which arise.	The list of regular payments has been included in the schedule of payments as part of the agenda for the Parish Council meeting

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

		on the 11 th February, 2019.
6.5	Counterfoils of cheques to be signed by the signatories of the cheques.	Counterfoils of cheques will be signed at the Parish Council meeting on the 11 th February, 2019.
15.1	The Parish Council to be notified of any losses, liabilities or damage which could lead to claims.	There have been no losses, liabilities or damage which could lead to claims.

These were accepted by the Parish Council

Members also requested, for the meeting in March, clarification of a couple of things in the Progress Against the Budget on the Financial Report:

- Northumbria in Bloom - Why was the Budget for £500, yet Forecast at Year End £150?
- Subscriptions - Why was the Budget for £650, Forecast at Year End £650, yet Actual to date £694.34?

807 To consider gas supply quote

Resolved After consideration of the supplied quotations – The Parish Council agreed to the following quotation over the next 5 years.

Years	Supplier Name	Rates (p)	Estimated Annual Cost*	Grant
5	Gazprom (Standing Charge – 20 Unit Rate – 4.41990287	£1,234.82	£295

There will be a further communication with the energy consultant regarding the Electricity Supply from Scottish Power.

Other Matters

808 To receive and update regarding provision of a defibrillator in the village

Cllr Blacklee reported that we have received the Personal donation from a resident of the village of £1000 towards the defibrillator costs.

Cllr Blacklee has looked into the various options for the defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation. The recommendation is that we adopt the fully automated ipad model.

The British Heart Foundation have awarded us a grant of £400 towards the model so that we only need to pay them £600 and the residual amount from the donor will be used to help purchase the cabinet from the unit.

The training materials will be provided by the British Heart Foundation but these training aids will be supplemented by Cllr Blacklee liaising with the Fire service for additional training aids.

We do need to organize a leaflet campaign or similar to advertise the training. This will be discussed at the next meeting on 18th March.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

809 MSG in Bloom (Northumbria in Bloom)

- a. A written Report from the community meeting on 19th January was circulated
The response from residents was very encouraging
- b. Verbal Report from committee meeting on 4th February
Cllr Bullock reported that we will hopefully join with other groups in the village and publicize a number of events at once – the litter pick, scarecrow competition and MSG in Bloom being three of the many events we hope to publicize. We are hoping to involve the Front in the judges visiting route. As part of this process we will be contacting Mr Short again about the Village emblem.

810 To consider advertising for a general handyman/contractor

Resolved– The council decided not to advertise for an employee but to simply tender for work amongst local trades as appropriate to any tasks to be undertaken.

811 Leak in Parish Council Building – update

Cllr Beadle has contacted a contractor to come and look at the leakage in the front of the Parish Rooms. The builder will return when we can open the shutters and he can look at pointing the front of the building.

812 Big Spring Clean – to consider date and arrangements

We have heard from Lorraine Bulloch about organizing the big spring clean. Cllr Hazel Bullock will contact DBC about the equipment and will liaise with other groups.

813 Parks and Grounds.

a. Water Park.

- Broken Stile – We will contact the Prows officer at DBC about repairing the stile. Cllr Blacklee will contact Steve Petch of DBC.
- Safety Signs – Cllr Embleton and Cllr Blacklee have organized to erect the signs on 23rd February.
- Ponds Structural Survey –
Cllr Gilsenan reported that Mr Hughes is to attend the Water Parks on 4th March at 9:00 am to start the survey.
- Drains and Gullies – Update
Cllr Beadle reported that she and Cllr Blacklee will assess the drain size when they survey the disabled marking on the parking bay outside the Parish Rooms.
We will contact the Drain Contractor again to clear the drain and assess the more permanent repair.
- Street Lights
Cllr Bullock will deal with this issue in consultation with Mr Clarkson of Lighting at DBC.
- Light/Sensor on Parish Council Building
Cllr Bullock has assessed this issue, the lights are working but it would appear that the motion sensor isn't working. The council agreed that the lights can be left switched on in darkness until later in the Spring when they are not needed.
- Disabled Bay at Parish Council Building

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Cllr Blacklee will look into getting this done. When the weather improves this will be done.

b. Playground and Playing Field.

- Health and Safety Report

Cllr Crowther has conducted a survey and found everything to be satisfactory. He has noticed a small crack in the surface under the climbing frame. This will be checked again to make sure that it doesn't get any bigger.

- Zip Wire ground surface. Update (Two quotes received so far)

Resolved. The Council were concerned about the potential cost of the surface repair and decided to leave the Zip wire disabled at this time as it is in a safe condition.

c. The Front, Middleton One Row

- Cleaning of seating on The Front – Alan Macnab was to arrange a meeting with Darlington Cares. We will look into this later in the year.

- Middleton One Row Heritage Views Project – Update on Project and on Funding

Cllr Beadle reported that we have been awarded a grant but not as much as we had hoped for, we are now looking at further funding from another grant body.

Cllr Beadle would also check whether Groundwork could start the work with the funding in place so far.

814 The Whinnies Nature Reserve

Cllr Beadle reported that we desperately need to include the Whinnies in the litter pick this year.

815 MSG PC Speed Monitor

Cllr Foggett reported that the speed monitor had been in place in January on Neasham Rd to count vehicles. It is now in place pointing down Middleton Lane. When all the traffic movement figures have been collected, these will be forwarded to the group looking at our representation to the Planning appeal against the development on Neasham Rd.

816. Community Speed Watch

No further news at this time.

817 Darlington Association of Parish Councils Meeting 6th February 2019. 6.30 p.m. Hurworth Community Centre.

The talk given by the Commissioner of Crime for County Durham– Mr Ron Hogg was most informative.

His presentation was focused on the government's budget cuts and the effect that this has had on the police force in County Durham.

The total budget at his disposal to cover County Durham including Darlington, for 2019 is £123m. The total cuts in the last five years now amount to 32 percent. However, for the year starting April 2019, he has been allowed to increase the Precept for the Police by £24 on Band D properties. This has helped considerably.

The number of PCSO's and police officers has not been reduced.

Ron Hogg did emphasise that the government allocation system strongly favours counties in the South of England and is detrimental to the North.

There has been a change in crime profile, with a heavy increase in cyber-crime and sexually related crimes. This has meant that new systems are required to combat cyber-crime.

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New initiatives introduced within his police force include recruitment of 'juniors', police cadets and 12 police apprentices. This will result in identifying new police officers for full time careers in the future. An Outreach policy is now in operation encouraging voluntary groups to assist in local areas.

Ron emphasised the need for all councils to provide feedback on requests and identify the local needs, priorities and requirement of their parishes. Eighty percent of the budget allocated should be focused on the needs on the population within his jurisdiction, so feedback is vital.

Another agenda item was the future of the DAPC – the general feeling was that it was to keep the association informal and hold meetings 3 times a year to share experience across all the Parishes in Darlington.

Derek Dodwell will continue as chair of the Association, and Peter Allen is the Honorary Secretary.

818 Heritage on Track event at Community Centre 30th January

The presentation was very good but not well attended, It was suggested they look into advertising for future events.

819 The Council acknowledged the NALC updates.

820 Annual Parish Assembly will take place from 2pm-4pm on Saturday 18th May in the community Centre we need to consider topics for discussion and invitations to groups or individually from DBC?

Any further ideas to the Chair.

821 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

Can we again approach Neasham Parish Council again regarding the appeal. The Chair has written to them, but no reply as yet.

We need to have a look at the fence outside the Parish rooms and discuss this at the next meeting.

822 Dates of next meetings :-

Monday 25th February, 6.30pm (Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council) (mainly planning)

Monday 18th March, 6.30pm (Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council (finance and planning)

The meeting ended at 9:05 p.m.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....