



Middleton St George Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 29th April, 2019 in the Parish Council Meeting Room

Present: Councillor Mrs. C. Gilsenan (Chairman),
Councillor S. Crowther (Vice Chairman),
Councillor A. Blacklee,
Councillor Mrs. H. Bullock,
Councillor N. Embleton
Councillor L. Foggett,
Alan Macnab, Clerk.

In Attendance: Mr. W. Appleton, Wally's Angling Club.

The meeting started at 6.30 p.m.

898. Chairman's opening address

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked those Parish Councillors who had not sought re-election to the Parish Council for the work they had carried out over the three year period from 2016 to 2019.

899. Public Participation Session

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

900. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. Beadle and Sansom because of holiday commitments

The Meeting **agreed** to accept the apologies received.

901. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interests were made.

902. Confirmation of dates and arrangements for May 2019

The Chairman confirmed that the term of office for the new Parish Council will start on Monday 6th May, 2019.

The Chairman also confirmed that:

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

- a. The new Parish Council will start on the 6th May, 2019.
- b. The Annual Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th May, 2019, Councillor Foggett submitted his apologies for this meeting. The Chairman that she was drafting her report for the meeting which would be submitted to Parish Councillors for their comments. Councillor Mrs. Bullock queried the reference to the Review of Committees in the draft agenda when they were ended at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May 2018 and replaced by two Parish Council Meetings. The Clerk reported that the Review was added to the agenda in case the Parish Council wished to re-introduce the Committees. There was a repetition of items at Committee meetings and Parish Council meetings because the committees reported to the Parish Council. An amendment will be made to the agenda to delete the reference to the Review of Committees.
- c. The Annual Assembly will take place on Saturday 18th May, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Community Centre. Ron Hogg, the Police Crime and Victims Commissioner and Trish Pemberton, the Chair of the Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway will make short presentations. They will be speaking for 10 minutes. Jo-Anne Garrick would be unable to attend, but will help prepare something to initiate the consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan at the Assembly. The Chair brought the flyers for the Assembly to the meeting and Parish Councillors took bundles of them for distribution. They will also be put into the Church leaflet and distributed. Village organisations had indicated that they will be attending to display their work. The Vice Chairman agreed to organise the refreshments. The Chairman will draw up a programme and organise the seating arrangements and the PA system with the Community Centre.

903. Angling Club Report

Mr. Appleton of the Angling Club showed the signs which he wished to erect in the Water Park. He was asked if he could re-erect the two ‘Deep Water’ signs which had been pulled out of the ground. Mr. Appleton agreed to see if a colleague can strengthen the signs and re-erect them. It was suggested that the signs which Mr. Appleton wished to erect could be on the same poles which held the Parish Council’s signs.

It was reported that the Northumbria in Bloom judges had commented about the absence of lifebelts in the Water Park and if the park was to be used more they would be needed and having an angling club added to the facilities in the park. The Parish Council considered that the reservoir engineer’s report on the ponds may cover the provision of lifebelts.

Mr. Appleton also reported that he will be operating the overflow pipe to maintain the water levels in ponds 2 and 3 and he will attend the Assembly to give details of his club.

The Parish Council **agreed** that Mr. Appleton’s signs be erected on the same poles as the Parish Council’s safety signs in the Water Park.

904. Parish Council Vacancies

The Clerk explained that the Borough Council had notified him that 7 Parish Councillors were elected to the Parish Council to serve for the four year period 2019 to 2023 and there were 3 vacancies. The Parish Council had 35 days to co-opt to the three vacancies under Section 21 of the Representation of the Peoples Act 1985. The Chairman circulated a draft letter inviting applications for co-option to the three vacancies which would be placed in the three noticeboards, the Parish Council website and Facebook page.

The Parish Council agreed that the letter inviting applications for co-option.

905. Planning Matters

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905.1 Darlington Borough Council Planning Applications Committee 20th March, 2019

The Chairman reported that the following planning applications were considered by the Borough Council's Planning Applications Committee on the 20th March, 2019:

- a. 19/00040/FUL - Variation of condition 3 (Approved Plans) attached to planning permission 18/00591/FUL dated 4 January 2019 for residential development comprising 12 no. dwellings (Revised scheme) – to permit the substitution of house types and amended layout. Field to the East of Oak Tree Inn, Yarm Road, Oak Tree, Middleton St George.
- b. 17/01195/OUT - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 330 residential dwellings with associated landscaping and engineering works, 3 retail units and provision of a new single form Primary School, Field at OSGR E435307 N513463 Yarm Road Middleton St George.

Planning application a. was approved by the Committee. Planning application b. was to check the Section 106 funding.

905.2 Planning Appeals

a. Planning Appeal by Gladman Developments Limited. Land off Neasham Road, Middleton St George

The Chairman reported that Gladman Developments Limited had withdrawn their planning appeal which was subject to a planning inquiry. The Middleton One Row Alliance was submitting its application for costs. Darlington Borough Council were also submitting its application for costs.

b. Planning Appeal by Homes by Carlton. Land to the rear of Grendon Gardens, Middleton St George

The Chairman reported that no date had been received when the planning appeal will be heard by the Planning Inspector.

905.3 Issues relating to Applications that have been granted planning permission

The Chairman reported that no issues had been raised in respect of the following applications which had been granted planning permission:

- 13/00940/OUT - Sadberge Road, Middleton St. George.
- 16/00578/OUT - 350 dwellings and local services at Durham Tees Valley Airport
- 16/00396/OUT – 55 houses Lancaster House Durham Tees Valley Airport
- 16/00972/FUL – 27 houses Middleton Lane, Middleton St. George
- 17/00847/FUL – 44 houses, Yarm Road, Middleton St. George.
- 18/00509/FUL – 12 bungalows plus convenience store, Yarm Road, Middleton St. George.
- 17/01175/FUL – 61 houses Yarm Road, Middleton St. George.
- 17/01195/OUT – 330 houses plus area for school and retail units
- 19/00040/FUL / 18/00591/FUL / 16/01256/FUL – 12 houses, field to east of Oak Tree Inn, Middleton St. George.

The Chairman also reported that the Parish Council was awaiting details of the sculpture from Groundwork in respect of 18/00476/FUL – Installation of 1 interpretive sculpture at MOR (along the public footpath at the Teesdale Way, Middleton One Row.

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

905.4 Pending Applications

The Chairman reported on the following planning applications which were pending:

a. 16/00976/OUT - Up to 226 dwellings and primary school, Station Road, Middleton St. George.

The Rights of Way Officer had objected to this planning application. The Parish Council had also objected on the basis of the additional traffic which would be generated from the development onto Station Road and the single access point from the estate onto Station Road. It was noted that the space for a primary school had been deleted from the plans, and the number of proposed houses increased to 260". A traffic input assessment would be needed and it was felt that a new road may be needed to the rear of the proposed development to Neasham Road. However it was pointed out that the proposed development being close to the A67 may be the correct location.

b. 18/01108/FUL – 55 houses Middleton Lane, Middleton St. George

There had been 100 objections to this planning application and a small number in support of the development.

c. 18/00160/OUT – Middleton Riding Centre, 30 houses

This planning application was outside the Parish boundary but would affect the village. Concern had been expressed by the Planning Officer of the Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway.

d. 19/00231/OUT – 160 dwellings on land to the west of The Greenway.

Network Rail had responded to the planning application and had objected on the grounds of vehicular access. It was pointed out that there would be an impact on traffic at Dinsdale Station and there were concerns about draining. There had been 37 objections.

905.5 Notification of Decisions on Current Planning Applications

The Chairman reported that the following planning applications had been approved by Darlington Borough Council:

19/00184/FUL – Notice of Grant of Planning Permission. Continued use of north western section of the existing long stay car park for caravan, motorhome and car storage (Use Class B8) at Easy Park Northern Limited, Durham Tees Valley Airport.

18/01170/FUL – Erection of a single storey extension to the side (amended plans received 26th March 2019 and 4th April 2019) at the Pump House, Low Middleton, Middleton St George.

905.6 New Planning Application

The following new planning application was presented for consideration:

19/00346/FUL. Erection of agricultural building to cover open silage pit. White House Farm, Sadberge Road, Middleton St. George.

The Parish Council **agreed** to make no comments on this planning application.

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

905.7 Updated Traffic Accident Data

The Chairman reported that she had analysed the traffic accident data which had been supplied by Darlington Borough Council but it was difficult to understand. The Parish Council questioned the validity of the data because some accidents were not reported, it was unclear if there were injuries as a result or not and the map which accompanied the data did not give where the accidents occurred nor if the accidents resulted in major or minor injuries.

906. Structural Survey of the Ponds in the Water Park

The structural survey of the ponds had not been received but the Clerk will send a reminder to the Reservoir Engineer who carried out the survey.

907. Middleton St. George Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Chairman reported that Jo-Anne Garrick the Consultant will draw up a leaflet giving details of the plan and its draft vision and objectives for obtaining feedback from residents attending the Annual Assembly on the 13th May with a closing date of the 31st May for responses.

908. Darlington Local Plan

There was nothing to report but it was thought that the draft plan will be the subject of public consultation in September or October 2019.

909. CPRE Report

The Chairman circulated a leaflet ‘Around the Hedges’ from the CPRE.

910. Public Rights of Way

Councillor Blacklee reported that the public right of way opposite Twelve Central, west of The Greenway leading to the Dinsdale Spa Golf Club and Over Dinsdale had become overgrown. He had cut back the branches which obstructed free passage along the footpath. Residents have also been cutting back the bushes on the footpath which border their properties. There was also a fence at the top end of Grendon Gardens on the footpath which had become damaged.

The Parish Council **agreed** that the Clerk will ask the Grounds Maintenance contractor to cut back the footpath to ensure free movement and the Clerk will ask the Rights of Way Officer to dig up the damaged fence on the footpath.

911. Audit and Protection of Hedgerows

No problems were noted.

912. Incidents in the Water Park and in the Village

The Chairman gave details of the incidents which occurred in the Water Park and stated that the incidents would be put on the Parish Council’s website and Facebook page with advice on how to respond if an incident of this nature is witnessed. The incidents had been reported to the local PCSO who had responded that the

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incidents of dogs being off the leash in the Park should be reported to the Borough Council's Enforcement Team to see if they can take action. In terms of the deliberate setting fire to a tree and the blowing up of aerosol cans the PCSO replied that they should be reported to the police on 101 when an officer would be allocated to investigate the incidents. The PCSO also reported that there would be increased foot patrols in the Water Park during the summer months.

It was reported that a scarecrow as part of the Scarecrow event had been vandalised.

It was emphasised that it was the responsibility of everyone in the village to keep anti-social behaviour to a minimum and residents be encouraged to report incidents to the police on either 101 or 999 depending on the seriousness of the incident.

Councillor Foggett reported an incident of fly tipping to the rear of Killinghall Row which had been reported to the Borough Council's Street Scene Team to clean up. The initial flying tipping had been cleaned up by residents and put into piles. It was considered that the rear of Killinghall Row was private land and it was the land owner's responsibility to clean up the fly tipping.

Councillor Mrs. Bullock felt that having the presence of an angling club may reduce the incidents in the Water Park. It was suggested that the Enforcement Officers be invited to attend the Annual Assembly.

913. Rocket Run

The Clerk reported that there had been a report of inconsiderate parking by participants in the Rocket Run along the former Stockton and Darlington Railway. The report was drawn to the attention of the organiser with the suggestion of alternative parking. A reply from the organiser was awaited.

914. Proposal received re Teesside Airport Operations

The Clerk reported that a suggestion had been received which gave details of how the operations of Teesside Airport may be improved as a result of it being taken back into public hands. The Clerk had forwarded the suggestion to the Mayor of the Tees Valley and new operators, Stobart.

The Parish Council asked the Clerk to thank the person for his suggestions which were very good but that they were being considered by the Tees Valley Mayor and Stobart.

915. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

Councillor Mrs. Bullock suggested that a Friends of the Water Park be developed to care for the park.

Councillor Mrs. Bullock reported that St. Laurence's Church PCC had received planning permission for access to the garden of remembrance in the grounds of the former church and that the Tommy statuette be sited next to the footpath facing the garden of remembrance and it would be safe there because it was a residential area.

Councillor Foggett reported that he was still waiting for a response from the CCTV provider for a price for installing a new CCTV system in the Water Park and he would ask for a response.

The Parish Council **agreed** that:

- a. The suggestion of developing the Friends of the Water Park had merit and it would be added to the agendas of future meetings in order for a progress report to be given.

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b. The Tommy statuette be donated by the Parish Council to St. Laurence's Church.

916. Date of Future Meetings

The Parish Council **agreed** that the future meetings in 2019-20 be as follows:

Monday 13th May 2019. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 6.30 p.m. in the PC Meeting Room.

Saturday 18th May, 2019. Annual Parish Assembly. 2 pm. to 4 p.m. in the Community Centre.

Monday 20th May, 2019. Ordinary Parish Council meeting (Finance and Planning) at 6.30 p.m. in the Parish Council Meeting Room.

Monday 10th June, 2019. Ordinary Parish Council Meeting (Finance and Planning) at 6.30 p.m. One of the items of business would be to consider Parish Councillor applications, and co-opt

Monday 15th July, 2019. Ordinary Parish Council meeting (Finance)

Monday 29th July, 2019. Ordinary Parish Council meeting) (Planning)

No meetings in August.

The meeting ended at 8.35 p.m.

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