



# Middleton St George Parish Council

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## **Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2019 in the Parish Council Meeting Room**

**Present:** Councillor Mrs. C. Gilsenan (Chairman),  
Councillor S. Crowther (Vice Chairman),  
Councillor Mrs. M. Beadle,  
Councillor S. l'Anson,  
Alan Macnab, Clerk.

**In Attendance:** Mr. D. Nell and Mr. E. Lazenby, Darlington and District Model Boat Club, Mr. W. Appleton, Wally's Angling Club and Mr. D. Munt, Angling Trust

The meeting started at 6.30 p.m.

### **956. Chairman's opening address**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the proposals which the Angling Club had raised with the Parish Council and to consider the issues which the Angling Club had raised. The Model Boat Club representatives had been invited because any proposals will impact on their operations in the Water Park.

### **957. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Blacklee because of work commitments and Councillor Mrs. Bullock for personal reasons.

The Parish Council **agreed** to accept the apologies received.

### **958. Issues to be addressed.**

The Chairman read her report which had been circulated to the Parish Council with the papers for the meeting. The report covered the following issues. The Parish Council had agreed to the extension of the lease for the angling club to seven years at its meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 in order to make the club more secure and to enable the club to apply for funding. The Chairman had discussed the issues with Mr. Appleton before the meeting.

#### **a. Erection of signs**

The Angling Club was meant to put the signs on the same poles as the safety signs which had been agreed by the Parish Council at its meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. Signs must be agreed with the Parish Council before they were erected but signage had been erected by the angling club due to a misunderstanding over authorisation separate signs had been erected by the angling club including one at the main entrance to the Water Park. The Chairman had suggested that a walk round be held after the meeting to point out the location of signs which the Parish Council had erected.

The meeting **agreed** that:

- i. A walk round the Water Park would take place after the meeting to point out to Mr. Appleton the location of the Parish Council's signs.

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

ii. The signs erected by the Angling Club will be taken down and placed on iii. The Angling Club sign at the entrance to the Water Park will be taken down.

**b. Disposal of Rubbish**

The Angling Club requested a bin be provided next to pond 2 and 3 for the disposal of rubbish. The Parish Council responded that it had difficulty in litter and dog bins being provided by the Borough Council and that the provision of a bin could not be provided at this time.

**c. Fencing**

The Angling Club requested that a fencing be erected round pond 3 to protect the fish stock in the pond and to prevent an animal such as an otter getting onto the site. Mr. Appleton explained that it would be a 4' to 5' high wire mesh fence which would go on the inside of the footpath round pond 3. The Parish Council were shown a photographs of the fencing and the location where the fencing would be erected round pond 3 by Mr. Appleton and Mr. Munt and answered questions from the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported that when the Reservoir Engineer inspected the ponds on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 he pointed out that with the proposals to develop the adjoining fields for housing the stability of the banks may be compromised and the health and safety rating of the ponds may be raised to a high risk. The Reservoir Engineer's report was awaited.

The Parish Council **agreed** that the fencing be erected inside the footpath round pond 3 but that no fencing work must start until the Parish Council has considered the Reservoir Engineer's report.

**d. Dog Control**

Concern was expressed about dogs being not on leashes in the Water Park. Signage erected by the Parish Council stated clearly that dogs must be kept on their leash in the Water Park but enforcing this was difficult. Parish Councillors had The meeting concluded that the only way was to ask dog owners whose dogs were not on a leash to politely ask them to put the dog on the lead.

**e. Anti-Social Behaviour**

Mr. Appleton showed the Parish Council photographs of the damage caused by anti-social behaviour several parts of the Water Park.

The Parish Council urged Mr. Appleton to report all incidents to the police.

**f. Storage of the Angling Club's Boat**

Mr. Appleton had asked if a shed could be erected to store the boat but reported that this was not an important issue.

**g. Tidying Up the Site**

Mr. Appleton was thanked by the Chairman for tidying up the area around ponds 2 and 3 and suggested that he speak with MSG in Bloom to explore what might be done in the Water Park to keep the area tidy.

Mr. Lazenby complimented Mr. Appleton on the work he had carried out to tidy and keeping the area tidy.

**h. Behaviour of the Fishermen**

Mr. Appleton reported that he had spoken to one of the fishermen who had spoken disrespectfully to a

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

resident and asked the fisherman to apologise to the resident about his behaviour. Mr. Appleton had also reminded fishermen of the club rules on meeting members of the public whilst they are fishing.

**959. Angling Club and Model Boat Club Agreements**

The revised agreements between the Parish Council and the Angling Club were signed by the Chairman and Mr. Appleton and between the Parish Council and the Model Boat Club was signed by the Chairman. The Model Boat Club agreement had been signed by the Chairman of the Model Boat Club and returned to the Clerk.

**960. Retirement of Mr. Lazenby**

Mr. Lazenby informed the meeting that he would be retiring as Chairman of the Model Boat Club and introduced the new Chairman, Mr. Nell. Mr. Lazenby thanked the Parish Council for their help and support given to the club over many years. The Parish Council gave their good wishes to Mr. Lazenby.

The meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

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