

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 1st June 2006 in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall

Present: Mr C.A. Land (Chairman)
Mr G.V. Borgonon
Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain
Mrs M.P. Course
Mr S.J. Hawkins
Mr P.A. Ray
Mr R.A. Searles

Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [S.C.D.C.]

1. Apologies for absence:

Mr A.P. Burlton
Mrs C.J. Fallon

Mr D. McCraith (Councillor, Cambridgeshire County Council [C.C.C.]

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 18th May 2006

The Minutes were signed as a true record. Proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mr Borgonon.

3. Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council

Two members were present.

Miss Hunter: recent rainfall - the level of water had been slow to clear in the High Street. The Clerk reported this to Mr M. Cooper, Highway Supervisor, who gave the following response:

A recent inspection revealed priority cleaning of gullies to be carried out in the vicinity of 110 High Street and 41 North End including cleaning the offlets opposite the Church.

A new gully-cleaning contract with an alternative company has been agreed and a timetable is being arranged for Meldreth.

4. Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda, which may cause a conflict of interest

There were no declarations.

5. Report from District Councillor

- . County Record Office, C.C.C.: reduction in funding will not compromise this service.
- . The Biddall Site: planting has been done.
- . Mettle Hill – abandoned caravans: Miss Cullen, the owner, has informed the Birch family that Royston Fencing will remove 3 caravans during the weekend of 3rd/4th June.
- . Office of the Deputy Prime Minister [O.D.P.M.]: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Sites, Circular 01/2006 replaces Circular 1/94. At a recent briefing, attended by Mr Searles and Dr van de Ven, the Barrister, acting on behalf of S.C.D.C. said Circular 1/94 had failed to deliver adequate sites. The purpose of the new document is:

To reduce the number of unauthorised encampments and to identify, develop and increase a significant number of gypsy and traveller sites in appropriate locations.

To recognise, protect and facilitate the traditional travelling way of life of gypsies and travellers, including new-age travellers, whilst respecting the interests of the settled community. The new definition includes persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin but excludes members of an organised group such as travelling show people.

The County and District Council will identify potential sites and will discuss with gypsies and travellers their accommodation needs and separately with the settled community through Parish Councils (see Item 10 i).

Dr van de Ven stated that concentration of sites is an important factor and will affect authorities in other areas. This is not appropriate for Meldreth. A copy of the report, currently on circulation, is available from the Clerk.
- . Meldreth Sheltered Housing Communal Room: Mr Steve Annetts, S.C.D.C. , who is overseeing the development, confirmed that due to staff changes there had been a delay in drawing up an agreement for the Parish Office. Mr Annetts thanked Meldreth Parish Council for their involvement in the project.

6. Agenda Items

- 6.1 Review of Annual Return and Audit (deferred from 18.05.2006 meeting)**
Final signing will take place at the July meeting. **Clerk**
- 6.2 Report from meeting with David Lines, Head of Traffic Management, C.C.C. on traffic problems**
Councillors Borgonon and Searles met with Mr Lines, Head of Traffic Management, C.C.C. outside 101 Whitecroft Road and observed heavy traffic, including large HGV's straddling the white lines. There is no scope to widen the road as costing would be prohibitive. Mr Lines will monitor and negotiate with the Police for a possible speed limit of 40 mph along Whitecroft Road and Whaddon Road.
- High Street, near the Primary School: Mr Lines was reminded that at an earlier meeting it was suggested a 20 mph traffic survey be carried out. It is anticipated this will now take place at the end of the summer.
- Road surface improvements to the High Street have been referred to Mr M. Cooper, Highway Supervisor.
- Parking outside Sheene Mill: this will be monitored by Mr Lines and Meldreth Parish Council.
- 6.3 Review of Standing Orders**
Proposed Mr Borgonon, seconded Mr Searles that a revision be made to Standing Order No. 79. Clerk to amend and circulate. **Clerk**
- 6.4 Circulation of documents to Councillors**
Documents received increasingly require an urgent response. Mr Searles proposed that a suitable scanner and software be purchased for the new Parish Office for fast transmission of time-sensitive material to councillors on e-mail. The Clerk to circulate hard copies first to the three Councillors who are not currently on e-mail. **Clerk**
- 6.5 Parish Path Partnership - update**
At the meeting on 15th May the following work schedule for 2006/07 was discussed:
- 6.5.1 Path 9, between Station Road and Meads Footpath.
 - 6.5.2 Path 2, North End to Whaddon Road. The landowner has agreed to reinstate the Footpath.
 - 6.5.3 Path 1, near Golf Course. Landowner has agreed to remove a tree, deemed to be unsafe.
 - 6.5.4 Councillors Chamberlain and Burlton, discussed a possible link between the Meads Footpath and Path 6, to the Village College, which would traverse land owned by Mr Burlton. Mr Chamberlain to discuss this suggestion with Miss Chris Tucker, P3 Officer at C.C.C. on 2nd June.
 - 6.5.5 Advice re signposts, path surfaces and other matters will be discussed at a meeting on 2nd June Mr Chamberlain and Miss Tucker.
- 6.6 Verges in Meldreth**
A request from Mr & Mrs Lynch to install more curbs in Meldreth. The Parish Council is reluctant to pursue this and Highways would agree. Clerk to speak with Mr & Mrs Lynch. **Clerk**
- 6.7 Fenny Lane – wild flower status**
Ox Eye Daisies and Buttercups have been observed. Mr Mungovan, Conservation Officer, S.C.D.C., recommends a hay cut in late July, to be carried out by volunteers with regular monitoring of the area. **Clerk**
- 6.8 Cambridgeshire County Council's Scrutiny Process**
With the aim of increasing public involvement in scrutiny by developing links with a small number of councils who have achieved Quality Status, Mr Searles and the Clerk met with Kala Nobbs, Director of Policy and Scrutiny at C.C.C. Along with representatives from Harston, who had previously been involved in one of the Scrutiny Committees for Cemex at Barrington, the group were invited to join other quality Parish Councils in Cambridgeshire who C.C.C. could consult with and obtain feedback on general issues such as heavy traffic, flooding, schools, etc. Proposed Mr Searles, seconded Mrs Course that Meldreth participate in this initiative. Clerk to inform and liaise with Kala Nobbs. **Clerk**
- 6.9 O.D.P.M. (Local Authority Byelaws in England: A Discussion Paper)**
A response to questions relevant to Parish Councils. Councillors Ray and Searles to co-ordinate for approval.

P.A.R./R.A.S

7. Planning

Request for the following:

5 Houses
Scrap Yard, Chiswick End
Mr S. Henry
Planning Minutes: 01.06.2006

Ref: S/0857/06/O

Extension
2 Whitecroft Road
Mr & Mrs N. Wigg
Planning Minutes: 15.06.2006

Ref: S/1061/06/F

Amendment:

Change of Use from Repair and Maintenance of Motor Vehicles Including MOT Bay (and Ancillary Contractors Yard) to B1 and B8
College Farm Business Centre
Cunningham Holdings Ltd.
Planning Minutes: 01.06.2006

Ref: S/0673/06/F

Extension
55 North End
R. Winter
Planning Minutes: 01.06.2006

Ref: S/0660/06/F

Extension
57 North End
R. Winter
Planning Minutes: 01.06.2006

Ref: S/0661/06/F

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Sections 198 and 201

Tree Preservation Order No. 10/06/SC
73 High Street

Formal Notice for the making of a Tree Preservation Order affecting trees on land owned by Aerimid Health Care Ltd., 80 – 84 Chandos Avenue, London N20 9DZ, together with a copy of the Order and plan.

Planning Minutes: 01.06.2006

8. Correspondence ✓ = circulated within the Parish Council

The Connections Bus Project (invitation for mobile youth club and information point to visit Meldreth during summer) ✓

Letter forwarded to Youth Club c/o Mr J. Hanson

Mr R. Turrall-Clarke (Melbourn by-pass: Counsel representing the residents of Melbourn and Meldreth) ✓

Charter88 (Campaign for a modern and fair democracy) ✓

S.C.D.C. (Sheltered Housing Schemes: 'Drop-in Sessions') ✓

The Standards Board for England Bulletin ✓

Cambridgeshire Constabulary (awareness to install improved security procedures) ✓

C.C.C. (congestion in Cambridgeshire) ✓

S.C.D.C. (Gypsy/Traveller Site Provision in South Cambridgeshire – Parish Council Consultation) ✓

Meldreth Tennis Club (letter of thanks for donation) ✓

S.C.D.C. (Arts News) ✓

S.C.D.C. (Register of Members' Interests - acknowledgement)

C.C.C. (grass cutting donation received for 2007/07: £250)

9. Bills and Payments

Payable	Cheque No.	Net £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
C.A.L.C.	001411			20.00	Workshop: Land Registry	LGA 1972 s. 143
P.J. Robinson	001412	72.00	12.60	84.60	Pavilion: lighting repairs	Local Govt (Misc. Prov.) Act 1976 s. 19
Meldreth Village Hall Trust	001413			24.00	Room Hire: P.C., P.P.P., P.P.I.T.	LGA 1972 s. 134
Mr P.R. Chilvers	001416			60.00	Internal Auditor	Audit Regulations 2003
Mr H. Foggo	001417			236.77	Litter Collector	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mr G.B. Goodwin	001419			446.67	Grass Cutting	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss. 9/10
Laserprint Solutions Ltd.	001420	49.90	8.73	58.63	Photocopier cartridge	LGA 1972 s. 112

The above payments were agreed. Proposed Mrs Course, seconded Mr Searles.

9a. Section 137 Payments

There were no payments.

10. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting, 6th July 2006 in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.

Item 7 (ii) of Meeting held 18th May 2006: Recreation Ground: Mr J. Hanson has agreed to continue to serve on the Recreation Ground Committee.

Item 7 (iv) of Meeting held 18th May 2006: Triggs Charity: Meldreth Primary School has been invited to nominate a representative to serve on the Committee.

Representative to attend:

- (i) **Consultation with Parish Councils on the future of Gypsy/Traveller Site Provision in South Cambridgeshire - Thursday 15th June 2006, 7.30 p.m. at the District Council Offices in Cambourne.** Mr Searles agreed to attend.
- (ii) **Briefing on Congestion in Cambridgeshire – 14th June 2006, 5.45 p.m. – 7.45 p.m. in the Kreis Viersen Room at Shire Hall.** Mr Land agreed to attend.

Fenny Lane: piping along the ditch is unsatisfactory. The Clerk to refer this to the Planners and in addition request that verges on either side of the ditch are reinstated.

Clerk

Mr Land had attended a recent CALC meeting and reported on the following:

- . That the District Council welcomes the views of Parish Councils on Planning matters, including a possible extension of the 106 Agreement consultation period.
- . Villages would like more involvement with S.C.D.C. when its budget is reviewed in November.

Mr McCraith to be asked for further information regarding the 'In your Patch' newsletter, published by C.C.C.

D.Mc.C

- . The Jointly Funded Minor Improvements Scheme may cease as funding arrangements are changing.
- . 14 Councils have obtained Quality Status in Cambridgeshire.

The Gables, car parking on the pavement: The Clerk was asked to write a letter to the residents, asking them to refrain from parking on the pavement.

Clerk

Outside No. 14 Flambards Close, no gulley exists. Clerk to report.

Clerk

River Mel: Brown Trout, approximately 8" long have been seen in the River and members of the River Mel Restoration Group will be meeting with a representative of the Environment Agency on 2nd June for further advice.

Village Hall Car Park – speed humps. Clerk to request that John Cobb re-do the hump at the entrance to the Car Park.

Clerk

Destination notice opposite the Station was discussed. Mr Land to action.

C.A.L.

The P.P.I.T. will be represented at the Church Fete on 17th June.

Future Agenda items to date:

Annual Return and Audit – final signing
Parish Paths Partnership – update
Clerk's Salary – Annual Review

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.