

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 4th January 2007, 7.30 p.m. in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall

Present: Mr R.A. Searles (Acting Chairman)
Mr G.V. Borgonon
Mr A.P. Burlton
Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain
Mrs M.P. Course
Mr S.J. Hawkins
Mr C.A. Land – late arrival due to circumstances beyond his control
Mr P.A. Ray

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

The Vice Chairman, Mr R.A. Searles was in the Chair.

1. Apologies for absence:

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

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 7th December 2006

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

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

3 members were present.

Mr Fallon: the Parish Council was wrong in naming a person in the January edition of Meldreth Matters.

The Parish Council apologised for this error. Mr Fallon and Mr Foggo accepted the Parish Council's apology.

Mrs Cook: the garages built at the Sheltered Housing site to the rear of her property. Item included in report of District Councillor.

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

Flooding works progress: Mr Cooper, Highway Supervisor, C.C.C. is undertaking investigative work along Whitcroft Road and has received much co-operation from residents. Heavy rainfall on 31st December was slow to clear in Chiswick End with no invasion to properties. Mr McCraith is being kept informed.

Ditch near to the footpath on the Recreation Ground: enquiries are being made as to the owner. **S.v.d.V**

The Stocks: there is a drainage problem from the High Street leading to the Stocks which needs to be investigated. **S.v.d.V**

Height of Garages at the Sheltered Housing Community Room, Elin Way: Dr van de Ven has asked that an on-site meeting be convened with Gareth Jones and Paul Sexton from the Planning Department, S.C.D.C. and Steve Annetts, Housing Asset & Investment Manager, S.C.D.C., Mrs Cook and Dr van de Ven. Mr Searles agreed to represent the Parish Council.

A preliminary meeting with Mrs Cook, Dr van de Ven and Mr Searles on a preferred solution prior to meeting with the S.C.D.C. representatives was agreed. The Parish Council consider that lowering the roof either to the plans of the original application (which were reluctantly approved by the Parish Council), or lower, would be the better option than demolition at the tax payers' expense.

S.v.d.V/R.A.S.

6. Agenda items

6.1 Precept: 2007 – 2008

It was proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mr Hawkins that the Council apply for a precept of £35,000 for the year 2007/08. In the meantime the Clerk to clarify expenditure up to 31st March 2007. **Clerk**

6.2 Highway matters: speeding in Meldreth

Mr Florence, 23 North End had send the Clerk copy of a letter he had received from Mark Kathro, Sawston Neighbourhood Sergeant concerning vehicles driving at excessive speeds on the bend at North End. The Clerk and Mr Borgonon to draft a letter to Mr Kathro requesting clarification on the second paragraph of his letter which states: "officers have been to assess the bend with a view to carrying out speed enforcement checks, however, they have reported back to me that due to the nature of the bend and considering officers safety, speed enforcement checks would be inappropriate. I would suggest that you contact Highways again to see if there is anything further they could do to help you on this occasion" and to cover the concerns on police response as raised by Mr Florence.

Mr Cooper, Highway Supervisor, to be asked to check if the camber or surface condition of the road could be contributory factors.

Letter from Mr Dudley on traffic speeds: Clerk to respond that Highways Department have been asked to visit the village.

Clerk to contact Mr McCraith reference Minutes of 2nd November 2006: Item 3 – increased level of concern to traffic problems in Meldreth. 'The Parish Council would like the 30 m.p.h. sign moved further along Whitecroft Road to the other side of the Fenny Lane crossroads. This request was made to Mr Lines when he visited Meldreth and he undertook to monitor speeds to assess the feasibility, but nothing has happened. Mr McCraith is to pursue with Highways Department'. **D.Mc.C**

6.3 Meldreth & District Mobile Warden Scheme: funding application

The Council recognises that the Warden Scheme provides a valuable service and is very pleased to make a donation of £1,000. Proposed Mr Hawkins, seconded Mr Ray. **Clerk**

6.4 Cemetery maintenance

Reference Minutes dated 5th October 2006: the Parish Council to carry out maintenance work in the Cemetery. **A.L., M.P.C.**

6.5 The Meads Footpath

The Clerk to contact Melbourn Parish Council to enquire if they would be in agreement for their Cleaning Officer to empty a bin if it was sited near to the seat at the Melbourn end but installed and paid for by Meldreth Parish Council. If Melbourn is willing to do this it was proposed Mr Land, seconded Mr Chamberlain that an open top refuse container be purchased. **Clerk**

6.6 Recreation Ground: ditch - update

This was included under comments from District Councillor.

6.7 Pavilion: repairs to roof

Mr Gordon Rogers has agreed to carry out minor repairs (as agreed at the December meeting, *Item 6.4 (i)*) to make the roof watertight.

6.8 Parish Office and succession plan for Clerk

Following the advertisement in Meldreth Matters, no candidates have yet emerged. Clerk awaiting response from C.A.L.C. on the job description for a new Clerk and contract.

Lone working: Mr Borgonon to speak with the Sheltered Housing Manager and the Clerk to enquire from Melbourn Parish Clerk on risk assessment criteria for lone workers.

Advertisement for the position of Clerk to be placed on notice boards in local villages, local newspapers, The Melde, Radio Cambridgeshire and Q103. **Clerk**

<p>7. Planning</p> <p>Request for the following</p> <p>House (revised design) Land adj. 70 North End Dr & Mrs K.W. Humphreys <i>Planning Meeting: 21.12.2006</i></p> <p>Tree Preservation Order Land behind Meldreth Primary School <i>Planning Meeting: 21.12.2006</i></p> <p>Amendment</p> <p>Erection of house to replace existing dwelling and outbuildings to be demolished on completion 1 Stone Lane Mr & Mrs R.A. Searles <i>Planning Meeting: 21.12.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2246/06/F</p> <p>Ref: C/11/17/071/02</p> <p>Ref: S/1711/06/F</p>
--	--

Unapproved Minutes of the recent Planning Committee are displayed on the Parish Council Noticeboard.

<p>8. Correspondence ✓ = circulated within the Parish Council</p> <p>C.C.C. (Traffic in Meldreth, reply to P.C.'s letter of 16th November) ✓ S.C.D.C. (Land behind Meldreth Primary School/Riv Mel Restoration Group) ✓ Planning Committee C.C.C. (Minerals and Waste Development Plan) ✓ LOCAL WORKS (Campaign for the Sustainable Communities Bill) ✓ Melbourn Meldreth and District Royal British Legion (P.C. donation – letter of thanks) ✓ Meldreth Pavement Volunteers (for information - letter of thanks) ✓ Novo Design (Fenny Lane: reinstatement of verges) ✓ S.C.D.C. (Parish Precept: 2007 – 2008) ✓ Community Action (Winter 2006) ✓ C.C.C. (winter gritting & snow clearing leaflet) ✓ C.C.C. (Budget for 2007/08) ✓ C.C.C. (Commons Registration Act 1965/registering P.C. owned land) ✓ C.C.C. (Trading Standards Newsletter) ✓ Friends of Magpas (newsletter) ✓ E-mail: Mr A. Florence re speeding North End ✓ National Association of Local Councils (newsletter, January 2007) ✓ Cleaning of War Memorial x 3 quotations received ✓ Angus Dudley (traffic volume and speeding in Meldreth) ✓ COPE newsletter, January 2007 ✓ E-mail: Mr N. Askham re vandalism in Meldreth ✓ Campaign to Protect Rural England (Workshop: 17th March 2007) ✓ Go-East – proposed changes to The East of England Plan ✓ C.C.C. (Parish Paths Partnership News Bulletin, 2006/07 + associated correspondence) ✓ John Chamberlain Andrew Lansley (housing in South Cambs. – copy of letter sent to the Minister for Housing and Planning) ✓ Anmarie and David Lloyd Jones (ref. planning application for house on land adjoining 70 North End) R. Skeates Funeral Directors (Cemetery fees for the late Mr Jack Farnham: £80.00) Jeremy Rule Funeral Service (Cemetery fees for the late Mr Percy Land: £160.00) Ivett & Reed (memorial application for the late Mrs R.G. Burling) – Clerk approved</p>
--

9. Bills and Payments

Payable	Cheque No.	Net £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
Cambridgeshire County Council	001495			14.00	Commons Search for Memorial and Stocks Green Ref. Land Registry	LGA 1972 s 226
Glasdon U.K. Ltd.	001496	620.91	108.65	729.56	Litter Bins	Litter Act 1983 ss. 5,6
Revd. Andrew O'Brien	001498			30.00	Officiant: Funeral Jack Farnham	Section 2 E.F.M. 1962
Revd. Mary Price	001499			30.00	Officiant: Funeral Percy Land	Section 2 E.F.M. 1962
Mr G.B. Goodwin	001500			446.67	Grass Cutting	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10

9a. Section 137 Payments

There were no payments.

10. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for next meeting: 1st February 2007 in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.

Whaddon Road – second entrance: Clerk to contact Paul Sexton for an update.

Clerk

Crime and Vandalism – various incidents have been reported over the holiday period of slashed car tyres to vehicles parked on Flambards Close and Elin Way. Meldreth Station: gate on the Melbourn side damaged. Mr N. Askham had written to the Clerk on these incidents. The Police were invited to the Parish Council meeting to indicate what they intend to do. They did not attend.

Litter Collector: the Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should contact a possible candidate for the job and if willing would he be prepared to work on a 6 month period contract. It is understood this person is still in full time employment until July.

Clerk

Meldreth Matters – extracts for publication: the Clerk agreed to reduce the volume and omit details of planning applications as these can be viewed on the noticeboard and website..

Clerk

Railway crossing gate along Footpath 5: Clerk to contact railways again.

Clerk

East of England Plan: the Secretary of State has proposed changes to the Draft Revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England and Statement of Reasons. Meldreth is unaffected as there is no proposal for additional homes in South Cambridgeshire.

Agenda items to date:

War Memorial cleaning
Land Registry
Clerk and office
Highway matters
Precept
Crime and vandalism
P.P.I.T.
P.P.P.

The meeting closed at 10.12 p.m.