

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 1st February 2007, 7.30 p.m. in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall

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

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

Mary Course

The Parish Council and the village were deeply saddened by the sudden death of Councillor Mary Course on 18th January. They will particularly miss her dedication to duty and service over many years. Mary had been at the heart of many of the activities of Meldreth for more than 50 years. She will be missed for her good humour, wisdom, deep knowledge of village affairs and friendship. Mary leaves a void in Meldreth village life that will be impossible to fill.

1. Apologies for absence:

Mr P.A. Ray

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4th January 2007

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

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

4 members of the public were present.

Mrs Grimwood:

- (i) residents living between the Primary School and Bell Close are experiencing difficulty, particularly at peak times, with cars parked across driveway exits. High sided vehicles parked too close to driveways also impair access;
- (ii) two fire appliances on an emergency call, had recently experienced difficulty in negotiating the High Street due to parked cars.

Mrs Fallon: traffic is often hindered when exiting Bell Close due to the high volume of parked cars.

The Parish Council is concerned that the area between the Primary School and Bell Close is becoming increasingly unsafe and the Clerk to write to the Police.

Clerk

Mr Borgonon: a consideration could be for individual residents to seek approval for and to possibly pay for white lines across their driveways. The Parish Council to obtain a costing from Highways for the painting of white lines.

Clerk

Mr McCraith: Parish Councils and the Police need to work closely in identifying traffic and other problems in communities. *Ref. Minutes of November, December 2006 and January 2007*, requesting C.C.C. to alter position of 30 m.p.h. signs along Whitecroft Road to cover Fenny Lane junction and new housing on Whaddon Road. Mr McCraith said it would cost approximately £1,200 and no budget is available. Mr Searles reminded Mr McCraith that Mr David Lines, on a visit to the village two years ago, agreed to survey speed of traffic using the latest equipment. Mr McCraith said that due to budget constraints this is not possible. Mr Searles suggested that the Parish Council could pay for the survey work and it was agreed the Clerk would write to C.C.C. Highways to ask if that would be possible, if the cost was confirmed and if action would be taken as a result of the survey (see Item 6.2).

Clerk

Miss Hunter: request for funding:

- (i) coppicing of hedgerow in Whaddon Road and clearing of weeds in 3 areas of planted trees in Kneesworth Road and Malton Lane;
- (ii) and on behalf of Melwood Conservation Group, for spring planting of wild flower seeds and plugs in Melwood and maybe planting of small trees and shrubs in Melwood during 2007.*

*Mr Borgonon declared an interest.

- (iii) Bench/seat in Melwood: Clerk to liaise with Mr Thomas, Tree Surgeon. **Clerk**

As Highways approved (i) the Council to ask if they would be prepared to undertake maintenance. **Clerk**

Proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mrs Fallon and agreed unanimously that a grant be given for £100 for (ii).

Clerk

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

*Item 3 (ii), Mr Borgonon declared an interest.

5. Report from District Councillor

Recreation Ground Ditch: Mrs Fallon, Mr Borgonon and Dr van de Ven had checked the flow of the watercourse to Fenny Lane. The first 25 yards requires maintenance but the remainder is flowing well. **J.F., G.V.B., S.v.d.V.**

Garages, Elin Way: an on-site meeting with representatives from S.C.D.C. had reached a good compromise. The height of the back wall is to be reduced and will slope towards the Grange. The resident of No. 7 The Grange (the property backing the garages) is reported to be satisfied with the alteration. S.C.D.C. will submit new plans to the Parish Council for approval.

Whaddon Road new development. The developer to landscape area, which abuts West Way.

North End telephone box: B.T. to continue to maintain.

Bell Close: access signs have been installed.

6. Agenda items

6.1 Meldreth Village Hall Trust – Funding Application

Proposed Mr Hawkins, seconded Mr Chamberlain and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council provides a £1,000.00 donation.

6.2 Expenditure to 31st March 2007

The following suggestions were made:

A traffic survey be carried out and paid for by the Parish Council. Proposed Mr Searles, seconded Mr Chamberlain and agreed unanimously; Village Hall Car Park: complete refurbishment of the surface. Clerk to obtain quotation. Proposed Mrs Fallon, seconded Mr Land and agreed unanimously. **Clerk**

6.3 Highway matters

The Clerk to seek a reply from the Police regarding a letter sent to them dated 19th January on traffic issues.

Clerk

Traffic speed was a high priority in the Parish Plan. Mr Borgonon mentioned that residents can be authorised

to carry out community speed checks and the Parish Council via Meldreth Matters to invite the village to respond to this suggestion and gauge the level of support. Further information can be obtained from the C.C.C. website: [http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/speed watch/](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/speed%20watch/)

6.4 Crime and vandalism

With regard to the recent much increased spate of reported criminal incidents in the village, Mr Borgonon, N.H.W. Co-ordinator, said the Police have admitted that liaison between Parish Councils and themselves has been intermittent. At the Police Liaison Meeting held 11th January in Melbourn, it was announced that extra resources had resulted in extra patrols and several arrests. A representative from N.H.W. will attend the next Police follow up meeting.

First Capital Connect is reported to have installed deterrent devices, at Potters Bar and Meldreth Station. The District Councillor has also submitted questions to the next Rural Police Question Time meeting with the Chief Constable.

Mr McCraith had been informed by the Manager of the Police Contact Centre in Peterborough (0845 456 4564) that response times are improving and the Centre is fully aware of the issues in Meldreth and other villages in South Cambridgeshire.

6.5 P.P.I.T.

Several items, including the village streetscape and disability access at One-Stop are among Agenda items for

the next meeting on 28th February. It has been agreed that the CB postcode will no longer be pursued. The Pavilion: an outline plan was shown to the Parish Council. Mrs Grimwood is gaining support from the Football Club (a member of the team is a Quantity Surveyor) and the Youth Club but more people need to become involved. The Parish Council supports this venture which will mean demolishing the existing building as the current foundations do not meet current regulations. A low pitched, single storey structure is envisaged and a public launch will take place when the project is further advanced.

6.6 P.P.P.

Dr van de Ven reported on the District Councillors' Advisory Group which highlighted Meldreth as an outstanding village for its support of the Parish Paths Partnership. Young people from Shepreth and Meldreth undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme may again wish to become involved.

Mr Chamberlain reported that a summary of work has been completed for 2006/2007 and a schedule has been planned for 2007/2008. The next Working Party is Saturday 24th February starting at 9.30 a.m.

Footpath 6: when quality chippings are available, Mr Thomas has kindly agreed to supply.

Permissive Footpath: the response has been favourable for a path between Footpath 9 and Melbourn Recreation Ground, near to Footpath 6.

Guided Walk: Mr Graham Ward has kindly agreed to lead another guided walk of footpaths on Sunday 20th May at 2.30 p.m. starting at the Village Hall Car Park.

The group were encouraged by the response from the C.C.C. magazine to their report.

6.7 Clerk and office

(i) Parish Clerk: the sub group had reviewed the applications received and had held an informal meeting with one of the applicants.

(ii) Mr David Lord, Assistant Solicitor, S.C.D.C. had clarified the previous points raised by the Parish

Council to the draft Tenancy at Will. For the first year, costings for the office would be approximately £1,700, reviewed annually. In principle the Parish Council to accept the figures with clarification.

The sub group of the Parish Council were given approval to proceed with (i) and (ii) at their discretion.

Proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mr Searles and agreed unanimously. Mr Borgonon and the present Clerk to liaise.

G.V.B./Clerk

6.8 War Memorial cleaning

Proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mr Searles and agreed unanimously that Rattee & Kett be invited to carry out this work.

Clerk

6.9 Parish Council owned land

The following has been registered with the Land Registry:

CB317037, Memorial Green;
CB317038, Stocks Green;
CB313414, Recreation Ground;
CB313415, Cemetery;
CB313416, Land on the south east side of Kneesworth Road

Original documentation is retained at The County Records Office, Shire Hall, Cambridge. The Clerk has photocopies.

7. Planning

<p>Request for the following: Single storey side extension 100 North End Prof. Evans and Ms C. Corton <i>Planning Meeting: 18.01.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2387/06/F</p>
<p>Warehouse Extension (Retrospective Application) Fieldgate Nurseries 32 Station Road Mr D.E. Ward <i>Planning Meeting: 18.01.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2418/06/F</p>
<p>Single storey orangery 102 High Street Mr & Mrs Tobin <i>Planning Minutes: 18.01.2007- the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2440/06/F</p>
<p>Garage 7 Howard Road Mr & Mrs M. Holland <i>Planning Minutes: 01.02.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/0049/07/F</p>
<p>The following have been approved by S.C.D.C.: Extension 34 Chiswick End (for Mr & Mrs Fuller) <i>Planning Meeting: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2053/06/F</p>
<p>Extension 7 Whitecroft Road Mr & Mrs Dudley <i>Planning Meeting: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2049/06/F</p>
<p>Single storey side and single storey rear extension and implementation of approved garage building Planning Ref: S/0782/99 in different location 89 North End Mr & Mrs Obuchowicz <i>Planning Minutes: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2143/06/F</p>
<p>Appeals: Proposed development: internal and external alterations and extension Land at Maycroft Residential Care Home 73 High Street Aermid Health Care Ltd. <i>Planning Meeting: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/0498/06/F & S/0499/06/LB</p>
<p>Land at Bury Lane Fruit Farm Change of use of land from agricultural to storage and display of external paving materials and erection of 2 buildings for use as showroom and studio <i>Planning Minutes: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/0689/05/F</p>
<p>Withdrawal External alterations, addition of internal first floor for office use and temporary portacabin for office use College Farm Business Park North End William Skinner & Son <i>Planning Minutes: 18.01.2006</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2223/06/F</p>

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

8. Correspondence ✓ = circulated within the Parish Council

E-mail: Meldreth Village Hall Trust (request for financial assistance) ✓
 E-mail: Vandalism in Elin Way/Bell Close ✓
 E-mail: Save Milton Country Park ✓
 Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority (Precept 2007/08) ✓
 Clerks & Councils Direct (Issue 49, January 2007) ✓
 Environment Agency (Meldreth Cemetery) ✓
 C.A.L.C. (various + The Bulletin, Edition 5, January 2007) ✓
 Ivett & Reed (Memorial application for the late Mrs Gladys Jacklin) – Clerk approved ✓
 Richard Buxton, Solicitors (Mr & Mrs Lowe re Fieldgate Nurseries) ✓
 Postwatch (Post Office network consultation) ✓
 COPE (Newsletter, January 2007) ✓
 South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework (Core Strategy Dev. Plan Doc.) ✓
 C.C.C. (East of England Plan – proposed changes) ✓

9. Bills and Payments

Payable	Cheque No.	Net £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
Orchard Street Furniture	001504	408.93	71.56	480.49	Tennis Club Seat	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1. Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10
Archant Herts. & Cambs. Ltd.	001505			154.54	Advertisement for new Parish Clerk	LGA 1972, s. 112
Cambridgeshire County Council	001506			1206.57	Street lighting	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
Glasdon UK Ltd.	001507	116.70	20.42	137.12	The Meads Footpath: litter bin	Litter Act 1983 ss.5,6
John Cobb & Sons Ltd.	001508	35.00	6.13	41.13	Village Hall Car Park: drain cover	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s.57 a & b
Mr P. Chilvers	001509			20.00	Workshop for Internal Auditors. Mileage	LGA 1972, s. 143
A.P. & D. Burlton Arable Partnership	001510	100.00	17.50	117.50	Recreation Ditch: hire of digger to clear	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10
D.J. Thomas	001511			70.00	Clearing fallen trees	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10
*Meldreth & District Mobile Warden Scheme	001512			1000.00	Donation	Section 137
Mr G.B. Goodwin	001517			496.67	Grass Cutting + tree pruning, Station Road	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10
Mr K.J. Taylor	001518			187.50	Installing litter bins: labour charges	Open Spaces Act 1906, s9 & 10

9a. Section 137 Payments

*Meldreth & District Mobile Warden Scheme, Cheque No. 001512: £1000.00.

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

A Notice of Vacancy in Office of Councillor will be displayed on the Noticeboard and web-site on 10th February 2007.

Clerk

Planning Committee: due to the sad death of Mrs Course, a vacancy now exists. Proposed Mr Searles, seconded Mr Borgonon and agreed unanimously, that Mr Burlton joins the Committee. Mr Burlton accepted.

Litter Collector: Clerk to research costings for a hand truck.

Clerk

Potholes: Oakrits, Fenny Lane, North End (near to College Farm), Kneesworth Road and railway bridge.

Mr McCraith said that South Cambridgeshire is the fastest growing County in the Country but has only been given a rise of 2.9% from Central Government. Cuts are therefore inevitable.

Stocks Finger Post: the wood requires clamping. Clerk to speak with Mr Course.

Clerk

Whitecroft Road: repairs needed to highway, near to house numbers 69 and 101.

Clerk

The Parish Council agreed to support the Milton Country Park Campaign.

Clerk

Howard Road: trees near to garage require maintenance. Dr van de Ven to arrange.

S.v.d.V

Extracts of Minutes in Meldreth Matters. Mr Searles, Mr Land and the Editor to discuss way forward. **A.L./R.A.S.**

Agenda items to date:

Clerk and office

Suggestions for a Memorial to Mary Course

Expenditure to 31st March 2007

Highway matters

P.P.I.T.

P.P.P.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.