

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Mrs J. Montague-Fuller (Item 6.1)

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

Mr D. McCraith (Councillor, Cambridgeshire County Council [C.C.C.]), arrived at 9 p.m. following an earlier meeting.

1. Apologies for absence:

Mr A.P. Burlton

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 1st February 2007

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

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

4 members of the public were present.

Mr Eggleton:

- (i) would like to know if the concessionary bus pass can be used on the one morning bus through the village. An article in The South Cambs. Magazine, Winter 2006, Page 21 made reference to concessionary bus passes but it was unclear if they could be used on the early route. Mr McCraith to clarify and report back.

D.Mc.M

- (ii) responsible parking - the corner of High Street with Elin Way: it was suggested that registration numbers might be taken and passed to the school. Parking in Bell Close abutting the High Street is used, often only for temporary parking, by through traffic but where contractors and other vehicles regularly use the roadside for parking, details need to be passed to the Clerk who will investigate. Mrs Fallon to ask parents delivering and collecting children from the Village Playgroup to park in an appropriate place. **J.F.**

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

Item 6.2.1., Mr Borgonon declared an interest.

Item 6.2.2., Mr Hawkins declared an interest.

5. Report from District Councillor

Whaddon Road development:

- (i) Mr Rob Mungovan, Ecology Officer, S.C.D.C., had visited the site and advised on appropriate trees and hedging to encourage wildlife;
- (ii) area near to West Way will be landscaped with planting of a dog wood shrubbery. A bollard has been installed by the entrance;
- (iii) landscaping will take place on the verge opposite the site entrance;
- (iv) building construction work is ahead of schedule with the first housing becoming available on 6th April;
- (v) street lighting will be erected and paid for by the contractors.

Gypsy and Travellers:

The Development Plan Document is a well thought out working document which is making good progress through S.C.D.C. with the main working points as follows::

- (a) S.C.D.C. will not be agreeing to meet all 110-130 pitches that the Government has stipulated we must provide, on account of the fact that the District has already provided far more than other authorities. S.C.D.C. will provide a 'proportion' of that number.

- (b) Showpeople sites are fully included in the exercise of identifying sites and meeting the needs of the broad travelling community.
- (c) The term 'concentration of sites' will not be used; to be replaced with 'distribution of sites on a proportional basis to facilitate access to services'.
- (d) S.C.D.C. will not request that money be used to regenerate the closed S.C.D.C. run sites at Willingham and Meldreth; any applications for money would go to Blackwell and Whaddon (because time has marched on and Willingham and Meldreth both provide generously already - Willingham Councillor, Ray Manning, and Dr van de Ven are both on the committee and concur on this).
- (e) S.C.D.C. will be asking neighbouring authorities to 'come up with the goods' - some do very, very little in the way of site provision, which is unfair.
- (f) S.C.D.C. are aiming also for site provision at Northstowe.
- (g) Housing associations to be asked how they can be involved in site provision.
- (h) Ideal site location will be near good services including public transport.
- (i) 15 pitches maximum site size but it is hoped that there will be applications for much smaller sites too.

The next round of consultation will take place over the summer.

Mr Searles asked when the next Traveller Liaison meeting would take place and Dr van de Ven said she would find out. **S.v.d.V**

Drainage – Chiswick End/Whitecroft Road:: Mr M. Cooper, Highway Supervisor, has rectified some minor faults in Whitecroft Road but Chiswick End dye tests have so far proved inconclusive. Anglian Water to resurvey their drainage system and report back. There being no definitive map of the drainage system for Chiswick End/Whitecroft Road, the Parish Council, supported by agencies and local knowledge, intend to identify and map the contours of the drainage system.

6. Agenda items

6.1 Parish Councillor Vacancy

A vacancy arose due to the sudden death of Mrs Mary Course on 18th January. There was only one application to the public notice of the vacancy and supported by all members of the Parish Council, Mrs Joanne Montague-Fuller was duly co-opted to the Council.

6.2 Request for financial assistance:

6.2.1. Trees along public highway (Minutes 01.02.07: Item 3) – should be regularly coppiced.

Proposed Mr Ray, seconded Mr Chamberlain and agreed by all, that the Tree Warden be reimbursed for carrying out maintenance work using her own funds. It was pointed out that prior notice must be given to the Parish Council when future work needs to be considered.

6.2.2. River Mel Restoration Group – Phase 1

Work by riparian owners and other volunteers has done much to enhance the stretch of river between the railway bridge and road bridge near to the Church. Mr Borgonon said that as the River Mel Restoration Group will no doubt have plans to extend improvement work further along the river, the Parish Council should be mindful of financial assistance afforded to one village organisation. It is important that the Parish Council carefully considers future requested grants proportional to its available funds in looking at requests to match funding from much larger agencies who deal only with specific issues.

It was proposed by Mr Searles, seconded Mr Chamberlain, with 5 in favour and 1 against, that the Parish Council make a donation of £1,025 to the River Mel Restoration Group.

6.3 Clerk and Office – update

Mrs Judy Damant, will take over as Clerk to Meldreth Parish Council with effect from 2nd April 2007. Mrs Penfold will continue to assist in the handover period until 31st April 2007.

Parish Office: Mr Borgonon and the Clerk, reference *Minutes of 1st February 2007, Item 6.7 (ii)*: are satisfied that all queries have been addressed.

6.4 Suggestions for a Memorial to Mary Course

This item deferred to the June meeting in order for Mary's family, the community and Parish Council to have time to consider an appropriate and permanent tribute to Mary. **Clerk**

6.5 Expenditure to 31st March 2007

The suggestion made to the Highways Department, C.C.C. reference *Minutes of 1st February 2007, Item*

6.2

that the Parish Council might pay for a traffic survey, Mr McCraith to seek clarification on the e-mail sent to the Clerk, dated 26th February 'that the speed equipment is being re calibrated for use on speed management schemes and A & B roads review so it is unavailable for use outside these schemes. There maybe an opportunity to have them in Meldreth once these schemes and the review have finished'. **D.Mc.C.**

Village Hall Car Park, reference *Minutes 1st February 2007, Item 6.2*. Clerk awaiting estimate.
Uneven paving slabs at the side of the Village Hall to be re-laid. **Clerk**

6.6 Highway Matters - update

The Clerk to seek an appropriate response from Chief Superintendent Rob Needle, Cambridgeshire Constabulary to a letter dated 6th February asking for a Police presence relating to unauthorised parking between the Primary School and Bell Close. *Minutes 4th January, Item 6.2/Minutes 1st February, Item 6.3.*

6.7 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P.)

Grant application for 2007/08: C.C.C. has acknowledged receipt of our application.

Possible new link and bridge over the River Mel: 13 favourable replies have been received from Meldreth residents and a questionnaire will be published in the next Melbourn Quarterly Magazine. It was noted that Melbourn Parish Council is applying for a £1,000 grant from C.C.C. No response has been received from Melbourn Village College.

Maintenance work: the recent working party on Footpaths 9/9a and Bury Lane cleared brambles, weeds and managed to accumulate 12 bags of litter. Strimming was carried out along the Meads footpath. Chippings have been laid along the riverside walk, Footpath 6.

Other matters: Mr Chamberlain to attend a Local Access Forum, organised by C.C.C. to support officers to open up the countryside and improve Rights of Way. **J.C.**

The next committee meeting of the P.P.P. will take place on 16th April in the Green Room at 7.30 p.m.

7. Planning

Request for the following	
House (revised design of visibility splay) Land adj. 70 North End Dr & Mrs K.W. Humphreys <i>Planning Meeting: 15.02.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i>	Ref: S/2246/06/F
Extension to form garage and erection of annexe following demolition of existing outbuilding 53 High Street R. Kozłowski <i>Planning Meeting: 15.02.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i>	Ref: S/0159/07/F
Porch 5 West Way T. Gemmell <i>Planning Meeting: 15.02.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i>	Ref: S/0136/07/F
[Part demolition, internal and external alterations and conversion of barn and outbuilding to 4 bedroomed dwelling with one covered parking bay. Demolition of open sided outbuilding 106 High Street K & K Mills Developers <i>Planning Minutes: 01.03.2007- The Parish Council recommended approval with recommendations for conditions.</i>	Ref: S/0280/07/LB
Conversion of barn into dwelling and erection of 3 dwellings Adj. 106 High Street K & K Mills Developers <i>Planning Minutes: 01.03.2007- see above]</i>	Ref: S/0281/07/F

<p>The following have been approved by S.C.D.C.: Change of use of existing buildings for theatre scenery design fabrication and finishing At Malton Barns Malton Lane (for M. Wilsher) <i>Planning Meeting: 15.02.2007</i></p> <p>Single storey orangery 102 High Street (for Mr & Mrs Tobin) <i>Planning Meeting: 01.03.2007</i></p> <p>Single storey side extension 100 North End (for Prof. Evans & Ms C. Corton) <i>Planning Meeting: 01.03.2007</i></p> <p>The following has been refused by S.C.D.C.: Warehouse extension (Retrospective Application) Fieldgate Nurseries 32 Station Road <i>Planning Meeting: 01.03.2007</i></p> <p>Appeal Decision is allowed and planning permission varied subject to the terms set out in the Formal Decision College Farm Business Centre North End Cunningham Holdings Ltd. <i>Planning Meeting: 15.02.2007</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/2112/06/F</p> <p>Ref: S/2440/06/F</p> <p>Ref: S/2387/06/F</p> <p>Ref: S/2418/06/F</p> <p>Appeal Ref: APP/W0530/A/06/2026934</p>
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Unapproved Minutes of the recent Planning Committee are displayed on the Parish Council Noticeboard.

8. Correspondence ✓ = circulated within the Parish Council

- C.A.L.C. (various) ✓
- War Memorials Trust Bulletin, Winter 2006/07, No. 32 ✓
- The Standards Board for England (questionnaire) ✓
- N.A.L.C. (review of the Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme) ✓
- Local Works (Sustainable Communities Bill Passes 2nd Reading) ✓
- E-mail: S.C.D.C. Lettings Policy Consultation ✓
- “ x 2: Hollands and Eternit ✓
- “ River Mel Restoration Group ✓
- The Environment Agency (Meldreth Cemetery) ✓
- Communities and Local Government (revised Model Code Of Conduct for Local Authority Members) ✓
- Audit Commission (appointment of External Auditor) ✓
- C.C.C. (Village grass cutting, £769.72 contribution from County for 2007 – 2008) ✓
- EEAPTIC News (Regional Report for Parish and Town Councils) ✓
- C.C.C. (Countryside Access Issues) ✓
- Allianz Cornhill (Local Council Insurance) ✓
- Cambridgeshire ACRE (Community Life Awards 2007 – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough) ✓
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary (village speed checks) ✓
- River Mel Restoration Group (funding application with supporting documentation) ✓
- S.C.D.C. (Milton Country Park) ✓
- C.C.C. (Parish Paths Partnership 2007/2008) ✓
- Local Works (Campaign for the Sustainable Communities Bill) ✓
- Parish Paths Partnership 2007/2008 (application form – copy) ✓
- The Wildlife Trust ✓
- Department of Trade and Industry (Post Office consultation acknowledgement) ✓
- C.A.L.C. (various) ✓
- Ivett & Reed Ltd. (placement of double headstone to the late Mr & Mrs Jacklin: £75.00)
- Ivett & Reed Ltd. (placement of headstone to the late May Burling: £35.00)
- Mrs L. Davey (purchase of 2 grave spaces: £160.00)
- Cecil Newling (interment fee to the late Norman Plumb: £80.00)

9. Bills and Payments

Payable	Cheque No.	Net £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
Powergen	001519	53.68	2.68	56.36	Pavilion electricity	Misc. Provisions Act 1976 s.19
Meldreth Village Hall Trust	001520			74.00	Room hire: P.C., P.P.P.	LGA 1972 s. 134
*Meldreth Village Hall Trust	001521			1000.00	Donation	S.137
Mr G. Rogers	001522			80.00	Pavilion: roof repairs	LG.(Misc. Prov.) A. 1976 s. 19
"	"			185.00	Churchyard wall: repairs	LGA 1972 s. 215
C.A.L.C.	001523			393.27	Affiliation fee	LGA 1972 s. 143
Melwood Conservation Group	001524			100.00	Hedgerow coppicing and spring planting	Open Spaces Act 1906 s. 9 & 10
Revd. Mary Price	001526			30.00	Officiant: Funeral Norman Plumb	Section 2 E.F.M. 1962
Mr G.B. Goodwin	001530			471.67	Grass cutting (£446.67) Churchyard path (£25.00)	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10 LGA 1972 s. 215
Ass. Burial Auth.	001531			56.50	Annual subscription	LGA 1972 s. 214(6)
Glasdon U.K. Ltd.	001532	53.60	9.38	62.98	2 x litter bin liners	Litter Act 1983 ss. 5,6
Miss M. Hunter	001533			30.00	Coppicing of hedgerows: Whaddon and Kneesworth Roads/North End	Highways Act 1980 s.96
River Mel Restoration Group	001534			1025.00	Donation (see Item 6.2.2.)	Open Spaces Act 1906 s. 9 & 10
Rattee & Kett Ltd.	001535	585.00	102.38	687.38	War Memorial: cleaning and maintenance work	War Memorials Act 1923 s 1, extended by LGA 1948 s 133
Staples U.K. Ltd.	001536			359.08	Parish Office: part payment of equipment set-up costs	LGA 1972 s 133

The above payments were approved. Proposed Mr Chamberlain, seconded Mr Hawkins.

9a. Section 137 Payments

*Meldreth Village Hall Trust	001521			1000.00	Donation	S.137
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10. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for The ANNUAL PARISH Meeting: Thursday 5th April 2007 in The Main Hall, Meldreth Village Hall.

Parish Plan Implementation Team (P.P.I.T.): will present a Closing Report to the Parish Council for the next meeting.
G.V.B./P.A.R.

Community Access Point (C.A.P.): S.C.D.C. is having to look at funding C.A.P.'s where usage is marginal. Meldreth is currently considered active and therefore relatively safe, but councillors should be reminded that of 43 persons registered with the scheme, less than a dozen are actually taking advantage of the voluntary free help on offer.
 Councillors are urged to promote wherever possible. **ALL COUNCILLORS**

The Village Hall Trust is grateful for the £1,000.00 donation, which will go towards upgrading the Hall.

Trees opposite Stone Lane require maintenance. Clerk to enquire. **Clerk**

Mr Searles to attend 'Parish Planning – What does the future hold'? on 26th April. **R.A.S.**

Youth Club – advertisement for a new leader will be placed in the next edition of Meldreth Matters.

Recreation Ground ditch - rubbish is accumulating. This has been recorded in the March edition of Meldreth Matters.

Agenda items to date:

Planning for Gypsies and Travellers – consultation documents
 Village Hall Car Park - estimate to resurface
 Allianz Cornhill Policy - Clerk to circulate
 Litter Collector: to agree purchase of wheeled truck
 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P.)
 Parish Plan Implementation Team (P.P.I.T.)

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.