

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 5th April 2007, following the Annual Parish Meeting in The Main Hall, 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
Mrs J. Montague-Fuller
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 D. McCraith (Councillor, Cambridgeshire County Council [C.C.C.]

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 1st March 2007 Amendments:

Reference Report from District Councillor, Item 5 Gypsy and Travellers (a): Dr van de Ven said **“this was subject to the agreement of S.C.D.C., which at the previous meeting had not taken place. Central Government has ways of over riding the local authority. The Council will make its recommendations”**.

Item 9 Bills and Payments: Mr Ray seconded the Bills and Payments as Mr Hawkins, had previously declared an interest, see Item 6.2.2.

The Minutes were then signed as a true record. Proposed Mrs Fallon, seconded Mr Borgonon.

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

3 members were present.

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

Following disturbances earlier in the year, Dr van de Ven is regularly receiving feedback from the Police. The problems seem to have abated. (Mr Borgonon, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, considers that communication is poor. Crimes must be reported, however trivial, so a pattern of incidents can be established on 0845 4564564).

Elin Way garages: a site meeting will shortly take place with officers from S.C.D.C. in order to proceed in reducing the height.

Water course update: Trustees own Bell Close and Gables Close. The Parish (**Rob – need to check which**

6. Agenda items

6.1 Planning for Gypsies and Travellers – consultation documents

Mr Searles attended a Travellers Liaison Forum for South Cambridgeshire on 27th March. This was the second of these meetings after they were extended from just for the Cottenham area to the whole of South Cambridgeshire. It was well attended by Parish councillors and travellers. Parish Councils who had not been represented in the past were present. The meeting was chaired by Simon McIntosh, a Senior Officer from S.C.D.C.

Gareth Jones, Head of Planning at S.C.D.C., outlined developments since the last meeting in October. One site had been closed in Cottenham, 3 injunctions had been issued and temporary planning consents had been given to a number of unauthorised sites in Willingham and Milton, totalling 40 pitches.

Inspector Richard Lowings of Cambridgeshire Police reported that he was now responsible for Rural Communities and would be joined by a dedicated P.C.S.O. They would seek to build bridges with the gypsy and traveller communities by visits to all sites in Cambridgeshire.

Representatives from CDN Planning, the consultants appointed by S.C.D.C., reported on progress on the Gypsy and Traveller Plan Document. They had 1400 responses (including Meldreth Parish Council) to the public consultation to their first report on the method to be used to find the 120 pitches South Cambridgeshire needs. They will now use the criteria established to search for potential traveller sites and will report in September with a 6 week public consultation. CDN asked for input with ideas for site locations from those at the meeting.

Representatives from the East of England Regional Assembly reported on their own traveller needs survey. They had established the need for 1,220 new pitches across the region by 2011 – 370 in Cambridgeshire of which 120 were in South Cambridgeshire.

The meeting considered, in small groups of travellers and parish councillors, how best to integrate traveller sites into villages with no experience. The consensus was to start the process now and that small, family owned and run sites outside larger villages would be easier to integrate.

6.2 Village Hall Car Park – estimate to resurface

A site visit to view the car parking surface will be arranged in order to draw up a specification for work required. The Clerk will then be instructed to obtain three new quotations. **Clerk**

6.3 Funding application: Meldreth Pre-School

Proposed Mr Ray, seconded Mr Borgonon that the Parish Council make a donation of £500, being the full amount applied for. **Clerk**

6.4 Mr J. Chalkley: letter reference recent accident

The Clerk to write to Allianz Cornhill enclosing copy of Mr Chalkley's letter which was received by the Parish Council. Clerk to inform Mr Chalkley. **Clerk**

6.5 Allianz Cornhill Policy: group of study Policy

Mr Chamberlain and Mr Ray to study the Policy. **J.C./P.A.R.**

6.6 To agree purchase of wheeled truck for Litter Collector

(Page 682 of previous Minutes, Item 10 Litter Collector) Mr Burlton to discuss with Litter Collector equipment required for his duties. May Agenda Item. **A.P.B.**

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

Possible new link and bridge over the River Mel (Page 691 of previous Minutes, Item 6.7): Mr Chamberlain had received favourable comments from Meldreth and Melbourn residents, including a letter of support from Melbourn Village College.

Footpath 6: chippings have been requested

“ 2: “ “

“ 5: rubbish and overgrown hedges need trimming.

6.8 Parish Plan Implementation Team (P.P.I.T.)

The PPIT wound up its business at the end of March this year and has submitted a Final Report to the Parish Council. This report deals with Achieved issues and those still outstanding and tries to put all the documentation covering its achieved tasks in one document.

Some outstanding issues will take a lot more work over some time; a classic example is a new pavilion which will only happen if enough of the residents want it and are prepared to work for it. The Parish Council will continue to work on other issues - none of which will be resolved instantly.

The Parish Plan was published in June 2005 and the Parish Plan Implementation Team with 6 members was formed to carry out the plan. The Team consisted of 3 councillors and 3 village residents.

For 16 months this small team has worked on the 35 actions identified from the questionnaire which villagers were invited to complete.

The big challenge for the team has been to try and meet at least some of the aspirations of Meldreth residents.

Much of what villagers wanted were issues common to all rural communities in our area. Issues around traffic, crime and anti-social behaviour, public transport and the environment affect everyone and all these were raised by residents.

However, some actions were particular to the village; communications, a better pavilion and a user friendly pub.

The P.P.I.T. has tried to tackle all these and progress has been regularly reported to the Parish Council and promulgated through consultations last year and via the council's website.

Intense effort in lobbying local authorities, public service providers and commercial concerns to improve their services and impact on our village environment. Some of this is still going on and not all outcomes are yet clear.

Achievements of the Parish Plan:

- Through the Plan Report issued in 2005, local authorities and public service providers know what the village wants,
- The Report gives a succinct picture of the village needs and issues which residents have themselves set out,
- The village is 'on the map' as a result of the Plan and residents and the Parish Council have a reference point when they need to prioritise and compete for ever limited resources,

•The most significant aspect has been how the plan process has stimulated more involvement and networking by villagers to help improve matters. There are good examples of this: river restoration, Parish Paths Partnership, Pavement Wardens, and volunteer drivers are a few examples.

The full report will be published on the website.

Mr Borgonon thanked all those who have worked hard throughout the Plan and Implementation Processes – a period of nearly four years – for their dedication and achievements made on behalf of the village.

7. Planning

<p>Request for the following:</p> <p>Final restoration and landscaping of a former closed gate landfill by the importation of inert waste materials. Land at Eternit UK Ltd. <i>Planning Minutes: 15.03.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p> <p>Extensions 11 High Street Mr & Mrs A.H. Giles <i>Planning Minutes: 05.04.2007 – the Parish Council recommended refusal.</i></p> <p>Tree work within a Conservation Area</p> <p>2 x ash trees – reduce crown 18 Fenny Lane Mr A. Fewster <i>Planning Minutes: 05.04.2007 – the Parish Council recommended approval.</i></p> <p>The following have been approved by S.C.D.C.:</p> <p>Garage 7 Howard Road Mr & Mrs M. Holland <i>Planning Minutes: 15.03.2007</i></p> <p>Porch 5 West Way Mr T. Gemmell <i>Planning Minutes: 15.03.2007</i></p> <p>Erection of 20 houses (including 6 affordable dwellings) Land off Whitecroft Road For C. Holland & Sons Ltd. & Mr T. Dash) <i>Planning Minutes: 15.03.2007</i></p>	<p>Ref: S/00329/07/CW</p> <p>Ref: S/0452/07/F</p> <p>Ref: C/11/17/071/02</p> <p>Ref: S/0049/07/F</p> <p>Ref: S/0136/07/F</p> <p>Ref: S/1543/02/0</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

Communities and Local Government – travelling showpeople circular – April Agenda Item ✓
 River Mel Restoration Project – letter of thanks + newsletter ✓
 Clerks & Councils Direct, March 2007 – Issue 50 ✓
 National Association of Local Councils Journal – March 2007 ✓
 South Cambs. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Newsletter ✓
 Andrew Lansley MP - Sustainable Communities Bill ✓ + East of England Plan, Public Cons. – prop. changes ✓
 Meldreth Pre-School – funding application ✓
 Department for Constitutional Affairs (dca) – Memorial safety ✓
 Mr J. Chalkley – accident on Village Hall footpath ✓
 C.C.C. – emergency planning for Pandemic flu: burials ✓ - Clerk replied
 S.C.D.C. – grounds maintenance contract ✓
 COPE – Newsletter No. 32 ✓
 Royston & District Community Transport – donation request ✓
 Allianz Cornhill – receipt of policy, renewal date 1st June 2007 ✓
 E-mail: S.C.D.C. Draft Housing Strategy 2007/11 – consultation questionnaire ✓
 Moore Stephens – notice and advertisement of the Annual Audit, y/e 31st March 2007 ✓
 Mrs Judy Damant, Clerk to Meldreth Parish Council with effect from 2nd April 2007 – letter of acceptance ✓
 Magpal, March 2007 news letter ✓
 John Cobb & Sons, Quote – Meldreth Village Car park resurfacing ✓
 Mr P Saunders – Melbourn Library Access Point with year accounts ✓
 Disability Sport Focus Group – newsletter (March 2007) ✓
 Dave Kelleway – Elected Parish Council representative of the Standards Board Committee ✓
 SCDC – Grounds Maintenance Contract with maps ✓
 COPE – newsletter (April) ✓
 SCDC – Consultation of Housing Issues ✓

Bills and Payments

Payable	Cheque No.	Gross £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
Mr A Land	001537	95.00	0	95.00	Chairman's expenses	LGA 1972 s 15(5) & 35 (5)
Staples Uk	001538	*	127.95	500.00	Office furniture	LGA 1972 s 133
Royston & District Community Transport	001539	350.00	0	350.00	Donation	LGRA 1997
Mr G B Goodwin	001540	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9/10
Cambridgeshire ACRE	001541	25.00	0	25.00	Annual membership renewal	LGA 1972 s. 143
Mr G Borgonon	001542	107.95	0	107.95	Website expenses	LGA 1972 s. 9/10
Chubb Fire Ltd	001543	96.23	0	96.23	Pavilion – annual maintenance	LGA 1972 s 133
SCDC	001544	340.89	0	340.89	Parish Office and council tax	LGA 1972 s 133
SCDC	001545	465.47	0	465.47	Council tax-cemetery £28.11 recreation ground £437.36	Open spaces act 1906 s 9 & 10
Mr G Borgonon	001550	2.47	0	2.47	USB Cable (office)	LGA 1972 s 133

- Staples payment: cost is £812.35 + vat £127.95 = £940.30 – coupon £81.22 = £859.08
 payments made were cheque No. 1536 £359.08 and cheque No. 1538 £500.00 = £859.08

The above payments were approved. Proposed Mr Searles, seconded Mr Ray.

9a. Section 137 Payments

There were no payments.

10. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for The Annual General Meeting: Thursday 3rd May 2007 in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.

P.P.I.T.: letter in Meldreth Matters regarding possible changes at Meldreth Station, which could affect disabled access.

Recreation Ground: dog fouling . The Football Club to write a note for Meldreth Matters.

Whitcroft Road: grass needs cutting back along the narrow footpath between Hollands and Fenny Lane. **Clerk**

“ grass verge is being damaged by heavy traffic.

Underpass across the Meads Footpath: broken glass is a continuing problem.

Melwood: rubbish and damage in Melwood. Mr Hawkins to report to the Police.

S.H.

Railway services: rescheduling of services. Mr Hawkins to investigate.

S.H.

Fenny Lane grass cutting: Mr Borgonon to inform the Clerk when cutting can commence.

G.V.B.

Future Agenda items to date:

Speeding 'speedwatch' – monitoring speed.

P.P.I.T.

P.P.P.

Allianz & Cornhill insurance policy

Village Hall Car Park specifications

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.