

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held **Thursday 6th September 2007**, 7.30 p.m. in The Green Room,
Meldreth Village Hall

Present: Mr C.A. Land – Chairman (CAL), Mr G.V. Borgonon (GVB), Mr A.P. Burlton (APB), Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC), Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF), Mr S.J. Hawkins (SH), Mr R.A. Searles (RAS), Mrs J Montague-Fuller (JM-F), Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [S.C.D.C.]

Action

1. Apologies for absence:

Mr P. Ray (PAR), Mr D. McCraith (Councillor, Cambridgeshire County Council [C.C.C.]

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 5th July 2007:

Amendment – Code of Conduct takes effect from 6th September 2007

Amendment – Parish Plan Implementation Team item 6.15 was not recorded – there was nothing to report.

Clerk was to give details of a resident who was interested in the footpaths to Mr Chamberlain; this however was for pavements and not footpaths. Mr Land has been in contact with the resident (Mr Patten) who would be happy to help with a survey of the pavements in the village.

The Minutes were signed as a true record. Proposed Mr R A Searles, Seconded Mr C A Land all agreed

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

Items discussed

The vandalism which was occurring in Melwood appears to have settled down, though there have been some instances of vandalism in other parts of the village, the police also believe it has quietened.

It was felt that communications with the police could be enhanced. It was suggested that residents should attend the Neighbourhood Panels where they can get direct feedback from the police. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 23rd October 2007, 7.30 pm at Gamblingay Village College (to be confirmed) doors open 7.00 pm

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

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Report from District Councillor:

- A report was made on the results of a Standards Board investigation.
- The bicycle wheeling channel has been installed at Meldreth Station. Cllr Van de Ven has arranged to meet the County Cycling Officer on site to deal with some teething problems.
- Cllr Van de Ven attended a presentation by the County Council on its plans for a bid to the Transport Innovation Fund. The potential for a congestion charge in Cambridge was discussed, together with possible improvements to public transportation in and around Cambridge.
- Speed limits in Bassingbourn/Whaddon Roads: Cllr Van de Ven spent some time over the summer visiting residents in Burtons, West Way and the Showmen's sites to try and determine a rough figure of numbers of school aged children. The number is very high. She wrote to Highways indicating concern that these children lack a safe route to our local schools. A reply was received saying that Meldreth had been signed off from the Safer Routes to School scheme after improvements in 2004, but if the primary school wanted to put in a new application they could do so. Cllr Van de Ven would explore further this and any other possible routes.
- Cllr Van de Ven has made contact with the Woodland Trust regarding maintenance of woods in Meldreth ward.
- She attended the first Melbourn Neighbourhood Police Panel, together with Mr Borgonon.

6. Agenda items:

6.1 Speedwatch

After much correspondence it now appears that this scheme is no longer available to villages in Cambridgeshire. Mr Borgonon has written to Cllr McCraith and the Clerk has contacted Andrew Lansley MP to see what can be done. To be discussed when a reply has been received from Andrew Lansley MP.

It was suggested that a site visit with Mr Mike Cooper and Mr David Lines from Highways (CCC) should be arranged to look at the trouble spots throughout the village. Clerk to write requesting this. There is some evidence that not all accidents/incidences are being reported to the police and therefore will not be on record. Mr Chamberlain suggested that a short summary of what the Parish Council has achieved in speed control initiatives and where action was being hampered be put in Meldreth Matters.

Clerk

RAS/GVB

6.2 Village Hall Car Park

Specifications still need to be drawn up and then three new quotes need to be asked for. Mr Burlton will enquire about getting a consultation done in order to draw up a specification.

APB

6.3 Allianz Cornhill Policy

This is still ongoing and will be discussed in more detail in March 2008. The insurance for the pavilion has been increased to £70,000.

6.4 Recreation Area

There has been some correspondence concerning lack of shade in the recreation area. In the past trees have been planted but unfortunately they have been destroyed by vandalism. At the moment there are no plans to

build shaded areas and the idea of a paddling pool, due to rigorous health and safety issues cannot also be considered. If residents have any other suggestions the Parish Council would be interested to hear.

6.5 Pavilion

Mrs Fallon still to meet with Mrs Grimwood. Insurance has been increased to 70,000.00

6.6 Public Speaking

It was agreed to have a time limit on public speaking to 3 minutes per item. If there is more than one person wishing to speak on a particular item then a spokesperson needs to be nominated. Councillors may ask questions for clarification and the Chairman may close the meeting. The time in total should not exceed 15 minutes.

6.7 Freedom of Information Act – Data Protection

Clerk will circulate information.

6.8 Litter Picker

The probation period has now been satisfactorily completed and it was agreed to raise the hourly rate. Proposed by Mr Borgonon, Seconded by Mr Hawkins all agreed.

6.9 Mary Course Memorial

Mr Searles reported that Meldreth Primary School supported the idea of a Community Award for the school. This needs to be discussed with Mrs Course's family. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Clerk

6.10 Flooding/Drainage

Even with the increase in rain over the past weeks it appears that there has not been any major concerns over flooding. There is a ditch on the corner of Whitecroft Road/ Station Road, which appears to need cleaning. Clerk to make enquiries. The overhanging trees on this corner may also be contributing, Clerk to contact Mr Mike Cooper, Highways Department CCC.

6.11 Burial Ground

Clerk to put up a public notice with contact details of the parish office. This is for visitors, if they need to report loose stones, to contact the parish office immediately. Working party consisting of Mr Land, Mrs Fallon and Clerk to arrange a meeting at the burial ground.

6.12 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P) Footpaths and bridleways

1.
 - a) Path 6 – chippings have been laid by working party on 21st July 2007.
 - b) Grass cutting by CCC has now been carried out on path 6 between the railway and the A10 bypass. CCC contractor have cut the verges on Meads path but needs to be done again.
 - c) Mr Chamberlain has received a complaint from a non-resident concerning the Meads path, but was unable to respond, as they did not leave any telephone contact details.
2. Problems reported to Mr J Cooper, Highways Department CCC
 - a) Missing signpost on path 5 at Moor, Melbourn
 - b) Flambards Bridge – maintenance and painting
 - c) Sites on A10 bypass – path 7
3. Future Work
 - a) path 9a this path is overgrown again, already cleared three times this year next working party assigned 22nd September
 - b) path 1 – Kingswood near Malton Gold Course – working party assigned early October
 - c) path 12 – Melbourn Bury Lane – working party assigned late October/early November
4. Next Committee Meeting – 1st October, Green Room of the Village hall at 7.30pm

6.13 Streetart

Amanda Barnard will attend the next parish council meeting on 4th October 2007.

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

Notice boards will be in place by the end of the month outside the shop.

7. **Planning:**

Request for the following:

Conversion of Store to Dwelling
99c The Maltings
North End
Mr & Mrs Robbins

Ref: S/1508/07/F

Response: No objections, all agreed

Smoking shelter
The British Queen, 95 High Street
M.A. Naylor

Ref: S/1543/07/F

Response: Recommend Refusal

This is a village amenity land and the smoking but will be very prominent and visible in that land and it could also increase noise and nuisance to neighbours.

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Drawing also appears to be inaccurate.

Could a more acceptable site be found?

SCDC Decisions:

62 High Street
Mr & Mrs I McCaig

Ref: S/0907/07/F

Permission has been granted for extension

Land r/o 79 High Street
Mr & Mrs Bedlow

Ref: S/0988/07/F

Clerk

Permission has been granted for a dwelling and garage

Elin Way Garages
Reduction of roof height

Ref: None

Response: Cllr Van de Ven has no objections to the proposal, but need to see the formal application before work begins. From the view of Mrs Cook's residence there will be little change, but from other view points there will be an improvement. The Parish Councils position is unchanged from our comments of 12th July 2007.

RAS

Land at Eternit UK Limited

Ref: S/00329/07/CW

Final restoration and landscaping of a former closed gate landfill by the
Importation of inert waste materials

Cambridgeshire County Council granted planning permission for the development on 19th June 2007 subject to 18 conditions.

Local Development Framework

Only one of the three objection sites is up for discussion. Mr Searles will contact Gloria Alexander to find out why some sites will be discussed and why others have been omitted

Correspondence:

Christmas tree display in the church – to be discussed in October

Letter from Mr K Taylor concerning the litter bins – it was decided to leave the idea of concreting the litter bins for the time being in accordance to the information Mr Taylor brought forward.

South Cambridgeshire Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership – Anti Social Behaviour Seminar, 25th September 2007, Mr Borgonon is unable to attend but will pass on information to the Neighbourhood Watch.

GVB

9. Bills and Payments:

Payable	Cheque No.	Gross £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
Mr M Taylor August	001593	205.55	0	205.55	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Mrs J Damant August	001594	313.43	0	313.43	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mrs J Damant August but pd in Sept	001595	2.99	0	2.99	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 9/10
PAYE (August)	001596	122.85	0	122.85	Inland revenue	LGA 1972 s.112
Mrs J Damant	001597	190.08	0	190.08	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mr M Taylor	001599	247.62	0	247.62	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Mr G B Goodwin July	001600	630.00	0	630.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Mr G B Goodwin	001601	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
CALC	001602	30.00	0	30.00	VAT workshop	LGA 1972 s.143
Powergen	001603	207.04	9.86	207.04	Electricity for pavilion	LGA 1976

British Telecom	001604	106.36	17.82	124.18	Telephone for office May-July	s 19 LGA 1976 s 19
Wicksteed Leisure	001605	198.03	34.65	232.68	Play equipment – roundabout repairs	OSA 1906, ss 9/10
Mr P Chilvers	001606	75.00	0	75.00	Internal auditor	Audit Regulations 2003
Mr G Borgonon	001607	90.00	0	90.00	Expenses for tree surgery for Melwood	OSA 1906, ss 9/10
PAYE	001608	99.84	0	99.84	M Taylor, P Penfold, J Damant	LGA 1972 s.112

The above payments were: Proposed by Mrs C J Fallon, Seconded by Mr R A Searles.
Melwood should have received a grant for £475.00, Clerk to check. The invoice of £90.00 for tree surgery to be deducted out of this budget.

There were no additional payments.

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Closing balance: £ 633.78 current account
~~£37,794.53~~ deposit account
£38,428.31

**10. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for next meeting: 4th October 2007
in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.**

Mrs C J Fallon

There is concern from some residents over the closure of the shop for two weeks while it undergoes changes. Clerk to contact Mr Mike Powell. **Clerk**

There is a large pothole outside the shop and another in Westway. Clerk to contact Mike Cooper CCC **Clerk**

The hedge on the corner to Bell Close/High Street is obstructing view. Clerk to contact Mike Cooper **Clerk**

The kissing gate at the station footbridge is in need of some attention. Clerk to contact a blacksmith **Clerk**

There has been damaged done to the roundabout in the recreation area, is being repaired.

Mr G Borgonon

The hedge at North End opposite College Farm is obstructing the footpath and visibility is diminished. Clerk to make enquiries. **Clerk**

Mr R A Searles

Mr Gravett reported that the leaking pipe causing flooding at Mill Cottage would be repaired. Melbourn has been offered an additional PCSO but at a cost. Clerk to contact the Clerk at Melbourn to enquire about the cost and if there would be a possibility of sharing. **Clerk**

Mr C A Land

Mr Patten is willing to carry out a survey on the pavements in the village (see item 2) along with a parish council representative.

There is an increase in HGV coming through the village; it may be due to SATNAV.

Mr Land, as Chairman, gave Clerk permission to order the replacement parts for the damaged roundabout at the recreation area.

Agenda items to date:

Streetart
Christmas tree
Speedwatch
Carpark
Burial Ground
PCSO Melbourn

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11 p.m. Next meeting Thursday 4th October at 7:30pm

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