

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Mr C.A. Land – Chairman (CAL); Mr R Searles – Vice Chairman (RAS); 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 P Ray (PAR); Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [S.C.D.C.]); Mr David McCraith (Cambridge County Councillor, [CCC])

Action

1. **Apologies for absence:**
Mrs J Montague-Fuller (JMF)

2. **To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4th October 2007:**
Amendments:
Pg 689, item 7.5 Pavilion – should read Mrs Grimwood not Griffen.
Pg 688, item 7.11 Parish Paths (d) – should read 20th October not September
Pg 687, item 10 Mr Borgonon – should read – Look at Orwell and Arrington’s minutes and agendas for some type of synergy.
Pg 687, item 10 Mr G Borgonon – The paragraph concerning the Transport Innovation Fund should be part of CCC Report.
The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.

3. **Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:**
There was one member of the public present.

4. **Members’ declaration of interest for items on the agenda, which may cause a conflict of interest:**
There were no declarations of Interests.

5. **Report from District Councillor:**
The cycle channel at the station will be redone.
The housing drop-in sessions held earlier this month were poorly attended. It was suggested that the time of day the sessions were taking place might have been a factor for those residents who work. The drop-in sessions, though they are held in the Sheltered Housing Community Rooms concerns all council house residents. It was suggested that evening sessions might be of benefit. Cllr van de Ven will enquire. Cllr van de Ven
Cllr van de Ven has information concerning the Woodland Trust – Clerk will circulate Clerk
Planning Policy – the HG23 policy ‘Gypsy and Travellers’ has not been reinstated. Mr Searles said the Issues & Options Report on the location of new Traveller sites, which was due out in September, was delayed and asked when it would be circulated? Cllr van de Ven will investigate. Cllr van de Ven
Freight and Rail Campaign Group are looking into the weight issue of HGV vehicles due to enter the UK from Europe.

6. **Agenda items:**
 - 6.1 **Precept**
It was proposed by Mr C A Land and seconded by Mr R Searles that a working party should be set up to look at the precept. Some ideas are:
30mph repeater speed signs
Upgrade Fp 8
Upgrade part of Fp6
Minor Improvement Highways Scheme All Cllrs
New bench at the Stocks
Maintenance costs for benches
Any other ideas to be sent to the Clerk
The Disability Discrimination Act – money may need to be reserved for this.
Working Party: Mr P Ray, Mr R Searles, Mr S Hawkins, Mr T Burlton, and the Clerk

 - 6.2 **Speedwatch**
The CCC has been looking into this with other County Councils. Cllr Maquire (CCC) has agreed that funding be made available and the scheme is due to start in the new year. A Speed Officer

will be recruited to oversee the operation.

Pg 694

It was asked if there would be enough funding and Cllr McCraith informed the meeting that parish councils maybe asked to contribute. Mr Borgonon has been in correspondence with Inspector Vicky Seals who informed him that East Cambridgeshire would be carrying out a pilot study.

Mr Searles and Mr Borgonon have looked at the spacing between the lights on North End and this demonstrates that 30 mph repeater signs are required. The information has been given to the Clerk and a copy of the letter was circulated. Clerk will contact Mr David Lines (Highways - CCC). Motion was proposed and seconded.

Clerk

6.3 Village Car Park

The three quotes were circulated and it was decided that it would be too expensive to completely redo the car park. It was proposed by Mr P Ray and seconded by Mr A Burlton, that the car park should be patched, all agreed. Mr Burlton will contact the companies for a new quote on patching.

APB

The clerk has been in contact with the grass cutter about the footpath at the church. As it was proposed, at the last meeting, to have the path resurfaced it did not seem advisable to trim the path at this moment. When the footpath is resurfaced the verges will be tidied. It was proposed to ask the company who tarmac the car park to also do the church footpath at the same time.

6.4 Footpath in Churchyard

Dealt with in 6.3

6.5 Christmas Tree

Mr R Searles and the Clerk will decorate the tree.

6.6 Pavilion

Mrs Fallon circulated a letter, which she had received from Mrs Grimwood, who has regrettably decided to stand down from the Pavilion Committee. At the moment there is no one on the Committee to oversee fund raising and grant applications, in order to keep the building going. The Parish Council will support the committee but it needs others to run it. At the moment the football club are the only users, as the Youth Club has now disbanded.

Three quotes were received for repairing the wet pour surface under the swings. It was proposed by Mr C A Land and seconded by Mrs J Fallon to instruct Abacus to carry out the work, Clerk to contact them. Mr CA Land will tighten up the rocker swing.

**Clerk
CAL**

6.7 Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Melbourn

There will be a meeting on 26th November when Melbourn will be discussing finances. Mr Borgonon will ask if a representative from Neighbourhood Watch would be able to attend. At the moment the cost of sharing in the scheme appears to be too high. Meldreth are concerned about using Security Companies. Clerk to contact Melbourn.

Clerk

6.8 Freedom of Information Act

Clerk has been in contact and the update for this act is due to be carried out in February 2008. The Parish is still covered under the Draft Act 2002

6.9 Mary Course Memorial

Clerk read out the suggestions given by the family. The original suggestion of a School Project Award appears a more appropriate for the parish council. It was proposed by Mr CA Land and seconded by Mr G Borgonon to set up a Working Party - Mr A Burlton, Mr P Ray, Mr R Searles with the help of Cllr Van de ven agreed.

6.10 Office Tenancy

Mr Borgonon and Mr Ray have looked over the Tenancy Agreement and it appears to be in order. Clerk has spoken to Tracey Cassidy (SCDC) concerning payment and it was agreed to do quarterly invoices and have the rent with utilities together.

The Tenancy Agreement was signed at the meeting by Mr C A Land (Chairman) and Mrs J E Damant (Clerk)

6.11 Litter Picker

At the last meeting it was decided to increase the hourly salary from September, however the salary should have been increased in July so Clerk asked if she could backdate the pay. Proposed by Mr J Chamberlain and seconded by Mr A Burlton, all agreed to backdate pay from 14th July – 31st August 2007.

Clerk was also concerned that the Litter Picker was clearing litter from the bridge at Station Road where there is no footpath. It was proposed and seconded that this should cease. Clerk to inform the Litter Picker.

Clerk

6.12 Burial Ground

Still ongoing

6.13 Parish Path Partnership (P.P.P)

1. Chestnut Tree at the Stocks – leaves were cleared by the working party on 20th October. Thank you to Mr John Elbourn for allowing the use of his field for burning the large amount of leaves.
2. Outstanding works reported to Mr J Cooper of CCC on 30th July has been chased again, and consisted of the following:
 - a) Flambards bridge maintenance
 - b) Fp7 Melbourn bypass stiles, has received another complaint that it lacks correct support poles to assist elderly or handicapped users.
 - c) Fp5 Missing sign at Moor End
3. fp4 bridge – still to be looked at
4. Next working party is due on 24th November. This party is planned for clearing up Bury Lane fp12 plus any other necessary action required.
5. Dr Humphreys has offered some wood chipping, which would be used on fp2 (North end section). To be arranged.
6. Next Committee Meeting is scheduled for 10th December 2007 in the Green Room of the Village Hall.
7. Fp 8 has been cleared of ivy.

7. Planning**Request for the following:**

Driftwood, Brewery Lane
Extension
A L Slater

S/1897/07/F

Response: No objections

Recommendation: Approval

Planning meeting 18.10.07

Valley Farm

S/1882/07/F

Change of use of farm building to storage with ancillary office space
A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Response: No objections

Recommendation: Approval

Planning meeting 18.10.07

Valley Farm

S/1883/07/F

Change of use of building to storage, manufacture of anti-static foam
ancillary office use

A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Response: The forms appear to have been filled in incorrectly, in that, the section For person use does not related to its use as agricultural storage building.

The council notes the proper authority should check the following:

- a) **Is the foam flammable**
- b) **Could the foam damage the watercourse if released?**
- c) **Is it a suitable operation to be carried out near residential buildings?**

The above are not issues for refusal.

Recommendation: Approval

Planning meeting 18.10.07

Pg 692

Meldreth Manor School
Extension and Link Door
Scope

S/1989/07/F

Response: No objections

Recommendation: Approval

Planning meeting 01.11.07

SCDC Decisions:

The British Queen
95 High Street

S/1543/07/F

Permission has been granted for a smoking Shelter, but does not appear to have gone before the full Planning Committee. Clerk has written for clarification.

Planning meeting 06.09.07

62 High Street

S/1735/07/F

Permission has been granted for an extension

Planning meeting 04.10.07

Objection Sites Local Development Framework (LDF)

Only one of the four sites which were objected to, will be debated and this will take place on 23rd January. The other three sites would be considered by the inspector on written representation only.

Cllr van de Ven also noted that there are two Meldreth policies and HG23 on the location of traveller sites from the Local Plan that have not been transposed to the new LDF:

Meldreth 1 – allocation for residential development (Hollands site, Whitecroft Road)

Meldreth 2 – agricultural land between Melbourn and Meldreth

Cllr van de Ven will investigate further.

**Cllr van
de Ven**

8. Correspondence:

G B Goodwin – quote for tidying up the paths in the burial ground

It was proposed by Mr J Chamberlain and seconded by Mr A Burlton, that the quote for £200 is acceptable all agreed. Clerk to contact Mr Goodwin.

Trees near the Village Hall – It was proposed and seconded for the clerk to contact the tree surgeon.

Letter from Andrew Lansley MP – has received a letter from a resident in Meldreth who is concerned about the amount of traffic, especially the HGV, which is using Station Road. Clerk to write to explain that the Parish Council is aware of the situation and has been in regular contact with CCC.

**Clerk
Clerk**

Clerk

9. Bills and payments:

Payable	Cheque No.	Net £	V.A.T. £	Total £	Details	Power
P. J Deards	001612	22.50	0	22.50	Pavilion water tank inspection	LGA 1976 s.19
Moore Stephens	001613	296.06	51.81	347.87	External audit	LGA 1976 s.226
Mr P Chilvers	001614	30.00	0	30.00	Internal audit extra hours	LGA 1976 s. 226
Mr G V Borgonon	001622	47.47	0	47.47	CAP provisions	LGA 1976 s 19
Mr K Taylor	001623	122.90	0	122.90	Maintenance	OSA 1906 ss 9&10.
Mrs P Penfold	001624	111.98	0	111.98	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mr G B Goodwin	001625	775.00	0	775.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Mr M Taylor	001626	264.00	0	264.00	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Mr M Taylor	001627	18.99	0	18.99	Expenses	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001628	380.38	0	380.38	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001629	10.87	0	10.87	Clerk expenses	
PAYE	001630	174.40	0	174.40	PAYE & NI	LGA 1974 s.112
Mrs J Damant	001631	21.25	2.82	21.25	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 112

Pg 691

The above payments were approved. Proposed by Mr C A Land and seconded by Mr P Ray all agreed.

Current account balance: £20.01 Deposit account balance; £52,807.27 total amount in hand is £52,827.28

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

Mr A P Burlton

Trees are encroaching near the chicane at Station Road, near the pump house. Will give details to the Clerk.

APB

Mr S Hawkins

Can the old 'give way' sign be removed, Clerk has contacted CCC, will contact them again and ask to have it removed before November 11th ceremony.

There also appears to be more companies setting up at Fieldgate's. Cllr van de Ven has investigated this matter and they are allowed to sublet.

Clerk

Mrs J Fallon

The notice board at the station is in need of repair. Mr CA Land will investigate.

The 30mph interactive speed sign in Whitecroft Road is being blocked by a tree appears to be masking the sensor.

Are the notice boards at the shop going to be reinstated? – Mr Borgonon has been in touch with One Stop who have confirmed that the notice boards are due to be put up in the next week. It was suggested that the Clerk write to One Stop congratulating them on a brilliant job in the disabled access.

Clerk

Mr G Borgonon

The councillors' representation list should be almost complete. Clerk to draft a final copy with

representation for reading matter.

Clerk

Mr P Ray

Circulated a report on the pavements, benches and litter/dog bins to all the councillors, please look and report back at the next meeting. Letters have been written concerning overgrowing hedges.

Agenda items to date:

Speedwatch

Pavements and drop pavements

Carpark/footpath in churchyard

Burial Ground

PCSO Melbourn

Kissing gate

Mary Course Memorial

PPP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.35p.m. Next meeting Thursday 6th December at 7:30pm

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