

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Mr C.A. Land – Chairman (CAL); Mr R. A. Searles – Vice Chairman (RAS); Mr G.V. Borgonon (GVB); Mr A.P. Burlton (APB); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S.J. Hawkins (SH); Mr P. A. 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:

Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC)

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

Cllr van de Ven (SCDC) would like the statement on the previous minutes to be amended and state that 'First Capital Direct has agreed to reconsider the design of the cycle channels at Meldreth railway station, having received complaints from residents.'

The minutes were then agreed by all to be a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

Matters raised:

- The increased commercial activity occurring at Chiswick Supplies was a concern – it was confirmed planning permission had been granted by SCDC for Change of Use for one of the Nissen huts from storage to garage use. The Parish Council are not aware of any further development plans for this area, although it had been noted that there were several "objection sites" registered in the public examination of the Local Development Framework.
- There appears to be concern about the increased debris at the end of the track along the railway from Chiswick Supplies. It was confirmed that this land has a licence for waste processing although it is not presently running as a business.
- The new development adjacent to College Farm that has an entrance onto North End close to a sharp bend. It was explained that planning consent had been given following a lot of consultation by the Parish Council and that CCC Highways had carried out a full traffic survey and had imposed conditions to allow safe access to the site.
- Land and buildings currently for sale on High Street were a concern as if the land were developed for housing it would have considerable impact on the River Mel path. It was explained that planning permission had been granted for redevelopment on some of the land and listed buildings but not for the area of concern, which is outside the village framework and therefore not available for redevelopment.
- The pavilion – the football club would like it noted that the pavilion is not surplus to requirements and that they would like to see it improved. To be able to apply for grants for refurbishment it needs to be used by a wider community. (See item 6.6)

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

Personal Interests were declared for Item 6.4 by: Mr R Searles; Mrs J Montague-Fuller; Mr T Burlton; Mr P Ray and Mr S Hawkins.

Mrs J Fallon declared a personal interest in Item 6.6.

5. Report from District Councillor:

Residents have been enquiring about SCDC policy on pest control services. SCDC no longer provides a standard free service to deal with rats and mice on residential properties, but now charge up to approximately £50 for the service. Cllr van de Ven will take the matter up at the council.

SCDC charge £60 to deliver refuse bins to all new properties, including social rented homes. Rubbish will not be collected unless it is in the required black or green bin. Clerk to write to SCDC to highlight the difficulty some residents may have in paying this charge.

Clerk

6. Agenda Items:

6.1 Precept

A meeting has been held with a final meeting scheduled in January.

Items to be included: pavilion, reflector signs, minor highways scheme, replacement bench near the stocks, village furniture maintenance, contribution to upgrade footpath 8, playground equipment – maintenance, election reserve, cemetery, village furniture, car park, churchyard footpath.

6.2 Speeding 'speedwatch' monitoring speed

Clerk to ask David Lines (CCC, Highways) what is happening about the repeater 30 mph signs in North End.

Mr Borgonon will chase up enquiries concerning speed watch.

6.3 Village Hall Car Park/Churchyard footpath

Mr Burlton has received 2 quotes for patching the village hall carpark, still awaiting the third.

Mr Burlton has received 2 quotes for repairing the churchyard footpath, still awaiting the third. It was agreed that the Parish Council was only responsible for maintaining, and not for upgrading, the churchyard paths.

6.4 Riparian Resident Association

Riparian Resident Association: Cllr van de Ven suggested that a riparian residents' group be established to work on flood prevention. However, she had received advice from council officers that a parish council subcommittee can generally provide more impact on county and district councils when it comes to freeing up resources to back their plans, as opposed to a residents' association. The first meeting is scheduled for the 23rd January 2008 in the Village Hall (Green Room). It was felt to be important that appropriate officers from SCDC should also be involved. Cllr van de Ven will ask Rob Mungovan and Pat Matthews (SCDC) if they could attend the meeting.

Cllr van
de Ven

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It was proposed by Mr Borgonon and seconded by Mr Hawkins that the Parish Council would pay for the hiring of the room, all agreed. A sub committee will be set up after the initial meeting with residents. Cllr van de Ven to place an update for residents in Meldreth Matters.

6.5 Drop Pavements/Litter & Dog bins/Benches

Drop kerbs/Pavements

Clerk to send the list of pavements and drop kerbs to David Lines, (CCC Highways) with Meldreth's requirements.

PAR
Clerk

Litter & dog bins

Clerk to enquire who is actually responsible for purchasing and installing new bins. Need new dog fouling signs.

Clerk

Benches

The bench near the stocks is in need of repair or replacing. Ask Mr K Taylor to submit a quote for maintenance work on all the village benches.

Clerk

It was decided in a previous meeting to use a log in Melwood as a seat. There is a suitable log but it needs moving.

Clerk to contact Bassingbourn Barracks to see if they could help in relocating the log as it is not possible to use machinery due to its location.

6.6 Pavilion

An article was put into Meldreth Matters asking for support for the Pavilion. At the present time the only regular users of the building are the Football Club. The pavilion needs attention and it was asked how residents felt about the building and whether anyone would help in raising funds and applying for grants. It was agreed that the football club obtain costings for work to be carried out in the pavilion for new showers and to have the roof looked at.

6.7 PSCO – Melbourn

Melbourn will not be employing another PCSO as first thought, but are now looking into employing a security firm. It was felt that this was not practical for Meldreth and that the costs would be too high, so will not be participating in the scheme.

6.8 Kissing Gate

Ongoing.

6.9 Mary Course Memorial

All Councillors have looked at the draft outlining the costs and how to hold the funds. Clerk will check with CALC on how best to manage the funds obtained. Mr Ray will contact other parishes and organise the press release, Mr Borgonon will organise collection boxes.

Clerk
PAR
GBV

6.10 Clerk's salary/probation

It was proposed that Mr Land and Mr Searles would look at all the relevant information and report back at next meeting.

CAL
RAS

6.11 Trees at Village Hall

Clerk has been in contact with the Village Hall and has agreed that the work can be carried out at a cost of £150.00. Clerk still waiting for a written quote and invoice.

6.12 Burial Ground

Still waiting for quotes for the repair/replacement of the wooden gateposts.

Rabbit concerns – still ongoing

Proposed that Mr Baldwin be reimbursed £100.

Clerk
Clerk
Clerk

6.13 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P)

The bridge at Flambarbs has had the boarding repaired by CCC, but the metal work is still to be done.

Mr Searles read out Mr Chamberlain's report.

Still trying to contact Mr John Cooper (CCC) about the problems reported on 30th July.

Working party for 24th November to clear the Stocks area was cancelled due to lack of support and weather conditions. Mr Searles reported that all the leaves from the chestnut had been cleared and a further work party was not necessary.

An electronic Path Survey Form is due for completion by the end of January 2008; this will help in supporting the annual report and request for financial assistance in 2007/08 from CCC.

The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers who give up their time and equipment to maintain the footpaths in the parish.

Next meeting is on 10th December in the Green Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm

6.14 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be changed to Thursday 10th January 2008.

7. Planning

Ref: S/2092/07/F

Southfield Farm, Whaddon Road

Replace existing entrance gates and brick pillars

Mr Bitton

Response: Meldreth Parish Council have no objections.

Recommendation: Approval

Ref: C/11/17/071/02

TPO – Glebe House, 41 North End (TPO No. 7/66)

Crown reduction on large sycamore

Response: Meldreth Parish Council have no objections to either of the proposals to either reduce the crown or, if required, fell the tree; depending upon the recommendations/findings of SCDC Tree Officer.

Recommendation: Approval

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SCDC Decisions:

Ref: S/0165707/CC

Meldreth Primary School

Cambridge County Council

Permission has been granted subject to conditions to extend the playground and reception outdoor area.

Ref: S/1758/07/F

Sheltered Housing, Elin Way

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Permission has been granted to realign the roof (retrospective application)

Ref:S/1797/07/F

105 Whitecroft Road

Mr & Mrs Rawson

Permission has been refused for an extension

Ref: S/1882/07/F

Valley Farm

A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Permission has been refused for a Change of Use of Building to Storage with Ancillary Office Space (retrospective application)

Ref: S/1883/07/F

Valley Farm

A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Permission has been refused for a Change of Use of Building to Storage Manufacture of Anti-static Foam and Ancillary Office Use (retrospective application)

Ref: S/1508/07/F

99c The Maltings

Mr & Mrs Robbins

Permission has been granted for a Conversion of Store to Dwelling

SCDC Delegation Procedures – explanation for Smoking Shelter, British Queen and Extension at 11 High Street. Clerk to write to SCDC.

Clerk

Consultation on the Introduction of the National Standard Planning Application Form (1APP) Clerk to complete questionnaire.

Clerk

8. Correspondence:
Clerk read out correspondence received.

9. Bills and Payments:

| Payable | Cheque No. | Net £ | V.A.T. £ | Total £ | Details | Power |
|----------------------|--------------|---------|----------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| M Taylor | 001632 | 75.00 | 0 | 75.00 | Backdated pay for 14.07-31.08 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Pipex broadband | Direct Debit | 14.99 | 0 | 14.99 | Broadband | Telecomms Act 1984 |
| CCC | 001633 | 1212.58 | 0 | 1212.58 | Street lighting | Parish Councils Act 1957 s3 |
| Wickstead Leisure | 001634 | 20.50 | 3.59 | 24.09 | Roundabout parts | LGA 1972 s226 |
| Abacus | 001635 | 1280.00 | 224.00 | 1504.00 | Repairs to swings | LGA 1972 s226 |
| Mr G B Goodwin | 001636 | 700.00 | 0 | 700 | Grass cutting/cemetery | OSA 1906 ss 9/10 |
| Royal British Legion | 001637 | 66.50 | 0 | 66.50 | Poppy appeal | S137 |
| Staples | 001638 | 125.69 | 0 | 125.69 | Desk and stationery | LGA 1972 s226 |
| Powergen | 001639 | 54.33 | 2.66 | 56.96 | Electricity for pavilion | LGA (misc) 1976 s19 |
| BT | 001640 | 121.88 | 18.79 | 140.67 | Telephone | Telecomms Act 1984 |
| Shaw & Sons | 001641 | 43.02 | 7.53 | 50.55 | Permit to erect book | LGA 1972 s226 |
| Orwell PC | 001642 | 48.34 | 0 | 48.34 | Cilca training contribution | LGA 1972 s111 |
| M Taylor | 001643 | 39.99 | 0 | 39.99 | Safety coat | LGA 1972 s 9/10 |
| M Taylor | 001644 | 258.54 | 0 | 258.54 | Salary | LGA 1972 s 112 |
| Mrs J Damant | 001645 | 392.26 | 0 | 392.26 | Clerk salary | LGA 1972 s 112 |
| Mrs J Damant | 001646 | 18.56 | 0 | 18.56 | Clerk expenses | LGA 1972 s 112 |
| Mrs P Penfold | 001647 | 96.71 | 0 | 96.71 | Clerk salary | LGA 1972 s 112 |
| PAYE | 001648 | 181.58 | 0 | 181.58 | PAYE & NI | LGA 1974 s.112 |

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The above payments were approved. Proposed by Mr Searles, seconded by Mr Burlton

Current account balance: £510.26 Deposit account balance; £45,490.05, total amount in hand is £46,000.31

10. Councillors; and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:

Mr Borgonon

Will check the 'Give Way' signs at Fenny Lane.

GVB

Mrs Fallon

The old street lights need to be removed. Clerk to investigate

Has received complaints concerning the lack of parking in Elin Way. Now that the new housing has been completed it has become apparent that there is now a lack of parking places. The original lay-by has now been used for housing and has not been reinstated. Could the grass verge opposite the new housing be turned into a lay-by? Mr Borgonon and Mr Searles will look at the plans to see why this occurred.

Clerk

GVB
RAS

Mr Ray

The notice boards, which should have gone up at the One Stop shop, have still not been erected. GVB will chase.

GVB

Cllr McGraith (CCC)

A new leader will be appointed in May 2008, until then Mr Keith Walters the previous leader will act as the leader. They are also in the process of recruiting a Chief Executive

Mr Searles

It appears that some of the flooding occurring in the High Street may be a result of the British Queen car park not having a gully. Mr Land will investigate.

CAL

Agenda items to date:

Clerk's salary/probation period
Parking facilities at Elin Way
Village Furniture – maintenance programme
Precept
Pavilion
Carpark/churchyard footpath
Burial Ground
Kissing gate
Mary Course Memorial

PPP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00p.m. Next meeting Thursday 10th January 2008 at 7:30pm

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