

## MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008**, 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); Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC), Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S.J. Hawkins (SH); Mr P. A. Ray (PAR); Mr David McCraith (Cambridge County Councillor, [CCC]) Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [S.C.D.C.]])

### Action

**1. Apologies for absence:**

There were no apologies.

**2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008:**

Amendments:

Pg 700, item 10 – Should read Howard Road and not Flambards Close.

The minutes were then agreed by all to be a true record, proposed by Mr R A Searles, seconded by Mr J Chamberlain and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

Matters raised:

- The hedge at Whaddon Road has now been cut back; invoice to be sent to the Clerk.
- Contractors will be repairing the verge at College Farm.
- There is concern about parking along Elin Way. During certain times of the day it is becoming impossible for residents to park near their own properties.

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

Mrs J Fallon declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6.4 (Pavilion).

**5. Report from District Councillor:**

1. Cllr van de Ven thanked Mr Burlton for arranging to have the ditches cleared near Station Road.
2. Is chasing landscaping requirements at Burtons, including the planting of a hedge.
3. The Inspector's report on the Local Development Framework (LDF) Objection Site hearing on the SCOPE site should be available in the Spring 2008.
4. Cllr van de Ven asked the executive to waive the £60 fee for delivering green and black bins to tenants in new affordable housing, but this scheme is profitable for the council and the request was turned down. Cllr van de Ven has asked for the matter to be considered by the council's Scrutiny and Overview Committee, at their March meeting. This is a public meeting, which residents can attend. Time and venue: 20<sup>th</sup> March at Caldecot Village Hall at 5.30pm.
5. SCDC no longer provides free pest control service; however there may be some circumstances in which free service can be made.
6. Council voted to take the question of housing stock transfer to a tenant vote; tenants will choose between transferring the stock and retaining it within the ownership of the council. Further information sessions to be organized locally.
7. Mrs Fallon contacted Cllr van de Ven about the lack of turning space available at the side of the new building complex on Elin Way. Cllr van de Ven and parish councillors will investigate.
8. Choced Base Letting Scheme -this scheme allows council tenants to be proactive in seeking new accommodation, and to move across district boundaries in so doing. Scheme begins this month.

**6. Agenda Items:**

**6.1 Riparian Working Party**

Mr Ray has circulated the Riparian Working Party Flood Awareness Sub Committee Report. Over 60 people were in attendance at the recent riparian meeting chaired by Cllr van de Ven. Mr Rob Mungovan and Mr Pat Matthews (CCC) gave talks on aspects of flood awareness, and agreed to help develop a list of sensible priorities for a parish council subcommittee. It was proposed by Mr G Borgonon and seconded by Mr R Searles to set the remit into action. The Sub Committee will consist of Mrs J Montague-Fuller, Mrs J Fallon, Mr P Ray and Mr S Hawkins. Cllr van de Ven asked to continue to assist with the project. Will report quarterly to the parish council. It was agreed by all that a donation should be sent to the Community Rooms for allowing the use of their facilities. Clerk to arrange

Clerk

**6.2 Precept**

The table of expenses was circulated to all councillors. It was proposed by Mr G Borgonon and seconded by Mrs Montague-Fuller to except the precept figure of £36,750.00. The parish council have to take on extra costs such as footway lighting and flood avoidance; this is a 3.2% increase on a band D house and is the first increase in 3 years. The parish council continues to give financial support to many of the village societies. A vote was taken with all in favour. Clerk to send precept requirement to SCDC.

Clerk

**6.3 Village Furniture**

The list of street furniture has been given to Mr K Taylor. Highways have replied to Meldreth Parish Council's list of requirements. Mr Ray will update the spreadsheet.

PR

#### 6.4 Churchyard Footpath

The Parochial Church Council has accepted the plans to have the church footpath resurfaced from the kissing gate to the bend, but would like to see the rest of the footpath, from the bend to the porch widened. It was felt that this path has never been a wide path and therefore widening is more than the maintenance of the closed churchyard for which the Parish Council is responsible. There is not a disabled access, as one already exists from the main gate. It was

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proposed by Mr Searles and seconded by Mr Ray to carry out the works as first discussed, to resurface the path as it is but not to widen it. Clerk to advise secretary of the PCC of this decision.

Clerk

#### 6.5 Pavilion

Still in the process of obtaining quotes and looking into grant applications.

#### 6.6 Parking facilities on Elin Way

Clerk has written to SCDC Planning Department for an explanation on the lay-by, which has disappeared with the new housing.

Clerk has received a reply concerning disabled bays. Clerk to write to residents in Elin Way who may be experiencing difficulties with a copy of the letter received from SCDC.

Clerk

#### 6.7 Tackling Congestion Charges

Report from Mr Searles, is being circulated. At the moment no decision has been made concerning the implementing of a congestion charge in Cambridge. The proposals being consulted on envisage a charge of £3-£5 from 7.30-9.30am. On the north side of the city there is concern that there will be an increase in vehicles being parked while commuters walk into the City.

Clerk

The congestion charge will include Addenbrookes, though there will be a guided bus route to Addenbrookes from Trumpington. The Park and Ride at Trumpington will expand in order to meet the increase of commuters.

Cllr McGraith also explained that:

- 2/3 of workers in the City come from the South Cambridgeshire area.

- There will be a new railway station for Cambridge.

- There will be a new Park & Ride.

- Increased and improved rural bus service.

- The Deputy Chief Executive, Mr Brian Smith has given his assurance that all the monies received from the congestion charge will be reinvested into improving local public transport.

#### 6.8 Kissing Gate

Clerk has spoken with the companies but is still waiting for written quotes.

#### 6.9 Mary Course Memorial

Is still open for donations. There are collecting points at various points around the village and cheques can be sent to the parish clerk.

#### 6.10 Burial Ground – working party update

The Chairman with some areas of concern circulated his report at the meeting.

1. The footpath around the cemetery is on the whole in good repair, however there are some sections, which are in need of repair. Clerk is waiting for a quote from G B Goodwin.
2. There are two graves that are in need of brambles and other vegetation to be removed. Clerk to ask G B Goodwin to take a look.
3. The corner near the gate is beginning to look unsightly. Clerk to contact CALC about the circumstances of consecrated soil.
4. Rabbits and dogs are becoming a nuisance. There is presently a hole in the hedge near the riding school; Mr Land will contact SCOPE school about getting the fence repaired.
5. To draw up some formal rules for the graveyard, Clerk to contact other parishes to see what their requirements are. One being that dogs should be kept on leads.

Clerk

Clerk

CAL

Clerk

Clerk has received replies concerning the gate posts, it was proposed by Mr Searles, seconded by Mr Hawkins to accept MD Landscapes quotation of £445.08 + vat all agreed. Clerk to contact MD Landscapes.

Clerk

Clerk also suggested that when the Cambridge Records reopens in March that the Burial Chart, which is on parchment, is copied and scanned. The chart will then remain at the Records Office in the Archives department and the Clerk will upkeep the records periodically. The copied version will be kept at the office. Though the chart is a working copy it needs to be protected. At the moment do not have a cost this will be done when the office is open again.

Clerk

#### 6.11 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P)

Outstanding work reported to CCC, remains unchanged.

Preparation of P3 report to CCC.

The path surveys are nearly complete.

The Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February will discuss and agree proposed working plan for 2008/09. Next the agreed plan will be transferred to the CCC P3 application from which support our application for a grant for 2008/09.

Replacement litterbin on the A10 – Clerk to chase.

Mr Chamberlain and Clerk will go through the finances.

P3 Coordinator meeting will take place at Shire Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008

Clerk

JC,

Clerk

## 7. Planning

24<sup>th</sup> January 2008

Change of Use of Barn to Storage Uses (4 units) with ancillary office  
Valley Farm

S/2426/07/F

A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Traffic speed survey has been carried out to establish that site lines are adequate.

Subject to Highways being satisfied the parish council recommend approval.

**Recommend: Approval**

Change of Use of Barn to Storage, Light Industrial and Ancillary Office  
Valley Farm

S/2427/07/F

A P Burlton (Farms) Ltd

Traffic speed survey has been carried out to establish that site lines are adequate. Subject to Highways being satisfied the parish council recommend approval.

**Recommend: Approval**

Thinning of Sycamore Tree  
26 North End  
Mrs Bell  
Parish Council has no objections.

S/11/40/71

**Recommend: Approval**

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7<sup>th</sup> February 2008  
Temporary Sectional Framed Building  
Plot 6 Five Acres, Kneesworth Road  
D Boxall

S/0121/08/F

Parish Council has no objections.

**Recommend: Approval**

Alterations to boundary wall at 37 North End by provision of 2 brick buttresses at 6 Brewery Lane

S/0139/08/LB

Mr C Ewbank

Parish Council has no objections.

**Recommend: Approval**

#### SCDC Decisions

Bury Lane Fruit Farm has been granted permission for installing 6 glasshouses.

#### Report on Planning Workshop

Mr Searles had circulated a report. Meldreth Parish Council have written to the SCDC Planning Department with their concerns about the Chairman's Delegation Committee. At the present moment the Parish Council are not informed as to when these meetings are to take place. The Parish Council have asked that if the SCDC Councillor is unable to attend than a parish council representative may attend in their place. Mr Searles asked Cllr van de Ven if she would inform the parish council if she were unable to attend a meeting. Cllr van de Ven has, herself, raised her concerns with this procedure.

#### 8. Correspondence:

Clerk to attend the Archiving Course by CALC at a cost of £40, cost will be shared with Arrington and Orwell.

#### 9. Bills and Payments:

Mrs J Damant	001657	374.20	0	374.20	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001658	19.93	0	19.93	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 9/10
PAYE	001659	163.98	0	163.98	Inland revenue J Damant & M Taylor	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mr M Taylor	001660	258.53	0	258.53	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
D J Thomas	001661	150.00	0	150.00	Tree surgery for VH trees	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Mr G B Goodwin	001662	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
CALC	001663	20.00	0	20.00	Planning workshop Training	LGA 1972 s. 111
Meldreth Village Hall Trust (chq reissued for 001656)	001664	82.00	0	82.00	Village Hall Rent for PC meetings	LGA 1972 s. 134

Total amount of cheques awaiting approval £1,186.64.

Total amount in Current Account £ 940.47 This is after all cheques have been presented.

Total amount in Deposit Account £43,396.52

Total funds available **£44,336.99**

The above payments were approved. Proposed by Mr P A Ray, seconded by Mr R A Searles. There were no additional payments.

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

##### Cllr McGraith

Mr Searles term as a Governor at Meldreth Primary School has come to an end. The governing body has asked if another parish councillor would serve as a Community Governor. Nominations to the chair of the governing body. The next meeting is in April.

##### Mr C A Land

The light at Kneesworth Road SC30, has been reported by the Clerk but is still not repaired, Clerk to chase.

##### Mr G V Borgonon

The 'Give Way' sign at Kneesworth Road is not lit. Clerk has reported this to Highways, to chase

There is to be two ready made notice boards erected outside the 'One Stop' shop. The WI would also like to have a notice board. The parish council notice board is being used as a general board, may need to insert a lock.

All

Clerk

Clerk

**Mrs J Fallon**

Is the High Street going to be resurfaced, Clerk to enquire with Highways if they have a schedule of works?  
The wall outside Maycroft Residential Home is getting larger. Clerk to contact them.

**Clerk  
Clerk**

**Agenda items to date:**

Agenda format – look at matters arising and action points  
Parking facilities at Elin Way  
Village Furniture – maintenance programme  
Pavilion - quotations

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Churchyard footpath  
Burial Ground – footpath, maintenance, rules and regulations  
Kissing gate repairs  
Mary Course Memorial  
PPP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11.00 p.m. Next meeting Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 7:30pm

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