

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held **Thursday 6th March 2008**, 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 P. A. Ray (PAR);; Mr David McCraith (Cambridge County Councillor [CCC]) Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [SCDC])

- | | Action |
|---|---------------|
| <p>1. Apologies for absence:
Mr R. A. Searles – Vice Chairman (RAS) and Mrs J Montague-Fuller (JMF)</p> | |
| <p>2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 7th February 2008:
Amendments:
Mrs Montague-Fuller was in attendance at the last meeting, accidentally omitted.
6.1 – Riparian Working Party Flood Awareness should read Flood Avoidance Sub-Committee.
Representations of the Parish Council on the Sub-Committee will be Mrs J Montague-Fuller, Mrs J Fallon, Mr P Ray and Mr S Hawkins.
6.7 – 2/3 of the Cambridge City workers come from the South Cambs area.
The minutes were then agreed by all to be a true record, proposed by Mr P Ray, seconded by Mr J Chamberlain and signed by the Chairman.</p> | |
| <p>3. Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:
There were no members of the public in attendance.</p> | |
| <p>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). Clerk to seek dispensation for Mrs Fallon.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>5. Report from District Councillor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr van de Ven had asked the SCDC Portfolio Holder whether the £60 delivery charges for wheelie bins at affordable housing developments might be waived, or else reduced to actual cost only, but the answer was no. The council will not collect rubbish from identical bins bought directly from the manufacturer. Clerk to contact Daphne Spinks (SCDC) for an explanation on their policies. It was also proposed by Mr Burlton, seconded by Mr Hawkins and agreed by all, that this should be put, via a letter, before the Scrutiny Committee for their next meeting. 'Have the economic and social consequences of the effect of your policy of charging for delivery of wheelie bins taken into account the possibility of increased theft and fly tipping? If so, how great a problem is foreseen? • Mr Searles' concern, that the planning application system was becoming less transparent and democratic with increasing numbers of applications not going to SCDC Planning Committee, had been raised at Full Council. The Planning Committee Chairman disagreed with this view. Cllr van de Ven is happy to make representations on behalf of any applicant, objector or the Parish Council at the Planning Chairman's delegation meeting, which is closed to the public. • The re-roofing of the Elin Way Community Centre garage block is now taking place. • Overnight parking of a lorry in the High Street, between the shop and school, had caused concern, with congestion already a serious issue. Cllr van de Ven gave the details of this commercial lorry to the Parish Clerk, who will write to the company concerned asking them not to park in this residential area. • Path along the Recreation area between Howard Road and the High Street (Path 8) still needs urgent attention in terms of smoothing the surface and making it safe to walk along. Clerk to contact Highways (CCC) for a definitive map of the area to clarify who is responsible for, sections of the path. • Fulbourn Parish Council had contacted Cllr van de Ven in its efforts to initiate a plan to consolidate good practice on common cemetery problems, and the clerk had provided feedback from experience at Meldreth. We await results. • Cllr van de Ven reported that all plastics recycling banks in the district will be removed and a new system of kerbside plastics recycling will begin in October, at a cost of £1.2 million. The option of increasing recycling banks, and the question of environmental and financial benefits of the new kerbside program, have not been investigated. While kerbside boxes for plastics recycling will be free, wheelie bins will continue to carry a £60 delivery charge. • National Air Traffic control is now carrying out a consultation exercise on stacking of aircraft over this area, in conjunction with air traffic at Stanstead and Luton airports. A useful website allows you to type in your postcode to find out exactly what could be taking place in the skies overhead: www.consultation.nats.co.uk, or write to TCN Consultation, NATS Freepost, NAT22750, Reading, RG1 4BR. | Clerk |
| <p>6. Agenda Items:
6.1 Setting of Agendas and Minutes
Clerk still collating information.</p> | Clerk |

6.2 Village Furniture – maintenance programme

Mr Ray had circulated an update of November 2007 priority listing of pavements and drop-kerbs after feed back from Highway's (CCC). The first priorities in the new financial year will be: Kneesworth Road pavement refurbishment and drop kerbs at the entrance to Oakrits and the Community Centre. It was noted that improvements to the driveway crossings at Fenny Lane footway have been actioned by the residents. Still waiting to hear from Mr K Taylor about the maintenance charge for the village furniture.

Clerk

6.3 Churchyard Footpath

The Parochial Church Council would still like to see the footpath widened from the bend to the porch. Mr Burlton will again contact the church representatives. It was proposed by Mr Ray and seconded by Mr Borgonon that the Parish Council could offer a sum of money for work on the footpath and that the Church pays any remainder for further enhancement work.

AB

6.4 Pavilion

Mrs Fallon has received one quote, still awaiting others.

6.5 Parking Facilities on Elin Way

Clerk has not heard from the Planning Department (SCDC) - to chase.

Of the 11 letters sent out, 5 have replied who all appear to be in favour of turning the grass verge opposite the Raglans development into a lay-by, though there were some relevant concerns expressed.

6.6 Kissing Gate

It was proposed by Mr Borgonon and seconded by Mr Burlton to accept the quotation of £300 + vat from Morley Manufacturing. The gate will be removed while the repairs take place. Clerk to inform Morley.

Clerk

6.7 Mary Course Memorial

Money is still being donated. Mr Ray and Mrs Fallon will take in the collection boxes at the end of March

PAR, JF

6.8 Burial Ground

Clerk has contacted MD Landscapes but has not heard as to when the work on the gateposts will commence.

Clerk has received one quote concerning the repairs of the cemetery path and is still waiting for two others.

Clerk reported that it appeared that a grave is beginning to fall in due to rabbit burrows. Clerk to locate the family name.

Clerk

6.9 Parish Paths Partnership (P.P.P).

Mr Chamberlain read out his report.

Clerk will circulate the P3 2008/09 application.

More volunteers are needed; if anyone is interested please contact Mr Chamberlain or the Clerk.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who work so hard and give up their own time in order to maintain the footpaths in and around Meldreth. Their work is greatly appreciated.

Melwood bridge on Fp 14 still needs to be repaired. Clerk to contact John Cooper (CCC) to enquire who is actually responsible.

Clerk

7. Planning:

Removal of Leylandii and replanting with a natural hedgerow of native plants
25 North End
Mr M Wing
The Parish Council have no objections
Recommend: Approval

C/11/40/071

SCDC Decisions:

Appeal for 38 Woodlands Drive
The appeal has been dismissed.

S/1032/07/F
APP/W0530/A/07/2058934Other Planning Issues:

Annexe at 53 High Street

A letter has been received asking permission to access the land in order to construct a timber-framed building.
Clerk to write to the Planning Department (SCDC)

Clerk

Correspondence:

Clerk has received letters from concerned residents from Five Acres; letters to be passed on to the Planning Department (SCDC).

Clerk

8. Correspondence:**Correspondence was read out by the clerk**

- The Highways department is investigating reports of driveways being gravelled over without seeking Highways permission.
- Clerk has received correspondence concerned with the state of the footpaths and roads, clerk to forward Highways reply.
- Parked vehicles on the High Street are causing visibility problems; the Parish Council felt that this is a temporary problem whilst building work continues.
- Clerk still waiting to hear from MD Landscapes as to when work will commence on the gateposts.
- Clerk has not heard back from the police about checking the parking problems on Elin Way and High Street during school drop off and pick up times.

9. **Bills and Payments:**

Name	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Description	Power
Mrs J Damant	001665	337.92	0	337.92	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001666	7.13	0	7.13	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 9/10
PAYE	001667	144.51	0	144.51	Inland revenue J Damant & M Taylor	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mr M Taylor	001668	258.53	0	258.53	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Mr G B Goodwin	001669	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Chubb Fire Limited	001670	100.18	14.92	85.26	Fire equipment check	LGA 1972 s144
Staples	001671	150.96	22.48	128.48	Office equipment	LGA 1972 s111
M Hunter	001672	49.50	0	49.50	Hedge cutting	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
British Telecom	001673	108.93	14.06	94.87	Telephone	Telecomms Act 1984
G V Borgonon	001674	37.59	5.60	31.99	Computer memory	LGA 1972 s111
E.on	001675	73.30	0	73.30	Electricity for pavilion	LGA 1972 s144
D J Thomas	001676	90.00	0	90.00	Wood chippings for fp2 and fp6	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
J Chamberlain	001677	97.76	0	97.76	Admin expenses for PPP 2006/07 and 2007/08	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
J Chamberlain	001678	20.00	0	20.00	Fuel costs for strimmers	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Pipex	DD	9.99	?	9.99	Broadband	Telecomms Act 1984
SCDC – Sheltered Housing	001679	1674.00	0	1674.00	Office rent for 1 st April 07 to 31 st March 08	LGA 1972 s111

Payments proposed by Mr P Ray, seconded by Mr G V Borgonon - all agreed.

Additional payment: Proposed by Mr P Ray, seconded by Mr G V Borgonon (shaded area) - all agreed

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

- Clerk has asked for grass cutting maps indicating what areas SCDC and CCC cut. Have received a request to have the grass verge cut outside No 43 Whitecroft Road. Mr Goodwin has never cut this area and is not sure whose responsibility it is. Await maps before a decision is made. **Clerk**
- Sent an email to Mr Robert Roweth (CCC) enquiring if he knew whether SatNav systems were being used to direct HGV's through Meldreth. **Clerk**
- Letter received about the overloading of farm debris and if netting could be used. Clerk to enquire with Mr Robert Roweth (CCC) what the legal requirements are for transporting loose loads. Mr Burlton informed the Council that the farm were aware of the problems and were ensuring that smaller loads were transported and that sweeping vehicles were now being used. **Clerk**
- Clerk is still enquiring as to what has happened to the litterbin on the A10, and having it replaced. **Clerk**

Mr Borgonon

- Will enquire with Mr Rob Mungovan what are the best cutting arrangements for the verge at Fenny Lane in view of conservation and wild flowers **GVB**

Mr Burlton

- Mr Burlton enquired if stiles could be replaced with gates. This is being covered in the P3 application. **AB**
- Overhanging tree on A10 has been reported – has been forwarded from Highways to Countryside Service Team at Shire Hall, however, if the tree has fallen onto the by-way from adjacent land, it is the landowner's responsibility. Mr Burlton will investigate **AB**
- Has received correspondence relating to a hedge on Kneesworth Road near the Showman's site; will investigate. **AB**

Cllr McCraith

- CCC has passed its annual budget increase by 5%. **CAL**
- Mr C A Land will contact the school concerning standing as a Community Councillor. **CAL**

Mr Hawkin

Meldreth railway station should begin to see some improvements of train timetables by September 2008. Royston will have its platforms extended, in order to accommodate 12 car trains in 2012.

Mrs Fallon

The graffiti work, which has been done to the underpass under the river Mel, is looking very attractive.

Mr Borgonon

The Speedwatch article to be submitted to the next Meldreth Matters publication. Proposed by Mr Chamberlain, seconded by Mr Burlton all agreed.

GVB

Mr Ray

Has been looking at the insurance policy, which is due for renewal in June 2008. Mr Ray will also look at other insurance companies. Clerk to enquire about risk assessments.

**PR
Clerk**

Mr Allan

Still looking into the fence at the cemetery with SCOPE.

Agenda items to date:

Agenda format – look at matters arising and action points

Hedge on Kneesworth Road

Fenny Lane Verge

Grass cutting

Transportation of loose loads

Litterbin on A10

Parking facilities at Elin Way

Village Furniture – maintenance programme

Pavilion - quotations

Churchyard footpath final decision

Burial Ground – footpath, grave, rules and regulations

Mary Course Memorial

PPP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

Next meeting will be the **Annual Parish Meeting** on Thursday 3rd April, at 7:00 pm followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

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