

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held **Thursday 3rd April 2008**, 8.15 p.m. in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall

Present: Mr C.A. Land – Chairman (CAL); Mr R. A. Searles – Vice Chairman (RAS; Mr A.P. Burlton (APB); Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC), Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S.J. Hawkins (SH); Mrs J Montague-Fuller (JMF); Mr P. A. Ray (PAR); Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [SCDC])

- | | Action |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <p>1. Apologies for absence:
Mr G.V. Borgonon (GVB), Mr David McCraith (Cambridge County Councillor [CCC])</p> | |
| <p>2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 6th March 2008:
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 was 1 member 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 still seeking dispensation for Mrs Fallon.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>5. Report from District Councillor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny Committee – Cllr van de Ven and Mrs Montague-Fuller attended the recent Scrutiny Committee meeting. The Parish Council had submitted a question concerning the Wheelie Bins. It was made clear at the meeting that this is an issue between the housing association and the tenants. The portfolio holder, Mrs Daphne Spinks (SCDC) was in attendance but remained committed that wheelie bins will have to be purchased and will no longer be a free item. The profile has now been raised and the Scrutiny Committee are now aware that there are concerns and the issue may be looked at again in 6 months time, but at the moment no action will be taken. • Cambridge Innovation – one of the conditions of introducing the congestion charge for the city of Cambridge is that public transport services have to be improved. This includes a better bus service for rural areas, however Meldreth is seen as having good public transport links as it has a railway station. Mr Hawkins did question this, as the station at present is only able to accommodate shorter trains. | |
| <p>6. Agenda Items:</p> <p>6.1 Village Furniture – maintenance programme
The cost of maintaining the wooden benches is £58.75 per bench; this will include cleaning the mould etc and treating with the correct wood treatment. The programme to commence at the end of the Spring period. Mr Keith Taylor also recommended that the benches should be looked at before the winter sets in. It was proposed by Mr P Ray, seconded by Mr J Chamberlain to have the benches maintained, agreed by all. The bench at the Stocks is to be replaced, Clerk to give brochures to Mr P Ray.</p> <p>The tree trunk at Melwood still needs to be moved, in order to make a seat. It is not possible to use machinery in this area, clerk to enquire about using a pony. Anglesey Abbey have some nice benches in their parkland, it was proposed (in his absence) that Mr Borgonon investigate as to where they purchased them or did they create them themselves. Mrs Fallon had reported that the notice board near the station needs repairing. Mr P Ray will take a look.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>6.2 Churchyard Footpath
Mr A B Burlton has been in contact with the PCC. It was asked if the Parish Council would provide Type 1 (MOT) hardcore. Specification is still to be done, when this has been received, a decision will be made</p> | Clerk
GVB |
| <p>6.3 Pavilion
Two quotes have now been received, still awaiting one more.</p> | PAR
JF |
| <p>6.4 Parking Facilities on Elin Way
Clerk still chasing the Planning Department (SCDC) for an answer to the question raised as to whether the Highways Department (CCC) were aware of the layby being taken away.</p> | AB
Clerk |
| <p>6.5 Mary Course Memorial
There are now enough funds to start the memorial fund. Mr R A Searles will contact the primary school to see when they would like to receive the money. It was proposed by Mr S Hawkins, seconded by Mrs J Fallon that a post office account should be opened, however it was also agreed that the question of tax and interest rates need to be addressed first. Information to be circulated.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>6.6 Burial Ground
Clerk has contacted MD Landscapes; work on the gates posts to begin shortly.
MD Landscapes would like to arrange a site meeting concerning the work required for the concrete footpath. Clerk to arrange.
Mr C A Land and Mrs J Fallon will visit the burial ground to see where is the best position to place the new bench. The fence appears to have been repaired.</p> | Clerk
CAL, JF |
| <p>6.7 Grass Cutting
Clerk has received the maps from Cambridge County Council. Needs to meet with Mr Goodwin to look over the map. Another area in question is the triangle patch of grass at Howard's Road and Whitecroft Road.</p> | Clerk |

6.8 Insurance

The insurance is due for renewal in June. The new quote from Alliance & Cornhill has increased by 8%. Mr P Ray will continue to look into other companies, though it appears that Zurich is the only other contender. Still waiting to hear from Suffolk ACRE and Westminster. Mr P Ray and the Clerk will look over the insurance paperwork. Insurance concerning working groups has still not been clarified and whether or not disclaimers can be used. Clerk to ask CPALC for advice.

PAR/Clerk

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

Mr Chamberlain read out his report.

Fp No 5, North End to Melbourn, the railway gate is not working properly. Mr A B Burlton will look at it, but believes that this is railway property. Clerk to enquire with the railways.

APB
Clerk

Melwood bridge on Fp 14 still needs to be repaired - Clerk waiting to hear back from John Cooper (CCC) to enquire who is actually responsible.

Clerk

Recent working party was cancelled.

7. Planning:

Dwelling Adj 23 Howard Road

S/0379/08/F

Ms A Brown

Response: A site visit to be arranged for 5th April. All agreed it that the Planning Committee, in attendance at the site visit, could make the necessary decision. The decision to then be forwarded to the clerk.

Extension

S/0398/08/F

34 High Street

I McPhee

Response: A site visit to be arranged for 5th April. All agreed it that the Planning Committee, in attendance at the site visit, could make the necessary decision. The decision to then be forwarded to the clerk

Alterations to wooden garage/store to form annex

S/0166/08/F

INFORMATION ONLY

120 High Street (Meldreth Court)

R Beaumont

(amended site location plan)

It was proposed that a letter to be written to the Planning Department concerning the handling of this application. Cllr van de Ven has concerns with the drainage due to flooding problems in this end of the High Street. It would appear that the application has been passed without looking at any of the concerns previously addressed.

SCDC Decisions:

Alterations to boundary wall

S/0139/08/LB

37 North End

Mr C Ewbank

Application has been withdrawn

Extension

S/0217/08/F

22 West Way

M Adams

Application has been withdrawn

Conservatory

S/0175/08/F

26 Oakrits

Mr G Burgon

Application has been granted permission

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

- Footpath at the recreation grounds. Clerk to contact Mike Cooper, Highways Dept (CCC) to arrange a meeting, Clerk to also invite Mr Alan Patten. Mr J Chamberlain to also attend if possible.
- Clerk still waiting to hear from Mr Robert Roweth
- Concerns over excess mud on the road at Northend.
- Concerns over flooding in Northend. The Flood Avoidance sub-committee is aware of these concerns and will work with residents.

Clerk
JC**9. Bills and Payments:**

Name	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Description	Power
Mrs J Damant	001680	337.92	0	337.92	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001681	12.65	0	12.65	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Mr M Taylor	001682	225.77	0	225.77	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
PAYE	001683	135.27	0	135.27	Inland revenue J Damant & M Taylor	LGA 1972 s. 112
Mr G B Goodwin	001684	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting/hedge	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
SCDC	001685	522.56	0	522.56	Rates for pavilion,	LGA 1976 s19
SCDC	001686	303.42	0	303.42	Rates for office	LGA 1972 s226
SCDC	001687	33.59	0	33.59	Rates for burial ground	LGA 1972 S 214 (6)
Cambridge Water Company	001688	250.44	0	250.44	Water for pavilion	PHA 1936 s.125
Cambridge Water Company	001689	24.25	0	24.25	Water for burial ground	PHA 1936 s.125
G V Borgonon	001690	37.95	5.60	37.95	Computer hosting, spam etc.	LGA 1972 s111
CPALC	001691	412.36	0	412.36	Affiliation fees	LGA 1972 s143
John Cobb & Sons	001692	998.75	148.75	850.00	Patching of carpark	OSA 1906 ss 9/10

Pg 711

Payments proposed by Mr P Ray, seconded by Mr R A Searles - all agreed.

There were no additional payments.

LGA (Local Government Act)

PHA (Public Health Act)

OSA (Open Spaces Act)

Clerk to enquire whether the pavilion is now on the mains for sewage or are they using the septic tank.

Clerk to enquire whether it would be beneficial to use a water meter at the pavilion.

Clerk
Clerk

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

Clerk

Clerk is still enquiring as to what has happened to the litterbin on the A10, and having it replaced.

Clerk to enquire about risk assessments.

Clerk
Clerk

Mr Borgonon (absent)

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 is looking into overgrowing hedges in certain parts of the village.

AB

Mr Hawkin

The ditch by the layby on the A10 is covered in rubbish.

Clerk

Mrs Fallon

There is a lot of furniture in the verge/ditch between Westway and Kneesworth Road. Contact Highways
The football pitch is getting flooded, could it be due to a damaged land drain? It was thought that the reason for the flooding is probably due to the recent heavy rains, it was proposed and agreed to observe the pitch to see if the condition improves after the water table has reduced.

Clerk

Mr Ray

Still 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 Searles

Could the Clerk circulate Melbourn's agenda and enquire about their standing orders with respect to their clause for stopping meetings.

Clerk

11. Action Points (if not already covered)

Grave space – Clerk still trying to locate the family.

Agenda items to date:

Agenda format – look at Melbourn's format and their standing orders.

Hedge on Kneesworth Road

Fenny Lane Verge

Grass cutting

Flambards Bridge

Transportation of loose loads

Litterbin and rubbish on A10

Parking facilities at Elin Way

Pavilion - quotations
Churchyard footpath
Burial Ground – footpath, grave
Mary Course Memorial
Insurance
PPP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Next meeting will be on Thursday 8th May, at 7:30 pm in the Green Room, of the Village Hall.

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