

**MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of Parish Council Meeting held on **8<sup>th</sup> January 2009**, 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 A.P. Burlton (APB); Mr G.V Borgonon (GVB); Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S.J Hawkins (SJH); Mr P. A. Ray (PAR)

**In attendance:** Cllr Dr S. van de Ven (Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council [SCDC]); Cllr D McCraith (Cambridge County Councillor [CCC]) and Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

**Action**

- 1/1/09 To receive any apologies for absence:**  
Apologies were received from Mrs J Montague-Fuller.
- 2/1/09 To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda**  
There were no Declarations of Interest declared.
- 3/1/09 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008:**  
It was proposed by Mr P A Ray and seconded by Mr S J Hawkins that the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> November be approved as a true record. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.
- 4/1/09 Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:**  
There was one member of the public in attendance.  
Concern was expressed about the following:  
Station car park – there are no clear white lines to indicate the exit from the car park area onto High Street.  
There are still concerns over parked cars at the junctions of Whitecroft Road and Chiswick End. The Parish Council have been in contact with both the Highways Department (CCC) and the police concerning this matter.  
The proposed cut in the opening hours of the ticket office at Meldreth railway station.
- 5/1/09 To consider any matters arising not already on the agenda:**  
There were no matters arising.
- 6/1/09 To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee:**  
Erection of Lean-to Extension to Warehouse, Toilet Block and Change of Use from Agricultural Building to Retail (Equestrian supplies) (Retrospective) S/2054/087/F  
Fieldgate Nurseries, 32 Station Road  
Parish Council Recommends: Refusal with comments  
**Planning Minutes 18.12.08**
- Request to Increase 11 to 13 pitches  
Showman's Site, Kneesworth Road  
Parish Council Recommends – No Recommendation but Clerk to write with suggested conditions.  
**Planning Minutes 08.01.09**
- Erection of Dwelling Following Demolition of Existing bungalow S/1996/08/F  
15 Chiswick End  
Parish Council Recommends – Refusal with comments  
**Planning Minutes 08.01.09**
- SCDC Decision:**  
S/1711/08/F, 13 North End, Dropped Kerb - Has been refused on two objections. Parish Clerk to write to Planning for further clarification on objection 2. (**Planning Minutes 20.11.08**)  
S/1754/08/F, 57 Station Road - Permission has been granted for a Conservatory. (**Planning Minutes 06.11.08**)  
S/1880/08/F, 18 Howard Road – Permission has been granted for an extension. (**Planning Minutes 20.11.08**)  
S/1920/08/F, Land adj 79 North End – Permission granted for House and Garage (revised design plan) (part retrospective). (**Planning Minutes 20.11.08**)
- 7/1/09 Report from District Councillor:**
- Cllr van de Ven circulated a map with the proposed positioning for a street road sign for Bury Lane; it was proposed by Mr P A Ray and seconded by Mr A P Burlton that the position indicated on the map was acceptable, all agreed. Cllr van de Ven will contact the relevant department.
  - SCDC would like to remove the recycling bins situated near Fieldgate Nursery. It was proposed by Mr P A Ray and seconded by Mr G V Borgonon that they should be removed but the Parish Council should wait until the March meeting before a final decision is made. This will give time for Meldreth residents to voice their concerns if they wish the bins to remain. It is not proposed that the bins will be relocated anywhere else in the village. At the moment there are safety concerns as to their position. To be discussed at the March meeting.
  - Melbourn Parish Council has approved a piece of parish council land to be used for BMX activities. This will also benefit individuals in Meldreth who participate in this sport.
  - There is to be a SCDC Climate Change Working Group who will be looking at energy efficiency. It is seen as a worthwhile project and Parish Councils are being encouraged to participate. Information will be sent to all Parish Councils with more information on who to get involved. There will also be grant money available for certain projects.

**Cllr van de Ven**

<b>8/1/09</b>	<b>Station Car Park:</b> Clerk has contacted PCSO Carl Fillary who has agreed to do a walkabout in the village, Mr R A Searles, Mr G V Borgonon and Mr J Chamberlain agreed to attend. Clerk to organise a date. The question of yellow lines along the High Street near the station was seen by some residents to not be a good idea because it would simply move the problem a little further away from the station. Concern has been expressed about cars parking too near the junctions. It has also been noted that cars are parking on the speed ramps. These issues will be addressed with the PCSO.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>9/1/09</b>	<b>Dog Bins:</b> There have been requests for more dog bins in the village. Clerk to contact Environmental Health about ordering another dog bin. It was proposed that the bin could be placed at the car park opposite the Church where footpath 6 starts.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>10/1/09</b>	<b>Housing – Housing needs in the village:</b> Catherine Shilton from Cambridgeshire ACRE has contacted the Parish Council to enquire whether the village needs more social housing. If it were felt that more social housing might be needed, a survey would be conducted by Cambridgeshire ACRE. Burton and Raglan developments have no more rental properties available; the only housing available is shared equity. Clerk to contact Ms Shilton to enquire if she could attend the February meeting to inform the Parish Council on what a survey would entail.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>11/1/09</b>	<b>Quality Councils:</b> New requirements are now coming through. Clerk has contacted The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to enquire what these new procedures are and when Meldreth's quality status is up for renewal.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>12/1/09</b>	<b>Burial Ground:</b> No further quotes have been received concerning the repairs to the cemetery footpath. Clerk to look at other companies. Chairman will also look into relevant companies.	<b>Clerk/CAL</b>
<b>13/1/09</b>	<b>Playground:</b> A meeting took place on 2 <sup>nd</sup> January. All equipment is in working order. There does need to be some hedge planning near the play area, in order to fill in the areas that are now quite thin. Recreation Committee to look again at purchasing a tree, which will give some shade. It was also felt that a good tree guard would be essential. The ceilings in the pavilion will need to be repaired; Mrs J Fallon will get the relevant quotes. It has also been suggested that heaters with a thermal switch would also be beneficial. The ditch water is not flowing down past the bridge to join the main watercourse and appears to be quite deep. Mr A P Burlton informed the meeting that the ditch had been cleared and that it was working correctly. The amount of rain received lately causes excess water to build up in the ditch that it then slowly releases.	<b>JF</b>
<b>14/1/09</b>	<b>Precept:</b> The final figures need to be agreed at the February meeting. Precept working party will meet up and go over the figures.	<b>RAS, PAR, SJH, Clerk</b>
<b>15/1/09</b>	<b>Highways:</b> Mr Mike Cooper (CCC) has still to contact Mr A P Burlton to carry out a site visit to look at the hedges on Kneesworth Road. Damaged bollards at the war memorial to be reset. The road signs on West Way, which have disappeared, have been reported to Diane Duncan (SCDC). Clerk to contact Mike Cooper about repainting white lines at the station entrance onto the High Street and to enquire when the white lines on Whitecroft Road and the junction at Fenny Lane are scheduled to be done.	<b>APB</b>  <b>Clerk</b>
<b>16/1/09</b>	<b>Parish Path Partnership Report:</b> Parish path surveys are being prepared for a paths meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2009; then the proposed work schedules for 2009/10 will be prepared. Fp6 (Mel Walk) needs more maintenance; Mr J Chamberlain is trying to contact Mr Thomas for some quality chippings. Fp 9 and 9a also need some maintenance this month. Mr J Chamberlain is trying to organise a site visit with Mr John Cooper (CCC) to look at outstanding concerns.	
<b>17/1/09</b>	<b>Correspondence:</b> All correspondence has been circulated. Items discussed:	<b>RAS,SH,JC</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parish Forum on the 19<sup>th</sup> January at Cambourne – Mr R A Searles, Mr S Hawkins and Mr J Chamberlain will try to attend.</li> <li>● A letter was received from resident asking for permission to enter the recreation ground in order to access their property to carry out tree work. The clerk will reply giving permission subject to any damage sustained to the recreation ground being put right.</li> <li>● Railway station office hours – Clerk to write to First Capital Connect expressing concerns over the proposed reduction in hours when the station office will be open and that it was felt that the current working hours suited Meldreth. Councillors agreed to encourage other residents to write to First capital Connect if they also have concerns.</li> <li>● Sign at the Stocks (which is owned by the Parish Council) has been damaged. Clerk to report to the police. Mr A P Burlton will contact Mr R Course about a replacement cost and if it is repairable. It was proposed by Mr G V Borgonon and seconded by Mr R A Searles that, depending on costs, that the sign be replaced.</li> <li>● Litterbin on the A10 – the cost of replacing the bin would be £1000 for a large bin, if required now. However all bins on major trunk roads will be replaced with these larger bins, but there is not date as yet. It was proposed by Mr R A Searles and seconded by Mr C A Land that it was not value for money to purchase a bin now and the council will wait to see when the Highways programme is likely to happen.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>  <b>Clerk</b>  <b>APB</b>

**18/1/09 Councillors and Clerk's Reports:****Mr G V Borgonon**

The website now has a new page which gives all the archived minutes and agendas.

Mr G V Borgonon will attend the next Neighbourhood Panel Meeting, which is to be held at Bassingbourn Village College.

**Clerk**

Freedom of Information sheet to still be finalised.

Has not heard from Mr David Lines (CCC) about the positioning of the yellow lines being proposed opposite Sheene Mill on the Melbourn/Meldreth parish boundary. Clerk will contact Melbourn Parish Clerk to see if they have heard and to propose that Meldreth PC will share the repainting costs (but not the Traffic Order costs).

**Cllr D McCraith**

The CCC have decided to spend £1/2 million via the voluntary sector over the next two years in order to help the increasing number of people suffering hardship due to the credit crunch.

**19/1/09. To receive details of cheques to be drawn on the Parish Council's account as detailed or amended by late payments. To approve payments:**

Name	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Description	Power
G B Goodwin	001778	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting - Nov	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Mrs J Montague-Fuller	001779	44.99	6.70	55.96	Expenses	S137
Mrs J Damant	001780	311.30	0	311.30	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Mrs J Damant	001781	2.16	0	2.16	Clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s 9/10
PAYE & NI (JD & MT)	001782	201.40	0	201.40	Inland revenue & NI	LGA 1972 s.112
Mr M Taylor	001783	180.40	0	180.40	Litter collector	LGA 1972 s 9/10
Village Hall Trust	001784	75.00	0	75.00	Room rental	LGA
G B Goodwin	0017785	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting - Dec	OSA 1906 ss.9/10

LGA – Local Government Act

OSA – Open Space Act

Telecom - Telecommunications Act

Total amount of cheques awaiting approval **£1,815.25**

Shaded area – payments made during the month

Total amount in Current Account (includes payments awaiting) £ 997.76

Plus total amount in Deposit Account (includes all transfers) £40,905.86

Total funds available **£41,903.62**

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

**20/1/09. Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:**

Hedges – AB and Highways report

PPP

Precept

Parking concerns on High Street – follow up on walkabout

Charges – sewage and Pipex – still chasing

Speed limits along Whaddon Road/Kneesworth – what is happening?

Freedom of Information

Quality Council

Station office cut in hours

Speedwatch

New Bus Route

**21/1/09 Action Points: (if not already covered)**

All action points covered

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Next meeting will be on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009, at 7:30 pm in the Green Room, of the Village Hall.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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