

## MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED of the Parish Council Meeting held on **5<sup>th</sup> February 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); Mrs J Montague-Fuller (JMF); 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)

**Guest Speaker:** Mr Ed Barnes of McCann Homes addressed the meeting with their proposed plans for new affordable housing in the village. Catherine Shilton (Cambridgeshire ACRE) and Mike Cramp (Flagship) were unable to attend the meeting.

The proposed site is the area behind the Burtons development and comprises of 8, 2-bedroom homes; 18, 2-bedroom houses and 8, 3-bedroom houses. At the moment this is just a proposal and a Housing Needs Survey will need to be conducted before any further decisions can be made.

The Parish Council would like to know about moving the speed limit so that it includes the Burtons area and for a new pavement to be installed from the Fenny Lane crossroad to Burtons. These are issues that could be made stronger if there were more people in the area. Although the speed limit is not a planning condition it is a consideration that needs to be looked into. McCann Homes would work with Flagship Housing on the development. In the two previous projects of Elin Way and Burtons (the latter is a Rural Exception site and can only go to local residents) most have gone to residents with a strong connection to the village.

The school would be included in the planning application to make sure they are capable of accommodating extra children. Anglian Water would be involved to ensure the village sewage system could cope.

		Action
<b>22/2/09</b>	<b>To receive any apologies for absence:</b> There were no apologies for absence. Mr R A Searles arrived at 8.15 p.m and Mr A P Burlton left at 9.30 p.m	
<b>23/2/09</b>	<b>To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:</b> There were no Declarations of Interests declared.	
<b>24/2/09</b>	<b>To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009:</b> It was proposed by Mr S W J Chamberlain and seconded by Mr A P Burlton that the minutes of the 8 <sup>th</sup> January be approved as a true record. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.	
<b>25/2/09</b>	<b>Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:</b> Two members of Whaddon Parish Council addressed the council with regards to the proposed new bus service which will run from Steeple Morden to Royston via Whaddon and potentially Meldreth.	
<b>26/2/09</b>	<b>Matters arising: (no actions – information only)</b> 26/2/09.1 Dog bin – Clerk has written to Mr Stuart Hardwood-Clark but has not yet received a reply. 26/2/09.2 Pipex refund – still ongoing. 26/2/09.3 Anglia Water refund for sewage charges to pavilion – reimbursement is being forwarded. 26/2/09.4 Grass cutting grant – grant has been applied for.	
<b>27/2/09</b>	<b>Planning: Cllrs Land, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, and Ray:</b> Planning meetings for 22 <sup>nd</sup> January and 5 <sup>th</sup> February were cancelled <b>SCDC Decisions:</b> S/2006/08/F, 8 Fenny Lane, permission has been granted for extension and erection of Cart Lodge/Carport S/1996/08/F, 15 Chiswick End, permission has been refused for the erection of a bungalow, following demolition of an existing bungalow The proposed street sign for Bury Lane has been declined by the planners as they do not believe it would be of use: they advised that for the time being, this proposal is deferred.	
<b>28/2/09</b>	<b>Report from District Councillor:</b> 1. Rail Station booking office, proposed reduction in opening hours: Cllr van de Ven has received calls from people saying they didn't get a chance to sign the petition. Cllr van de Ven has written to FCC to ask why local elected representatives, including parish councils, in affected villages, were not notified of their proposal to cut booking office opening hours; the response was that they are not obliged to consult beyond Passenger Focus and London Travelwatch. The task of spreading the word has fallen to individual residents, who have given much of their time. Cllr van de Ven has asked Elaine Holt, Managing Director of FCC, if she would come out to Meldreth to meet local rail users and she has agreed. Awaiting date to be set. 2. Received complaint about broken street lighting opposite Station entrance, Clerk has already contacted CCC and it would appear that there maybe an electrical fault. 3. Lisa Harris, new Cambridge Housing Society officer, has called and will be coming out to Meldreth soon. She has received complaints about a stray dog in West Way, making it difficult for young children playing outside. 4. SCDC housing stock consultation process: 'Offer Document' to tenants has been voted through, but not unanimously. Motion to delay process by one year, in light of financial crisis, was lost. 5. Bus service 139 changes – returning from Royston 15 minutes later now (13:15). 6. Barrington Liaison Group continues. Many have not found new jobs – some ex-employees are from Meldreth. Plant is being mothballed for 18 months, to leave options open. No development plans at present.	

	<p>7. All new garages now let at 1-4 Elin Way.</p> <p>8. Bus stop near station: rail commuter parking near station entrance is blocking the area where the Royston bus stops, making it difficult for elderly bus passengers to hail the bus. Clerk has contacted CCC for a new bus sign to be installed but it would be too expensive to install lines on the road and Highways are unable to do this.</p>	
<b>29/2/09</b>	<b>Station: changes to office working hours:</b>	
	First Capital Connect has been contacted regarding concerns over the proposed changes to the ticket office working hours at Meldreth railway station. A petition of over 1,000 names has also been sent. Cllr van de Ven is to organise a general meeting with Elaine Holt from First Capital Connect (see item 28/2/09.1)	Cllr van de Ven
<b>30/2/09</b>	<b>Village Walkabout with PCSO:</b>	
	Mr R A Searles attended a village walkabout with two PCSOs, to look at the concerns with parking near the railway station, along with other parking issues, such as parking too near a junction. The area near of the primary school was also inspected, as it had been reported that cars were parking on the speed humps. The PCSOs will keep vigilance on the areas of concern and the Clerk will check progress.	Clerk
<b>31/2/09</b>	<b>Housing: - housing needs in the village</b>	
	Following the presentation from Mr Ed Barnes from McCann Homes the Parish Council agreed that a survey should be completed, in order to see if there is a need for affordable housing in the village. The survey, in a form of a questionnaire, will be conducted by Cambridgeshire ACRE and a notice will be put into Meldreth Matters explaining what the survey is about. Once the data has been received the information will then be forwarded to the Parish Council.	
<b>32/2/09</b>	<b>Proposed new bus route:</b>	
	Following the presentation from the members of Whaddon Parish Council it was agreed that a survey needs to be done, giving the correct information to Meldreth residents to see if they would like a new bus route. The proposal is to extend the route of the 127 to run from Guilden/Steeple Morden, Littlington, Bassingbourn, Kneesworth, Whaddon, Meldreth and Royston (Tesco's, railway station, bus station). The proposed times for the bus to arrive in Meldreth is 8.37a.m. daily (except Sunday) with a return bus at 5.10p.m. In addition there will be a bus running at 10.17a.m. returning from Royston at 1.10 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The existing Wednesday service (15) will continue as now. A table of this will be put into Meldreth Matters asking for residents comments. At the moment the bus will stop at the cross roads at Fenny Lane and return to Kneesworth via Mettle Hill,, but it was felt that residents may like the bus to come further into the village. This will need to be agreed with the bus company and may involve an extra cost for Meldreth Parish Council to fund.	
<b>33/2/09</b>	<b>Quality Council: – up for renewal in October 2009</b>	
	Meldreth Parish Council needs to put in for Quality Council status renewal by July/ August 2009. Mr S J Hawkins and Mr S W J Chamberlain will assist the clerk in putting all the information together.	Clerk, SJH, JC
<b>34/2/09</b>	<b>Burial Ground: footpath repairs</b>	
	Two quotes have now been received with a third due shortly, all three quotes will then be circulated for discussion at the next meeting.	
<b>35/2/09</b>	<b>Financial Assistance:</b>	
	<p>35/2/09.1 Melbourn District Village Association 2008/09 It was proposed by Mr R A Searles and seconded by Mr G V Borgonon that a donation of £300 be made available, all agreed.</p> <p>35/2/09.2 Melbourn and Meldreth Self Help Group for 2009/10 This has been deferred to next month; the council would like to know how many Meldreth residents use this lunch service. Mr P Ray and Mrs J Montague-Fuller will report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>35/2/09.3 Tree planting at the Almshouses Clerk to send a financial assistance application form.</p>	PAR, JM-F  Clerk
<b>36/2/09</b>	<b>Playground: Monthly report from Mrs Fallon</b>	
	Mrs C J Fallon read out the monthly report. All play equipment is in good working order. Tree for Recreation Area - Mr S H Hawkins suggested that the playground committee contact Roz Richardson (Tree Officer) to enquire if there are any trees available. Clerk to email contact details to Mrs J Montague-Fuller	JM-F
<b>37/2/09</b>	<b>Speedwatch: – report from Mr Borgonon</b>	
	A meeting was held on 20 <sup>th</sup> January. The Speedwatch project has 10 kits available for the Cambridgeshire area. One of these has been allocated to South Cams. This is not an enforcement activity but more of an educational initiative. Individuals are requested to register as potential volunteers and will be trained by the police. Volunteers will not be insured, but will have to sign a letter of indemnity. Volunteers will not be asked to work in their own villages. The kits will only be used in 30mph areas and, if speeding is identified, a letter is automatically sent out from the police. The police will also carry out major speed spot checks, one of which they have recently carried out not only did they check for speeding violations but also for other traffic offences. Mr R A Searles suggested that an article be written for Meldreth Matters asking for volunteers this was proposed by Mrs J Montague-Fuller and seconded by Mr S J Hawkins, all agreed. Mr G V Borgonon agreed to do the article.	GVB
<b>38/2/09</b>	<b>Precept:</b>	
	It was proposed by Mr R A Searles, and seconded by Mr P A Ray that a precept be set for £36,750, the same as 2008/09. All agreed, motion carried.	

<b>39/2/09</b>	<b>Freedom of Information Act: form to be completed</b>																																											
	Ongoing.																																											
<b>40/2/09</b>	<b>Highways:</b>																																											
	<b>40/2/09.1 Speed limit along Whaddon Road</b> Clerk has contacted the Highway Department requesting information about the speed limits along Whaddon Road, but has not received a reply, as yet.																																											
	<b>40/2/09.2 Hedges</b> Still ongoing																																											
	<b>40/2/09.3 White lines</b> A dressing of the road surface, along the High Street, is due to be done in the Spring. The relaying of the white lines will be done once this has been completed, this will include Whitecroft Road, Fenny Lane cross roads and the station.																																											
<b>41/2/09</b>	<b>Parish Path Partnership: report from Mr Chamberlain</b>																																											
	Mr S W J Chamberlain read out his report. 1) The parish paths surveys have now been completed and have been analysed for the P3 Annual Report. The application for 2009/10 grant from CCC has also been completed. This document with relevant supporting schedules will be sent to CCC P3 team. A copy of which will be circulated to councillors. 2) Due to weather conditions the working party planned for 7 <sup>th</sup> February will be rescheduled for March. A site meeting with Mr A Stimson of CCC P3 team was also cancelled and rescheduled for 25 <sup>th</sup> February. 3) The Parish Council would like to thank all the path wardens for their work in completing the path surveys and Mr Stephen Marshall for creating an overall analysis, which has been of great assistance to Mr S W J Chamberlain.																																											
<b>42/2/09</b>	<b>Funeral Bier: – needs to be re-homed</b>																																											
	The Clerk has contacted various organisations but unfortunately they are unable to take the bier. Mrs J Montague-Fuller has agreed to re-house the bier in her shed, if needed, until a suitable place can be found. It was also suggested to look at the possibility of putting together some kind of museum for Meldreth.																																											
<b>43/2/09</b>	<b>Correspondence: (correspondence has been circulated prior to the meeting)</b>																																											
	All correspondence was circulated and has been discussed, as agenda items there were no additional items.																																											
<b>44/2/09</b>	<b>Councillors' and Clerk's reports:</b>																																											
	<b>Clerk's report:</b> Kirsten Bicknell, Arts Development Manager would like to attend the next parish meeting to discuss the project which is celebrating the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Melbourn Village College. Information to be circulated. The installation of yellow lines along Station Road, Melbourn will be going ahead. Once the work has been Completed Melbourn will invoice Meldreth for their contribution towards to works.																																											
	Parish Forum Meeting: Mr S H Hawkins attended the meeting but reported that it was mainly concerned with planning issues and looking at getting more parish council representation when planning goes to the Chairman's Delegation. If a Parish Council recommends refusal for a planning application and the District Council wish to approve the application then it has to go to the Chairman's Delegation Committee. The Chairman's Delegation Committee is the process whereby the District Council has to be awarded back the authority to over rule the Parish Council. If the Parish Council recommends approval and the District Council wish to refuse this can be done without having to go to the Chairman's Delegation Committee.																																											
	Mrs C J Fallon Has received two quotes for the ceiling of the pavilion and is now awaiting the third.																																											
<b>45/2/09</b>	<b>To receive details of cheques to be drawn on the Parish Council's account as detailed or amended by late payments.</b> <b>To approve payments:</b> <b>Cheques for approval and signature including any additional payments:</b>																																											
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Cheque</th> <th>Gross</th> <th>Vat</th> <th>Net</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Power</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SCDC</td> <td>001789</td> <td>1674.00</td> <td>0</td> <td>1674.00</td> <td>Office room rental</td> <td>LGA 1972 s 133</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G B Goodwin</td> <td>001790</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>0</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>Grass cutting - Dec</td> <td>OSA 1906 ss.9/10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staples</td> <td>001791</td> <td>102.42</td> <td>15.25</td> <td>87.17</td> <td>Office supplies</td> <td>LGA 1972 s 226</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Melbourn District Village Association</td> <td>001792</td> <td>300.00</td> <td>0</td> <td>300.00</td> <td>Donation</td> <td>S137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr S W J Chamberlain</td> <td>001793</td> <td>25.00</td> <td>0</td> <td>25.00</td> <td>P3 Expenses</td> <td>OSA 1906 ss 9 &amp; 10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>LGA – Local Government Act OSA – Open Space Act Telecom - Telecommunications Act Shaded area – additional payments</p>	Name	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Description	Power	SCDC	001789	1674.00	0	1674.00	Office room rental	LGA 1972 s 133	G B Goodwin	001790	500.00	0	500.00	Grass cutting - Dec	OSA 1906 ss.9/10	Staples	001791	102.42	15.25	87.17	Office supplies	LGA 1972 s 226	Melbourn District Village Association	001792	300.00	0	300.00	Donation	S137	Mr S W J Chamberlain	001793	25.00	0	25.00	P3 Expenses	OSA 1906 ss 9 & 10	
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	Payments proposed by Mrs J Montague-Fuller, seconded by Mr G V Borgonon, all agreed. Additional payments proposed by Mr G V Borgonon, seconded by Mrs J Montague-Fuller, all agreed.																																											
<b>46/2/09</b>	<b>Councillor's and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:</b>																																											

	Money for hedge Alms houses finances Speedwatch Parish Charities Melbourn Village College – 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	
<b>47/2/09</b>	<b>Action Points: (if not already covered)</b>	
	There were no action points.	
	There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.50 p.m. The next meeting will be on 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2009, at 7.30 p.m. in the Green Room, of the Village Hall.	

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

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

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