

## MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET **UNAPPROVED** of the Parish Council Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009, 7.30 p.m.  
in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.

**Present:** Mr C A Land (CAL) – Chairman; Mr R A Searles (RAS) – Vice Chairman; 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); Mrs J. Montague-Fuller (JMF)

**In Attendance:** Dr S. van de Ven - District and County Councillor (SvdV) and Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

- 177/10/09 To receive any apologies for absence:**  
Apologies were received from Mr A P Burlton.
- 178/10/09 To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:**  
Mrs J Fallon declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 190/10/09 as she is a representative of the football club (Meldreth United). This comes into effect for any voting matters.  
Mr R A Searles and Mr P A Ray declared a personal interest in item 188/10/09 as they are both drivers for this organisation.  
Mr SWJ Chamberlain declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 190/10/09 as he is the British Legion representative, this came into effect when discussing monies for the wreath.
- 179/10/09 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009:**  
It was proposed by Mr G V Borgonon, seconded by Mr S Hawkins that the minutes should be signed as a true record; all agreed. The Chairman then signed the minutes.
- 180/10/09 Members of the public are invited to address the Council:**  
There were three members of the public present. No items were raised.
- 181/10/09 Matters arising: (no actions information only)**  
167/9/09 - The manhole cover at Flambards has now been repaired.  
169/9/09.3 – Mrs J Montague-Fuller will order the Maple tree for the recreation area when the ground has improved for planting.
- 182/10/09 Planning: Cllrs. Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, Ray and Land**  
**Planning Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009**  
Showman's Site (Biddalls Blvd), S/0177/03/F - Increase in plots from 11 to 13  
There are presently 13 inhabited plots on the site, with planning permission for only 11. Originally there was no objection to 13, however in reality there are already 13 plots and with Mr Biddall's request for a further 2, it would increase the total of plots to 15. This application needs to go through a proper planning procedure where neighbours are informed with a full planning procedure, the parish council are not able to make a proper recommendation when the information submitted is incorrect.  
GoCold, (Information Only) - Architectural Drawings - Site visit arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> September.  
45 Whitecroft Road, S/1226/09/F - Change of use from part commercial/part residential to full residential. - Parish Council recommendation: Approval with comments  
The business has moved to Fieldgates so there is no net loss of a retail outlet in the village.  
**SCDC Decisions:**  
47 Howard Road, S/0936/09/F - Permission has been granted for a porch

**Planning Meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009**

Five Trees, 26 North Road, S/1268/09/F

Extensions

Parish Council Recommendation: Approval with comments.

Approval is recommended as long as the amendments of the date stamped 22<sup>nd</sup> September (G1533/02/REV B) are incorporated. It should also be noted that the address should read 26 North End.

**SCDC Decisions:**

Five Trees, 26 North Road, S/1090/09/F – Permission has been granted for replacement door and windows and rendering of existing walls.

**Other Planning Business:****Chairman's Delegation Process**

Meldreth Parish Council have made previous responses to the way Planning Delegation Meetings take place. The Chairman's Delegation Meeting was introduced in 1999 as an extension to the Officer Delegation Scheme. It allowed officers to consult the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committee and local Members before determining a householder application where the officer recommendation was contrary to the comments of the Parish Council.

The latest proposal is to "now in the interests of transparency, interested parties (applicants, agents, objector and Parish Councils) should from now on be invited to attend meetings, as observers only without speaking rights, subject to review in October 2010". This would mean that there would need to be some amendments made to the current Chairman's Delegation Procedure. This will be discussed further in November 2009

**Biddall's Blvd**

Mr Sexton has responded to the comments made by the Parish Council, will now be circulated.

**183/10/09****Report from District Councillor:**

The District Council have made provisions to save £325,000 on the budget for this year, however services have increased so a further £1.6 million needs to be saved for the 2010/11 financial year this equals to a 10% budget reduction.

The meeting for the proposed skateboard/bmx ramp was well attended. Jane Lampshire (SCDC) informed Cllr van de Ven that there is to be a freeze on any further capital funding. Cllr van de Ven is willing to look into further grant avenues. Costings need to be done. The new plans suggest that it might be more beneficial to put in a few smaller items rather than one large ramp. Further discussions need to take place once all the information has been collated.

There are problems with the fuel supply at Burtons. Presently gas is supplied by Flogas which is expensive and the householders have no choice in their supplier. The design is that it supplies one tank which then supplies all the households but does not take into account how much gas is used by individual householders as they all pay a one off fee.

**184/10/09****Report from County Councillor:**

Mrs Philipa Hart (Meldreth Allotments) has been in contact with Donarbon who may provide free compost for pick up at household recycling centres. This would mean that residents would be able to pick up compost at Thriplow, Milton etc, instead of driving to Waterbeach. Clerk informed the meeting that Donarbon have, in the past, delivered compost straight to villages, but there is a charge for this i.e., the size of skip.

Bus stop sign near the railway station – Clerk has, in the past, tried to get the bus stop sign reinstated, Cllr van de Ven will now look into the matter.

**Action:SvdV**

There have been reports of HGV parking at the underpass, though there is nothing to stop vehicles from parking in this area. Mr P A Ray enquired as to who is responsible for this area and what powers they have? Cllr van de Ven will enquire.

**Action:SvdV**

Meldreth Primary School – a survey has now been carried out and it is not viable for Meldreth to have a school crossing person, there are not enough vehicle movements. However, there is concern about the yellow lines, they used to go from 70 High Street to the school, instead it appears that these lines are no longer installed but that yellow lines do run from the school to Flambards Close, which they did not before. Cllr van de Ven will enquire.

**Action: SvdV**

**185/10/09**

**Speedwatch:**

Volunteer update – The police have arranged dates for training and there are presently two volunteers who are due to be trained soon.

**186/10/09**

**Gypsy and Traveller DPD:**

It was proposed by Mr R A Searles that a response to SCDC consultation on Gypsy & Traveller DPD be sent from the Parish Council, this was seconded by Mr G V Borgonon, all Councillors had seen the proposed response and all agreed. Mr R A Searles will also put together a 100 word summary. Clerk will then complete and send to SCDC.

**Action: RAS/Clerk**

**187/10/09**

**Yellow Lines at Station Road Melbourn**

There is to be a public meeting at Melbourn Village College on 20<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the issue of installing yellow lines on Station Road, Melbourn. Mr S W J Chamberlain will attend, as an observer and will report back at the next council meeting.

**Action: JC**

**188/10/09**

**Financial Assistance:**

Mr R A Searles and Mr P A Ray both declared a personal interest.

It was proposed by Mr C A Land and seconded by Mr S W J Chamberlain that the amount of £400 be made payable to Royston & District Community Transport to help with costs. Power - "Local Government and Rating Act 1997". All agreed.

**189/10/09**

**Playground:**

1. Monthly Report

Mrs J Fallon and Mrs J Montague-Fuller inspected the roundabout which has a broken platform, Clerk to order a new piece. All other equipment has been inspected and is presently in good order.

2. Netball Hoops

Still to be done.

**Action: CAL**

3. Quotes for maintenance work

Clerk has contacted two other firms and is waiting for site visit dates.

**Action: Clerk**

4. Netting request

The ditch area near the football posts has been inspected in regards to installing a net in order to catch stray footballs from going into neighbouring gardens, it was felt that this would not be necessary but that if the ditch was cleared and vegetation cut back, balls could easily be scooped out. Balls going into the garden only happen rarely and the impact of putting up a net for every game is not justified. It was therefore proposed by Mrs J Fallon that the football club clear the ditch and cut back the vegetation this was seconded by Mrs J Montague-Fuller, all agreed.

**Action: JF**

**190/10/09**

**Pavilion:**

Debate on the way forward.

Is another building, on such a large scale, necessary for the village? It was proposed by Mr P A Ray that it may be possible to do the upgrades to the existing pavilion, as originally agreed. This was seconded by Mrs J Fallon who will get a proposal of works needed, all agreed.

**Action: JF**

At the moment there are two teams playing at Meldreth; "Meldreth United" who play on Sundays and "Meldreth British Queen" who play on Saturdays. The offer is still there for Meldreth British Queen to put forward their proposal, for the Parish Council to look over as suggested at September's Parish Council meeting.

At the moment all maintenance is carried out by the Parish Council or Meldreth United. Mr S Hawkins proposed formalising an arrangement with other clubs who use the pitch that a payment/donation needs to be made, this was seconded by Mr G V Borgonon; all agreed. It was asked that the clerk does a costing of the recreation ground over the last three years including play equipment, pavilion and tennis courts.

**Action: Clerk**

1. Public meeting to gauge support

It was agreed to postpone a public meeting.

2. Formation of a Project Team

It was agreed that further information needs to be collated.

**191/10/09**

**Skateboard Ramp:**

1. Consideration of the design

It was proposed that a couple of smaller constructions would be better than one large construction. However, Parish Council still need to see the plans.

2. Safety aspects

These will be included with the proposed design.

3. Positioning on the recreation ground

It was proposed by the Recreation Ground Committed to place the structures by the existing netball area.

4. Grants and funding

Cllr van de Ven and Mrs J Montague-Fuller will look into possible funding avenues.

**Action: SvdV/JM-F**

5. Project Team

This has been deferred until the next meeting.

**192/1009**

**Parish Path Partnership Report:**

1. Monthly Report

a) Path 9 ( Meads Path) Councillors Burlton and Chamberlain have strimmed and swept up this path. The CCC Highways cleared up broken glass under bypass.

b) Since the last meeting, there have been some complaints mainly from non-Meldreth residents about Meldreth's path network. Mr S W J Chamberlain would like, with council permission, to print a letter of information informing the general public that the path network is maintained by a group of hard working volunteers, who use their own equipment and petrol plus their own valuable time free of charge to the community and visiting walkers. This was agreed by all councillors.

Work Planned for Autumn Period:-

a) Path 1 (Kingswood near Malton Golf Course) - Annual clearance/tidy up due October 3<sup>rd</sup>, volunteers to meet at 9.30 am.

b) Path 9a ( Alongside Bypass to Station Road) Need a strimming/tidy up during late October/November.

c) Clearing/ burning chestnut leaves from Stocks triangle and surrounding area. Permission given by Mr John Elbourn to burn leaves on his land. To be done after Kingswood clear up.

d) Path 6 (Riverside Walk) will probably need some more chippings before the winter.

e) Path 5 (North End to Melbourn) The gates at the railway level crossing are getting very difficult to open particularly for ladies or elderly walkers. The landowner has tried to rectify, it is now time to write to Network Rail again. If no action is taken it should be taken further.

**Action: Clerk**

f) There are ongoing discussions with the landowner of a section of footpath 6.

193/10/09

**Indemnity Agreements:**

The Parish Council will be asked to execute a deed of indemnity for each relevant Section 106 agreement by the signature of two authorised signatories on behalf of the Parish Council. SCDC are contacting each Parish Council to help clarify the process of how open space contributions will be dealt with and request details of 2 current signatories so that deeds of indemnity can be prepared and sent out for signature at the relevant time and with the least possible risk of unnecessary delays. It was proposed by Mr P A Ray that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should be the signatories for all indemnity agreements, seconded by Mr S Hawkins; all agreed. Clerk to let Section 106 Officer, SCDC know.

**Action:Clerk**

194/10/09

**More Powers to Parish and Town Councils:**

Local councils have been omitted from the process by Whitehall officials. Local Works are now campaigning for an amendment Bill to the original Act that will not only formally include local councils in the process, but will also give them new powers in that process. It was proposed by Mr R A Searles that the Clerk write to Andrew Lansley MP asking for his support and to sign the Early Day Motion No. 1545 in support of the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill.

**Action:Clerk**

195/10/09

**Correspondence and Clerk's Report:**

South Cambs Parish Forum meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm – **GVB to attend.**

Joining SLCC – shared cost with Orwell PC. Proposed by Mr R A Searles, seconded by Mr C A Land all agreed. **Motion Carried.**

Health & Safety Level 3. **No action.**

Holy Trinity Church – Christmas Tree Festival (volunteer/s needed). **JMF and Clerk**

**Railway Station** - No reply for request to get the hedging cut back.

**Tree work** - Dave Thomas will be carrying out the tree work when he gets back from holiday.

**Dog bin** – letter from Holy Trinity asking if the bin can be moved to the car park area as it is presently opposite the main church gate. Have asked Environmental Health waiting to hear back to see if it would be possible to relocate it to the car park area. - **Still waiting to hear.**

**Affordable Housing** – Have not heard back from Catherine Shilton - ACRE

**Audit** - Audit has been returned due to the Mary Course Fund, which the parish council are sole trustees. This has now been altered and returned.

196/10/09

**Councillors' Reports:**

APB – Burial ground fencing – absent so no report.

RAS/JC – Second Parish Forum Meeting – this item should have been removed.

197/10/09

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

**Cheques for approval and signature including any additional payments:****Additional payments**

Name	amount	vat	Description	Power
G B Goodwin (Aug)	£500.00	0	grass cutting	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
E.on	£ 74.59	2.78	electricity pavilion	LGA 1972 s133

**October Payments**

Salaries & PAYE	£918.01	0	salaries	LGA 1972s112
Clerk expenses	£ 27.15	0	expenses	LGA 1972 ss 9/10
G B Goodwin (Sept)	£775.00	0	grass cutting/hedges	OSA 1906 ss9/10

**October Additional payment**

Royston and District Community Transport	£400.00	0	Donation	LG & Rating Act 1997
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LGA – Local Government Act; OSA – Open Spaces Act

All payments including additional payments, were proposed by Mr R A Searles and seconded by Mr P A Ray, all agreed. Cheques were signed by Mr C A Land and Mrs J Fallon.

**198/10/09 Installation of Yellow Lines along Station Road, Melbourn:**

Already covered in item 187/10/09

**199/10/09 Mary Course Fund:**

Financial spread sheet was circulated to all councillors. The balance is £1,510.20.

**200/10/09 Holy Trinity Church:**

Mr R A Searles and Mr P A Ray will inspect the church wall and report back at the next meeting.

**Action: RAS/PAR**

**201/10/09 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:****Mr P A Ray**

Will update the footpath and pothole survey.

Will attend the Volunteer Sector Fayre on 26<sup>th</sup> October in Cambourne

**Mr G V Borgonon**

Will attend the Volunteer Sector Fayre on 26<sup>th</sup> October in Cambourne

**Mrs J Fallon**

The footpath between 70 and 122 Whitecroft Road needs attention.

The barrier situated on the High Street at the end of the footpath from the Recreation Ground has been damaged. Clerk to inform the Highways Department

**Action: Clerk**

**Mrs J Montague-Fuller**

The hedge on the corner of Whitecroft Road and Chiswick End needs cutting back. Clerk reported that this has recently been done, but that the footpath in this area is very narrow. Highways are aware of the footpath.

**Mr S W J Chamberlain**

It was proposed by Mr P A Ray that the Parish Council make a contribution of £70.00 for the memorial wreath, seconded by Mr C A Land, all agreed. This is in agreement with Local Government Act 1972 section 111. Mr C A Land will attend the Remembrance Ceremony to lay the wreath.

Agenda Items:

Skateboard/BMX

Pavilion

Yellow Lines at Station Road Melbourn

Rabbit fencing in the Burial Ground

Precept

Salary review for all employees

Notice board for parish council

Footpath and Pothole survey

Holy Trinity Church wall survey

**202/10/09 Action Points: if not already covered:**

All action points have been covered.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00pm

Next meeting is on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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