

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES AS YET **UNAPPROVED** of the Parish Council Meeting held 3rd December 2009, 7.30 p.m.
in The Green Room, Meldreth Village Hall.

Present: Mr C A Land (CAL) – Chairman; Mr A P Burlton (APB); Mr G.V. Borgonon (GVB); Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S Hawkins (SH); Mr P.A. Ray (PAR); Mr R A Searles (RAS); Mrs J. Montague-Fuller (JMF)

In Attendance: Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

Chairman's Discretion used to include agenda item 241/12/09.2 - Financial Assistance for the Meldreth Warden Scheme.

227/12/09 To receive any apologies for absence:

Apologies received from Cllr van de Ven

228/12/09 To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:

Mr SWJ Chamberlain declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 241/12/09.2 as his wife Mrs J Chamberlain is the warden.

Mrs J Fallon and Mrs J Montague-Fuller declared a personal interest in item 214/12/09.2, as they are involved in one of the other charities who donate money to this scheme.

There were no other declarations of interest declared.

229/12/09 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 5th November 2009:

It was felt that, for future minutes, it was not necessary to give a full verbatim version of the District and County Councillors reports.

The minutes were then signed as a true record: Proposed by Mr SWJ Chamberlain, seconded by Mr G V Borgonon, all agreed.

230/12/09 Members of the public are invited to address the Council:

There was one member of the public present. Plans for the skateboard ramp were given to the Clerk, these will be circulated to Parish Council members. Two further quotes are needed.

It was proposed by Mr R A Searles and seconded by Mr G V Borgonon that public participation should be conducted from 7.30 to 7.45 (15 minutes) before the meeting opens. If there are no members present, future meetings will commence at 7.30 pm.

231/12/09 Matters arising: (no actions information only)

1. Catherine Shilton (ACRE) has agreed to attend the January meeting to discuss affordable housing issues

2. Yellow lines on Station Road - Melbourn Parish Council are waiting for Highways to send them a map to see if any new changes have been made.

**232/12/09 Planning: Cllrs. Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, Ray and Land
Information Only**

1. There was no meeting held on 17th November 2009

2. Planning Meeting of 3rd December 2009 (see minutes)

42 North End, C/11/40/071 - Tree Work- Parish Council had no objections.

126 High Street, C/11/17/071/02/07/66 & C/11/40/071/52/09 - Tree Work - Parish Council have no objections.

Five Trees, 26 North End, S1268/09/F - Extensions. Information Only, planning application has been amended.

71 Whitecroft Road, S/1643/09/0 - Erection of 20 houses (including 6 affordable dwellings) (S/1543/02/O) request for time extension to approved plan – Approved subject to 2002 comments and request for traffic calming at the entrance to the site

6 Bell Close, S/1459/09/F - Extensions, Information Only - planning application has been amended.

SCDC Decisions

45 Whitecroft Road, S/1226/09/F - Permission has been granted for Change of Use and extensions.

Other Planning Issues

Proposed naming of 'Old Mill Court' for the new development off the High Street. Parish Council agreed to the proposal but also noted that all houses in this development should be allocated a number even if they have a name.

233/12/09**Report from District Councillor:**

*Recycling Bin: The District Council have passed a proposal to introduce a further third (blue) recycling bin which will take the place of the kerbside bin. The new bins will take plastic bottles, cans and tetrapak. There will be a small caddy inside to take the good quality paper, thus keeping it dry. Once paper gets wet it can only be used for compost. Mr P A Ray enquired if the bins have to be blue, there is also concern that smaller properties may not have the space for three wheelie bins.

*Recycling bins near Fieldgate: The glass banks are to be re-located to Malton Golf Course.
Pg

*Meldreth Station: One disabled ramp has now been completed. Cllr van de Ven is continuing to pursue the disabled access to the London-bound platform.

234/12/09**Report from County Councillor:**

Report was circulated.

1. Reinstate the bus stop sign near the station

Funding for the works is presently being investigated by Andrew Hunt (CCC) from the Highways Division (SCDC), this will be for the cost of carrying out the work to install the bus stop clearway. South Highways Division are willing to maintain the clearway markings, but are not prepared to fund the initial installation work. Passenger Transport does not have a specific budget for carrying out improvements to bus stop infrastructure. This means the funding would need to be diverted from other commitments. They would need to be satisfied that the cost of carrying out the works were not prohibitive before a decision to proceed could be made.

They are treating this as a request for a new bus stop due to the length of time that has passed since a bus stop was previously sited at this location, and because no infrastructure or markings remain. **(see item 235/12/09)**.

Other issues:

*20mph trial scheme, Melbourn with a small piece of Station Road, Meldreth: Cllr van de Ven has asked for the consultation deadline to be extended; and it now runs until December 21. The matter will be decided by the Area Joint Traffic Management Committee on January 18th 2010. **(see item 236/12/09)**

*Sustran's (UK's leading sustainable transport charity) and a County Cycling Officer have visited Meldreth, on request, to look at possibilities for making a safer walking/cycling route between Meldreth and Melbourn

235/12/09**Installation of Bus Stop lines:**

Clerk has received an email from the Highways Division stating a contribution of £270 would be requested to install the bus stop lines. It was proposed by Mr P A Ray and seconded by Mr A P Burlton, all agreed that the Parish Council make this contribution. Clerk to inform Cllr van de Ven of the Parish Council's decision.

Action: Clerk**236/12/09****Proposal of a 20mph speed limit in Melbourn and a part of Station Road, Meldreth:**

There is no objection from the Meldreth Parish Council being involved in this scheme with the introduction of 20mph speed limit for Melbourn which included a short stretch of Station Road which lies with the parish of Meldreth. Proposed by Mr P A Ray, seconded by Mr S Hawkins, agreed by all. Clerk to inform Karen Lunn (CCC)

Action: Clerk

237/12/09

Red telephone Kiosk:

Decision on whether to adopt the kiosk, matters to take into account are maintenance, electric and insurance costs and ideas for future use.

Clerk has received one response from the public.

Three questions were raised and voted on:

- a) remove the telephone box 2
- b) find alternative use/location 7
- c) keep as it is 0

It was suggested to include an item in the Meldreth Matters for any ideas as to what future uses could be found. One suggestion was a village information point.

Clerk to enquire if the box can be relocated and how much would it cost. Insurance costs would be approximately £33.00. Glass replacement and electric is still unknown.

Action: Clerk

238/12/09

Playground:

1. Monthly Report - roundabout has been repaired and all other equipment is in good order.
2. Netball Hoops - will be repaired this month.
3. Quotes for maintenance work - site meeting with Sovereign postponed until 7th December, this will give the third and final quote. Decision to be made at the next meeting. Tree and guard will be completed this month.

239/12/09

Correspondence and Clerk's Report:

Overgrown vegetation on pavements. Mr P A Ray will contact the Clerk as to what vegetation has been cut back recently.

Invoice for grass cutting (CCC) has been submitted

HCV Consultation - needs responses by 29th January. Mr R A Searles agreed to do a synopsis for the January meeting.

Letter from resident - Fieldgates

Clerk has spoken with the Planning Department (SCDC), and is awaiting a response.

Firework incident near the pub - this would appear to have been settled and may not have been a firework from the pub but from another location.

A & B road review - This appears to be a good idea and would be helpful for residents in Meldreth accessing the A10 at Dunbridge Turnpike. Clerk to inform Richard Preston (CCC)

Action: Clerk**White lines outside the school email via the District Councillor.**

Highways believe that the white lines were associated with the speed bumps which extended either way beyond the speed bumps themselves, these lines were very faded and the practice of installing them in conjunction with traffic calming measure has since been discontinued. Traffic have offered to look at the possibility of extending the yellow zig-zag lining if this would help. Clerk to inform Cllr van de Ven that the Parish Council has no objection to Highways extending the yellow zig-zag lines

Action: Clerk**Letter from resident - Overgrown Leylandii at 10 Elin Way**

It would appear that the hedge at this empty property is very overgrown. It was suggested that the residents contact the Tree Officer (SCDC). Clerk will attempt to make contact with the owner.

Action: Clerk**Railway Station**

a). Foliage - No reply for request to get the hedging cut back, though GoCold have cut back some trees and a resident has also cut back near the entrance to the station, - but as yet nothing has been done about the foliage over the bridge.

b). Railway gates - FCC did come out to investigate the gates, unfortunately they could not find them and did not leave a forwarding telephone number for when they were on site.

Clerk has informed First Capital Direct who will arrange a further site visit.

Audit - the audit has been passed by the External Auditors, apart from the changes made to the reporting of the Mary Course fund. (see item 195/10/09).

Planning Parish Forum - 10th December at Council Chamber, Cambourne - **RAS to attend**

Pavement on North End, near the Turkey farm - concern has been expressed of the pavement between 45 and 49 North End. Clerk has contacted the Highways Department to investigate a much stronger solution repair since this is a recurring problem.

All other correspondence see (Annex A)

Clerk to investigate the possibility of getting speed repeater signs for wheelie bins that some other parishes are using.
Action: Clerk
 It was suggested to ask Catherine Shilton (ACRE) to attend the February or March meeting, as January will be too busy.
Action: Clerk

240/12/09

Councillors' Reports:**CAL**

There appears to be more rabbit activity in the cemetery. Holes are due to be filled in. The dead trees have now been removed. Mr A P Burlton confirmed that he was still looking into the rabbit fencing. It was suggested that a working party be organised to tidy up the area around the shed and to look at the possibilities of landscaping the earth mound. To be discussed again.

RAS

Liaison Meeting with SCDC Cabinet on 25th November (see attached report)

JC

The fencing near the pedestrian underpass (A10) is in need of repairing, Clerk to contact Highways.
Action: Clerk

Mr SWJ Chamberlain wanted it confirmed that Councillors had to submit a written report when they attend a meeting. Mr R A Searles said a short report would be helpful to the other councillors.

GVB

A 2009 Speedwatch report will be completed in the New Year, once some information has been received from the police. There is still a need for new volunteers.

241/12/09

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

1. Cheques for approval and signature including any additional payments:

J Damant/M Taylor	2,202.08	0	624.60	salaries/PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	26.36	0	26.36	clerk expenses	LGA 1972 s226
Royal British Legion	70.00	0	70	donation	S137
BT	146.86	16.22	130.64	telephone	Telecomms Act '84
Moore Stephens	350.75	45.75	305.00	audit	LGA 1972 s226
A P Burlton	29.49	0	29.49	boots for litter picker	PHA 1987 s164
D J Thomas	480.00	0	480.00	tree work	OSA 1906 s9/10
Staples	142.84	18.63	124.21	office supplies	LGA 1972 s 226
G B Goodwin	800.00	0	800.00	grass cutting/cemetery	OSA 1906 s9/10
Eon	35.36	1.68	33.68	electricity	LGA 1972 s133

LGA – Local Government Act; OSA – Open Spaces Act

OSA – Open Spaces Act

All payments including additional payments, were proposed by Mr S Hawkins and seconded by Mrs Fallon, all agreed. Cheques were signed by Mr C A Land and Mrs J Fallon.

2. Chairman's Discretionary Item

Financial Assistance for Meldreth & District Mobile Warden Scheme £1,000.00

The Council agreed to continue to support the Scheme. Mr P A Ray will check when they would like payment.

242/12/09

Precept:

Subcommittee (Clerk, Mr R A Searles, Mr S Hawkins and Mr P A Ray) to meet before the next meeting

Action: Clerk, RAS,SH, PAR

243/12/09

Holy Trinity Church:

1. Church wall update

Once the excavation work has been completed the PCC will report back to the Parish Council.

2. Closed churchyard update has already been set.

244/12/09 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:

Agenda items for next meeting:

- *Twinning with town in France
- *Affordable housing
- *Skateboard ramp - if designs have been received
- *Precept
- *Pavilion
- * Playground Equipment Repairs
- * Clerk's appraisal
- * Audit
- *HCV Consultation - responses to be in by 29th January

245/12/09 Action Points: if not already covered:

CAL

Roof tiles on the bus shelter near the station - still needs completing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.50 hrs.
Next meeting is January 7th at 7.30pm

Chairman

Date

These minutes are published and provided, and may be used, only on the basis that the user assumes all responsibility for any loss, damage or consequence resulting directly or indirectly from them or their use. For the avoidance of doubt the only legally acceptable version of the Minutes of Meldreth Parish Council are those signed in Public Meetings by the Chairman. They are available for public inspection from the Clerk