

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES (UNAPPROVED) of a Parish Council Meeting held 4th March 2010, 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 A.P. Burlton (APB); Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr S. Hawkins (SH); Mrs J. Montague-Fuller (JM-F) and Mr P.A. Ray (PAR)

In Attendance: Mrs P. Penfold (Acting Clerk)

42/03/10 **To receive any apologies for absence.**

All Councillors were present.

43/03/10 **To receive any Declarations of Interest both personal and prejudicial from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:**

JF declared an interest in Item 50/03/10 (Pavilion)

JC declared an interest in Item 58/03/10 (Meldeth Mobile Warden Scheme)

APB declared an interest in Item 59/03/10 (1.) (Church Wall Update)

44/03/10 **Public Participation: (for up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council)**

Five residents were in attendance.

Is the refuse container on the forecourt of Fieldgate Nurseries to remain? Clerk to remind Andrew Hinge, S.C.D.C. that the Parish Council agreed for the container to be removed/relocated to Malton Golf Course. See Ref. Item 233/12/09.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has asked for national support to its 'Earth Hour' by turning off lights for one hour at 8.30 p.m. on Saturday 27th March. Further information can be accessed via the website: wwf.org.uk/earthhour.

45/03/10 **To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4th February 2010:**

Proposed JC, seconded GVB that the Minutes were correct. Agreed by all.

The Chairman then signed the Minutes.

46/03/10 **Matters arising:**

1. Yellow Lines on Station Road, Melbourn - Melbourn have been contacted by Highways who will be sending them the revised plan, allowing 2 car parking spaces on the length of road between 24 Station Road and the junction with Dolphin Lane.
2. Have received applications for financial assistance from Royston & District Community Transport and Melbourn & Meldreth Self Help Group - these to be discussed in April as they are for 2010/11 funding.

47/03/10 **Planning: Cllrs. Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, Ray and Land**
Information only

1. Planning meeting held 18th February 2010: S/0116/10/F, 21 Whitecroft Road, (revised design for dwelling) Parish Council made no recommendations.

2. Planning Meeting of 4th March 2010: S/0233/10/RM: Land to the North of Chiswick End C. Holland & Sons, T. Dash & J.S. Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd. Submission of Reserved Matters in respect of approval of siting, design and external appearance of building, means of access and landscaping of outline planning permission S/1543/02/0 for the erection of 20 dwellings (to include 6 affordable - a mix of shared ownership with 14 in private ownership).

A site meeting with the Planning Committee and J.S. Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd. will take place on Tuesday 9th March, 4.30 p.m. followed by an extraordinary Planning meeting on Thursday 11th March at 6.30 pm. JM-F, who warned against additional foul water drainage, will also be present. The next Planning Meeting, to discuss the above, will be held on 11th March at 6.30 p.m.

48/03/10

Report from District Councillor:

Sheltered Housing regular warden scheme: provision has been made to keep the service in the coming year but it will be financed by increased rents to general needs council tenants.

Flood Avoidance Sub committee liaison with District Council: this committee will be liaising with Pat Matthews on a range of points.

49/03/10

Report from County Councillor:

Potholes: many complaints have been received with the most serious in Kneesworth Road.

Library Access Point support: the County budget will be reduced by 50%, i.e. a total of £15,000 will be taken from a £30,000 spread across ten Library Access Points. Meldreth Parish Council was thanked for past support to the library in Melbourn, with Melbourn P.C. contributing £1,200, Shepreth P.C. £200 and Foxton P.C. £100. Volunteer staff consider they will be able to cope as the management of the library is becoming increasingly self-sufficient. Parish Councillors were urged to sign up and encourage the use of the Cambridgeshire Library scheme for collection from and return of books to Melbourn Library Access Point.

Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group: met on 23rd February with 18 present and 4 apologies. A good meeting with people willing to become involved with the aim of reducing Car Park charges and getting disabled access to the south platform at Meldreth Station. Railfuture will be lobbying on our behalf on local issues with Network Rail, Dept of Transport, First Capital Connect (FCC) and other relevant local authorities. The next meeting will be held in June – date to be announced.

Parking in High Street near Station Entrance: one of the main items raised at the rail user group meeting. A dialogue continues with FCC on car park charges; they insist that under their franchise the car park will never be free of charge but have agreed to determine if a lower charge could be made. There is concern about traffic and pedestrian hazards in the High Street; follow up will be:

1. inform the Police Panel for priority action where cars are parking illegally, i.e. near drives and on corners (Foxton has similar concerns in its Station Road and will be taking the matter to the Police Panel);
2. explore possibilities of double yellow lines or other parking restrictions such as a one-hour midday restriction.

It was noted that some residents of Allerton Terrace have no rear access, so roadside parking is their only option.

Student Fares: a fixed fare is now in place for those students who attend State Schools.

Guided Bus: to support this venture, some projects in our area will have monies reduced. The District Councillor to report at the next meeting.

50/03/10

Pavilion:

Plans for building improvements:

Mr David Watters produced plans for the existing building with the addition of a moderate extension to the rear of the building. Mr Watters to provide an estimated cost. It is hoped that by using the existing building, with a small rear extension and replacing doors and windows, the cost would be modest.

- 51/03/10 S.C.D.C. Cabinet Meeting on 23rd March – 2 representatives to attend**
Clerk to advise that, in addition to RAS, JC will attend.
- 52/03/10 Playground**
1. Monthly Report: JF asked if all Councillors would inspect the area and report back.
2. Quotations for maintenance work – Recreation Ground Sub-Committee to recommend how to proceed with the 3 quotes.
3. May Fayre – insurance and risk assessment
It was noted that Maureen McFadden is dealing with this – see Clerk's report 52/03/10.
Proposed RAS, seconded ATB that a maypole event be included. Clerk to report.
- 53/03/10 Twinning with La Roche-Chalais**
The Clerk to pass on the thanks of the Parish Council to Mr & Mrs Greeves for their positive response and to ask if they might be willing to set up a group. The Parish Council will suggest to Mr & Mrs Greeves that a note be inserted in Meldreth Matters. This project, though very much supported by the Parish Council, does need community leadership and support. Grants which may be available may depend on the amount of community support the project has. If there is not the support then it may not be viable to progress further.
Action: Clerk
- 54/03/10 HCV Advisory Freight Map**
Request to Highways for signs on the A1198.
RAS suggests the Parish Council write to Mr David Lines for the same signage on the A1198, as that for the A10 (restricting access to lorries over 17.5 tons through Melbourn to A505). Proposed RAS, seconded JF all agreed.
Action: Clerk
- 55/03/10 Correspondence and Clerk's Report**
1. Updating the Parish Council's Standing Orders in-line with the new Standing Orders advised by NALC. Clerk to highlight areas and circulate. **Action: Clerk**
2. Bus Stop sign on the High Street.
The Parish Council agreed that the sign be situated by house No. 8 High Street.
Proposed RAS, Sec. J.M-F all agreed. **Action: Clerk**
- Village Hall**
1. Car Park hedge cutting: will be carried out shortly.
2. GVB was contacted by a resident following late night disturbance in the Car Park. The Clerk had also contacted the Police and the PCSO. GVB asked if the Litter Picker could identify the rubbish by the plastic bags to assist in finding out from where the liquor is being purchased.
- 56/03/10 Councillors' Reports**
Telephone box , North End: the Parish Council agreed at a previous meeting, see Item 35/02/10, not to adopt the telephone box. Clerk to inform B.T. **Action: Clerk**
- Overgrown hedge on Whaddon Road bend opposite Eternit: CAL will advise the Eternit Social Club meeting on 8th March. **Action: CAL**
Annual Parish Meeting: Clerk to contact to all village organisations **Action: Clerk**
South Cambridgeshire Parish Planning Event at Histon/Impington Recreation Centre on Wednesday 31st March. PAR to attend. **Action: PAR**
Speedwatch: 3 additional volunteers have been trained. Clerk to inform GVB of their contact details. **Action: Clerk**

JF:

Condition of the Football pitch is poor, exacerbated by the fact two teams are currently using it with the possibility of a third team. JF asks does the Parish Council agree with this in view of the state of the pitch particularly at this time of the year? JF to inform the teams that next year an Agreement will have to be formalised between the Parish Council and the teams regarding the use of the pitch and pavilion. The Recreation Ground Sub-

Committee to meet and formulate a draft Agreement regarding usage and report back to the next meeting.

PAR:

Flood Avoidance Sub Committee has met. PAR to circulate the minutes. ACRE has asked for an update to our Parish Plan. PAR will respond on behalf of the Council, when the Clerk sends him an electronic copy of the form

57/03/10

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

Salaries	958.11	0	Salary	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	14.68	0	Expenses	LGA 1972 s113
G B Goodwin	500.00	0	Grass cutting	OSA 1906 s9/10
BT	156.75	21.02	Communications	Telecomms Act 1984
M Hunter	50.00	0	Maintenance	OSA 1906 s9/10
CCC	1,828.94	0	Street lighting	PCA 1957 s3
CPALC	<u>70.00</u>	0	Clerk training	LGA 1972 s113

Additional payments:

CPALC	25.00	0	Standing Orders	LGA 1972 s113
Warden Scheme	1,000.00	0	Donation	S137
Library Access Point	300.00	0	Donation	S137

Local Government Act (LGA); Open Spaces Act (OSA); Parish Councils Act (PCA)

All were in agreement with the payments and financial statement. Proposed SH, seconded RAS. Cheques were signed by RAS and CAL.

58/03/10**Financial Assistance for 2009/2010:**

1. Meldreth Mobile Warden Scheme: the Parish Council has confirmed the £1,000 for payment. Proposed APB, seconded PAR, all agreed.
2. Melbourn Library Access Point. Agreed £300 be given. Proposed JF, seconded SH, all agreed.

59/03/10**Holy Trinity Church:**

1. Church wall update. APB to liaise with PCC.
2. Closed churchyard update. RAS has copy of the Burial Notice. Clerk has received a copy from the vicar of the closure of the churchyard, and having looked through the minute book, of the time, it would appear that repairs to the churchyard were taken up by the parish council along with looking into and being responsible for a new cemetery. The only legal documentation is the closure notice but the fact that the parish council has repaired the churchyard over the years would give an indication that they accepted the responsibility. On March 30th 1921 a letter from the PCC was minuted requesting the Parish Council to meet with the PCC to discuss the repairs needed to the churchyard which consisted of walls etc.

- 60/03/10 Parish Paths Partnership:**
 1. Annual Report - The main aim is to maintain the path network of thirteen paths and one byway, which are well used by residents and visitors. Programme consisted of laying several loads of wood chippings plus clearing brambles, weeds, overhanging trees and hedges from the tarmac paths. Several signposts were repainted, bridge planks replaced and styles repaired. A path survey was also conducted.
- The leaves from the Chestnut tree at the Stocks have also been cleared. There have been a few complaints about the paths, but it should be remembered that the footpaths are cleared by hard-working volunteers, and more volunteers would be a help.
2. Three one-day courses available at a cost of £35 per person, per course. Councillors asked that documentation be circulated.
- 61/03/10 Burial Ground:**
 Rules and regulations – decision to adopt. Deferred to next meeting.
- 62/03/10 Parish Council Elections:**
 Dates were noted.
- 63/03/10 Tree Warden:**
 Appointment of a Parish Councillor as Tree Warden: proposed GVB, seconded SH that JM-F be appointed Tree Warden, with Margaret Hunter, all agreed.
- 64/03/10 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:**
 War Memorial
 Standing Orders
 Cemetery Regulations
 Church wall
 Play Area: Quotations for maintenance work – how to proceed with the 3 quotes.
 Village Hall Car Park – unsociable behaviour
 Football pitch – agreement between the Parish Council and the football teams
 Flood Avoidance Committee Meeting. Report of meeting with Pat Matthews.
 Clerk's Appraisal
 Computer and software
- 65/03/10 Action Points if not already covered:**
 Roof tiles on bus shelter. CAL to check if the work has been carried out.
 Clerk's appraisal/questionnaire. CAL advised this has been circulated.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.25 p.m.
 Next meeting (Annual Village Meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting) is on 1st April at **Meldreth Primary School**

 Chairman

 Date

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