

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes **UNApproved** of the Parish Council Meeting held 2nd September 2010, 7.30pm in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

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

In Attendance: Mrs J Damant (Clerk), Cllr S van de Ven (CCC)

At the Chairman's Discretion - item 185/09/10 will be moved and discussed after item 200/09/10.

179/09/10 To receive any apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Mr R A Searles (RAS), Cllr Soond (SCDC).

180/09/10 To receive any Declarations of Interests both personal and prejudicial from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:

APB declared a personal interest in items 201/09/10.4 and 205/09/10.

JF declared a personal interest in item 190/09/10.

181/09/10 Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3mins per item

Presentation from Mr Daniel Harris - update on the proposal of using the telephone box as a library. Due to Mr Harris's apologies this presentation did not take place. There were three members of the public present. It was requested that a notice of when the clerk is in office be publicised. The clerk's hours are available in Meldreth Matters but as yet there is no notice at the Community Rooms. The clerk is available on Tuesday and Wednesday 10.00 to 12.00pm, however if these times do not suit the public may contact the clerk to arrange a more suitable time.

Questions were raised about the condition of the River Mel on the Meldreth side of the bypass bridge, which appears to be overgrown. SH answered as a representative of the The River Mel Group and explained that the stream is being monitored to check water flow and the clearing of weeds is being undertaken in sections, at the moment the stream is running very well and the fish are beginning to come back.

182/09/10 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 1st July 2010:

The minutes were proposed by CAL, seconded by JC all agreed, they were then signed by the Chairman.

183/09/10 Matters arising: (no actions information only)

1.Chairman for the Village Hall Trustees is Jane Bates.

2.Ecops update - a speed check was carried out on Whitcroft Road which recorded 38 cars and no speeding.

3.Audit - has been agreed and signed off by the External auditors

184/0910 Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, and Land Information Only

Planning for 5th August 2010

100 North End, S/116/10/F, extensions and alterations - extension of time limit)

Parish Council recommends Approval

Gocold Ltd, S/1107/10/F, extension and alterations. Parish Council recommends Approval with comments

7 Bell Close, S/1115/10/F, extension. Parish Council recommends Approval

18 Howard Road, S/1880/08/F, extensions (information only)

A request has been received to purchase the grass verge on the corner of Bell Close and the High Street. The parish council recommends that the request be refused.

SCDC Decisions - the application to increase the number of plots at Biddall's Boulevard S/0177/03/F is not acceptable due to the lack of a safe pedestrian route from the site to the village.

There have been concerns raised about the increase in the amount of road parking near 108 High Street. It is believed that workers, who normally park in the pub car park, have been parking on the High Street during refurbishments to the pub .

Planning for 19th August 2010

78 High Street, S/1060/10/F, erection of a wall. Parish Council recommends Approval with comments - the wall should be limited to a height of two metres maximum.

SCDC Decisions - 17 Chiswick End, S/0764/10/F has been withdrawn.

Planning for 2nd September 2010

Land adjacent to 106 High Street, S/1193/10/E, conversion of barn to dwelling and erection of 3 dwellings (extension of time limit). Parish Council recommends Approval.

185/09/10 Co-option of new councillor:

Will be discussed after item 200/09/10

186/0910 Report from District Councillor:

Cllr Soond report was circulated and read out by the Chairman. J M-F will contact Cllr Soond regarding information on flooding and water courses in Meldreth.

Action: J M-F

187/09/10 Report from County Councillor:

1. The County Council's consultation on library services continues until 27 September. The service faces a 30% cut. Please could the parish council and anyone who would like to demonstrate support for library services complete the online questionnaire at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk before the end of the month.
2. Melbourn Village College will be supporting a regeneration of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and has applied for a grant to help lessen the cost of equipment needed to complete the various stages of the award, and thereby lessening the financial burden on those young people who would like to apply.
3. Parking around the Station Entrance and Bus Stop pole and clearway markers: Cllr van de Ven has spoken to Andy Hunt at County Council. The process continues to be frustratingly slow. The cost of a bus stop sign pole would be on the order of £250, and his office did not have the budget to cover the cost. We discussed signage on a building but the legal agreement involved would mean that there would be no overall cost savings. It was asked if the parish council would be prepared to contribute? Shortly thereafter Cllr Borgonon and Cllr van de Ven met with County Highways to look at the parking problem around the station. It was agreed that some element of car parking helps to slow traffic speeds and that double yellow lines all the way from the chicanes to the station entrance would create a probable speeding problem. We also want to avoid moving the problem elsewhere. The focus must be on safety, and particularly on primary and secondary school children on foot and bicycle who have to negotiate a junction which is chaotic at peak times. It was agreed that it would be helpful to view the situation at peak time and will be meeting again before the Parish Council meeting on 6th October, between 8:15 and 8:45 am, on bicycles.

4. Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group meets next on September 22nd 2010, Shepreth Village Hall. The new 50% student discount for 16-19 year olds is being offered and this is a big improvement over the previous 30% discount. The R.U.G. will be getting notice boards at all three stations, so please keep a look out for what is happening. It is also the 160th anniversary of Meldreth Station next year.

188/09/10 Telephone Box:

Will be discussed at the next meeting.

- 189/09/10 May Fayre:**
How to proceed for next year's event - JF has not heard from the May Fayre organisers.
- 190/09/10 Pavilion:**
1. Electrics - Report has been received from Mr Willers and a copy was sent to Mr Robinson for a quote on the works needed. Clerk has not received quotations from either Mr Willers or Mr Robinson. The report was given to JF.
2. Plans for extension - JF has received two quotes, still waiting for the third. There is a possibility of a grant from SCDC, but certain items need to be done before applying, such as a Management Plan. Grant information being circulated.
- 191/09/10 Frollies**
Request for Parish Council to participate in the next production. The event is to take place on 5th February. Councillors to discuss at the next meeting
- 192/09/10 Sustainable Energy Partnership:**
Miss Alexandra Day Parish Energy Project Office (SCDC), has agreed to attend the October meeting. GVB has looked at the website and believes it to be quite difficult to see how it relates to Parish Councils. **Action: Clerk**
- 193/09/10 Community Orchards:**
JC and APB have been unable to locate any currently available land suitable. The land at Mettle Hill would be difficult to access, all other land is in private ownership.
- 194/09/10 Wildlife Grant:**
The relevant parties have met to discuss if it would be beneficial to apply for this grant, however it would appear that this grant is not suitable at this time.
- 195/09/10 Burial Ground:**
General tidy up - Report from the working party was circulated. Rabbits appear to be a problem again, the top right hand corner has now been fenced, but rabbits have access via the top left hand corner. APB will look at the cost of fencing this corner. The Horse Chestnut tree may be infected, and the leaves may need burning, as is done with the Horse Chestnut at the Stocks by PPP volunteers. The tree is due to be lifted and the tree surgeon will look at the leaves.
It was proposed by CAL and seconded by JF that the shed is now surplus to requirements, this was agreed by all. It was suggested that it might be of use at the allotments, Clerk will make enquiries. **Action: Clerk**
The right hand gate appears to need attention. Clerk to enquire with the company who installed the gates. **Action: Clerk**
It was suggested that a note be put in Meldreth Matters, asking for volunteers to help in clearing up the burial ground. It was proposed by CAL, seconded by GVB that if necessary a skip be hired at a cost of approximately £100, this was agreed by all.
Policies - Cemetery Regulations - GVB and Clerk to finalise. **Action: GVB/Clerk**
- 196/09/10 Standing Orders:**
To be adopted at the next meeting, once amendments have been done. **Action: GVB/RAS/Clerk**
- 197/09/10 Office Computer and Software:**
GVB and Clerk to purchase the computer. **Action: GVB/Clerk**
- 198/09/10 Meldreth Award Book**
A quote of £573.33 has been received from the Cambridge Archive Department for scanning the Meldreth Award Book and map. It was felt that further discussions need to take place. GVB will contact the Meldreth History Group who have

photographed the book to see if this would be suitable for putting onto a website.

Pg 836

- 199/09/10 Playground:**
1. Monthly Report - the equipment is in good order. Parish Council signs still need to be implemented. **Action: Clerk**
2. Netball posts - due to the posts being broken they have been removed. It was proposed by SH, seconded by GVB to purchase some poles which can be then have the backboards and hoops attached, all agreed. **Action:CAL**
- 200/0910 Football club:**
The Sunday Club contract has now been signed, still waiting for the Saturday Club to sign theirs. **Action:Clerk**
- 185/09/10 Cooption of New Councillor:**
The Clerk had received two applications, both of whom were present at the meeting. A vote was taken and Mr Nigel Pellatt was unanimously voted onto the Parish Council. The Parish Council would like to thank both parties for their interest.
- 201/09/10 Correspondence and Clerk's Report:**
1.SCDC Parish Liaison Meeting on the 18th October 2010 - CAL and RAS to attend. Free event
2.ACRE AGM on 28th September 2010 from 5.30pm at St Ives - no one free to attend.
3.Cllr training (stage 1) on Saturday 30th October in Whaddon Village Hall, cost approx £30. It was proposed by CAL and seconded by GVB all agreed that - NP, JF, APB attend. **Action: Clerk**
4.Farm traffic along the High Street - It was noted that farm traffic is using the High Street, more information is needed, as many farms are using contractors.
5.CCC - Interpretation Skills for P3 officers - cost £35.00 (designing and producing maps/leaflets) - It was proposed by SH, seconded by CAL that GVB attend at a cost of £35.00 to attend.
6.Street light replacement (SC30 - Kneesworth Road) A light has been damaged, Parish Council would like SCDC to replace it. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk**
7.Bus stop sign - see item 187/09/10
Other items:
Walnut trees - a request has been received concerning some walnut saplings which are on the verge between Howard Road and Whitecroft Road, along Polly's Acre footpath (no.8). CAL and JF will meet and report back at the next meeting. **Action: CAL/JF**
There have been further requests for the hedge on College Bend to be cut back, Clerk to arrange once the details have been given. **Action:J M-F/Clerk**
- 202/09/10 Financial Assistance:**
1. Meldreth Village Hall - The Parish Council have precepted £1000 therefore, it was proposed by APB and seconded by GVB to donate £1000, all agreed. To be signed at the next meeting.
- 203/09/10 To receive details of cheques to be drawn on the Parish Council's account as detailed or amended by late payments. To approve payments:**
1. Cheques for approval and signature including any additional payments:
August payments (already paid)
- | | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------------------|----------------|
| J Damant | 612.90 | salary | LGA 1972 s112 |
| Inland Revenue | 173.66 | PAYE/NI | LGA 1972 s112 |
| J Damant | 17.45 | expenses | LGA 1972 s133 |
| M Taylor | 268.80 | salary | LGA 1972 s112 |
| Fox Electrical | 75.00 | pavilion electric survey | LGA 1972 s111 |
| Abacus | 3,696.55 | recreation ground repairs | OSA 1906 s9&10 |
| Eon | 14.31 | pavilion electric | LGA 1972 s111 |
| G B Goodwin | 500.00 | grass cutting Aug | OSA 1906 s9&10 |

BT	141.14	telephone	Telecoms Act '84
Pipex	19.99	broadband	Telecoms Act '84
Pg 835			
September payments			
J Damant	508.01	salary	LGA 1972 s112
M Taylor	268.80	salary	LGA 1972 s112
Inland Revenue	115.95	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
Meldreth History Gp	400.00	Donation	S137
Stationery Cupboard	58.09	office	LGA 1972 s111
Moore Stephens	363.08	audit	LGA 1972 s111
Hills Road 6th Form	79.00	training	LGA 1972 s111
Pipex	19.99	Broadband	Telecomms Act '84

Local Government Act (LGA), Open Spaces Act (OSA), Telecommunications Act (Telecomm)

It was proposed by SH and seconded by APB that all payments were in agreement, all agreed. JF and CAL signed the cheques.

- 204/09/10 Holy Trinity Church:**
 1. Church wall update - ongoing, once APB has received all quotations will bring them to the council. **Action: APB**
 2. Christmas Tree event 2010 - JM-F has agreed to decorate the tree this year. **Action: J M-F**
- 205/09/10 Footway (pavement) between 45 & 49 North End**
 Update on what is happening with repairs (15/01/10) - Repairs will be completed by the end of September.
- 206/09/10 Parish Paths Partnership:**
 1. Monthly report from Mr Chamberlain - report was circulated.
 There have not been any organised working parties during the summer.
 During the month JC has walked several paths and cut back overhanging branches particularly on path 9a (Station Road to Path9), Path 2 near Eternit and Path 11 near Chiswick End. Paths 3,6,9 and 13, seem to be all right at present.
 There is a working party scheduled for 18th September which will carry out annual clearance of Footpath 1 through Kingswood.
 There will be two or three working parties during the Autumn:-
 1. To lay chippings on Footpath 6
 2. To clear leaves from The Stocks Area
 3. To clear up area near garages in Howard Road.
 Still need to check on the fault level crossing gate on Path 5, the clerk reported this to Railtrack in July.
- 207/09/10 Councillors' Reports:**
CAL
 Can the Clerk check with Highways Department to enquire as to what is happening to the damaged light and barriers recently damaged at Fenny Lane crossroads. **Action: Clerk**
- JF**
 Will the white lines be installed on North End, and can the Loose Chipping signs now be removed. **Action: Clerk**
 The 'Station Road' sign needs to be replaced.
 Footpath 8 has now been resurfaced, Clerk to thank Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- GVB**
 Freedom Of Information is nearly completed. **Action: Clerk**
- 208/09/10 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:**
 War Memorial
 Burial Ground Working Party Clear Up.
 Speedwatch

Meldreth Awards Book - scanning
Meldreth Village Hall donation
Walnut trees on Footpath 8 (Polly's Acre footpath)
Parish Council noticeboard
Dogs on the Recreation Ground

209/09/10 **Action Points: if not already covered:**
There were no action points.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:00 pm, the next meeting will be on 7th October in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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.