

**MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL**

**UnApproved** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010, 7.30pm in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

**Present:** Mr S Hawkins (SH) – 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 C A Land (CAL); Mrs J Montaque-Fuller (JMF); Mr N Pellatt (NP)

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

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- 262/12/10**      **To receive any apologies for absence:**  
There were no apologies as all councillors were present.
- 263/12/10**      **To receive any Declarations of Interests both personal and prejudicial from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:**  
JF and NP declared a personal interest in item 273/12/10 as they are involved with the football club.
- 264/12/10**      **Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3mins per item]**  
Melbourn Youth Leaders gave a presentation on the youth club. The youth club is to have some of its funding cut, next year, and are looking to raise approximately £4,000 in order to keep it open. Cllr van de Ven proposed that a representative from each of the five neighbouring parishes, Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth, Fowlmere and Foxton who's children use the youth club meet, along with youth club leaders in order to discuss how best to proceed.  
There are still parking concerns on the High Street, double yellow lines are to be placed on the corner of the train station and High Street. However, many cars are parking on the High Street which is causing concern for residents who are unable to access their properties, and for cars travelling through as there are no places to pull over.
- 265/11/10**      **To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4<sup>th</sup> November 2010:**  
It was suggested by RAS that the item whereby GVB had to declare a prejudicial interest for travel expenses be omitted from the minutes. Clerk had received advice but it is unclear as to how a councillor would have a prejudicial interest in claiming travel expenses when working on council business. SH proposed that the item be deleted and that a resolution that councillors need to no longer declare a prejudicial interest when claiming travel expenses be taken, seconded by JC all agreed. GVB abstained. Clerk to arrange.      **Action: Clerk**  
Item 259/11/10.7 should read 'APB attended the public enquiry for Biddall's Blvd on 2nd November 2010 at Cambourne, regarding the appeal by Mr Biddall to increase the number of plots to 17 and presented the case prepared with RAS following meetings with SCDC and residents of the Boulevard . The results will be announced in 4-12 weeks'.  
The minutes will be signed at the next meeting.
- 266/12/10**      **Matters arising: (no actions information only)**  
- Pavilion electrics have now been completed.
- 267/12/10**      **Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, and Land Information Only**  
**Planning meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November**  
GoCold Ltd, Station Yard, S/1107/10, Extensions and alterations and erection of smoking shelter -Amended plans - Parish Council recommend Approval with comments 'Meldreth Parish Council believe that this would improved the appearance of the site in the long term'.  
  
90 High Street, S/1772/10, Extensions - Parish Council recommends Approval with no comments.  
  
79 High Street, S/1865/10 (this should read 75 incorrect information from planners), Side extension to provide domestic garaging- Parish Council recommends Approval with no comments.

4-6 Chiswick End, S/1899/10, Erection of dwelling following demolition of the existing two properties - Parish Council recommend Refusal with the following comments.

'This application is to replace a pair of semi-detached cottages in a prominent location on the north side of Chiswick End immediately opposite Chiswick House. The cottages are, because of the bend at the Whitecroft Road end of Chiswick End, very visible both from Whitecroft Road and to people entering and leaving Chiswick End, one of the most distinctive areas of Meldreth.

The property probably has more listed properties in its immediate neighbourhood than any other property in Meldreth. There are six – Chiswick House (No. 3 Chiswick End), Chiswick Farmhouse (No. 10 Chiswick End), the Granary at No.10 Chiswick End, a pair of cottages at Nos. 12 & 14 Chiswick End and No. 41 Whitecroft Road.

The cottages which are proposed to be demolished are in a very prominent position on Chiswick End with the corner of the building abutting the road edge. The appearance is distinctive presenting an attractive view particularly from the main part of Chiswick End with varying roof pitches and gables and ridge heights with cedar shingles.

The new building is proposed to occupy a similar position and footprint to the existing cottages although the corner is moved approximately 2 metres from the road edge. The design is intended to resemble a barn and as a result presents a large bulk with the 2 storey element having dimensions of 14 metres by 9 metres. This is in Meldreth Parish Council's view not a suitable location for a barn style house. These styles are present in Meldreth but not in roadside locations as barns, by their nature and purpose, are normally located away from roadsides. It is the Parish Council's recommendation that a design that reflected the style of the existing cottages with a mix of ridge heights, roof types and building materials (such as render, brick and boarding) would fit in better with the listed and other buildings in this important and visible location.

Whatever replacement building is allowed due consideration should be given to avoid the damaging flooding that has occurred at this location in the recent past due to a blocked culvert from Chiswick End that passes under Whitecroft Road'.

19 Whitecroft Road, S/1801/10, Erection of new dwelling with revised parking and turning for existing dwelling - Parish Council recommends Approval with no comments.

#### SCDC Decisions:

Land South West of Valley Farm, Station Road, S/1208/10- Permission has been granted for erection of turkey rearing shed (part retrospective).

6 Oakrits, S/1354/10- Permission has been granted for erection of 2 storey rear extension

#### Planning meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December- verbal report

Land to the North of Chiswick End, S/0233/10/RM, (Information Only) Submission of reserved matters in respect of approval of siting, design and external appearance of buildings, means of access and landscaping. Parish Council had no further comments.

17 Chiswick End, S/2001/10, Extension and Alterations (revised design). Parish Council recommend approval with no comments.

The Coppice, 25 North End, C/11/40/071, To fell a conifer tree as it impedes traffic movement. APB withdrew from the room. Parish Council have no comment and agree to the removal of the tree.

107 North End, S/2032/10, Single storey cart shed addition to existing two storey outbuilding. Parish Council recommend Approval with no comments.

Fieldgate Nurseries, 32 Station Road, S/1728/10, Extension to warehouse and toilet block (retrospective). Many of the objections are legal matters and need to be referred to the Planning Department at SCDC, the Parish Council are not able to comment on legal aspects. RAS recommends that the Planners should sort out the application. Enforcement Action has been applied but has not been acted upon. The application is inadequate and flawed and should be relooked at by the Planning Department (SCDC) as there is not enough information for the Parish Council to make a recommendation it was proposed by SH that RAS put a report together listing the inadequacies, this will be circulated to the planning committee for agreement before being submitted to SCDC Planning. Parish Council Recommendation: No Recommendation with comments.

The Coppice, 25 North End, S/2037/10, Erection of a Carport, APB withdrew from the room.

Parish Council recommend Approval and have approved the removal of the tree, which will enable vehicles to exit the premises forwards.

97b North End, S/1906/10, Timber shed and greenhouse with a 2.2m high freestanding brick wall, The Parish Council do not need to comment on this application as it is a permitted development and was sent for information only.

SCDC Decisions:

S/1646/10/F, Broids, Stone Lane, permission granted for a change of use of land from agricultural to residential.

S/0272/10/F, Land to the north of 38 High Street, permission granted for the erection of a new dwelling.

Other items:

Holland's: A letter has been received requesting a permanent site as they have been served an eviction notice as buildings are to be demolished. They are interested in the disused traveller's site on Mettle Hill, to develop it as a distribution site. Speedwatch would agree that traffic would be alleviated if the site was to move. They are asking for the Parish Council's support. It was proposed by SH that RAS liaise with Holland's with the support of the Parish Council in the possibility of their relocating onto this site, seconded by JC and all agreed.

Affordable Housing – emails from Catherine Shilton regarding Jephson Housing: Jephson Housing would like to look into the possibility of building affordable housing in the village. SH proposed that the clerk request further information: number of plots, proposed location, how many market houses, how many affordable houses and the proposed timescale. Clerk to contact Catherine Shilton. **Action: Clerk**

**268/12/10 Report from District Councillor:**

Cllr Soond visited the SPEP workshop and has given the Clerk some further information which will be circulated.

**269/12/10 Report from County Councillor:**

1. High Street bus pole installation has now been ordered and will go ahead.
2. Consultation is now taking place on a 50 MPH speed limit between Cambridge Motel and Foxton Level Crossing: if you want to contribute a view the address is Highways at Whittlesford. Closing date Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 2010.
3. Another Meldreth volunteer has joined the ranks at Melbourn Library Access Point, for which many thanks.
4. Addenbrooke's Access Road and lack of provision for community transport schemes: it is now clear that CCC and Addenbrookes did not coordinate timely public communication on the arrangements for preventing rat running across the hospital site; nor did they anticipate the need to accommodate and encourage community transport. A discussion will now take place which should be useful for community transport issues in South Cambs.
5. Map of proposed junction protection double yellow lines. Cllr van de Ven was informed in early November that there was an IT problem.
6. Station car park charges have risen to £3 per day. Rail User Group will discuss and respond via next meeting, December 8<sup>th</sup>, Community Rooms, Elin Way.
7. Footway lights North End: Cllr Searles and Cllr van de Ven have both been informed by EDF that the lights should be fixed by the end of this week.
8. A letter has gone out to all parish councils from the CCC chief executive on budget and precepting. The feeling is that this year may be the last in which free rein is possible at parish level. Government settlement announcement is today; councillor budget training starts tomorrow.

**270/12/10 Democratic Services:**

To be discussed at the next meeting.

**271/12/10 Parish Sustainable Energy Partnership (SPEP):**

Information to be circulated and discussed at the next meeting. GVB has received correspondence from a local resident who would be interested in getting involved.

**272/12/10 Kerb outside the village shop**

Mr M Cooper (CCC Highways) has suggested that maybe the shop should be more involved and ask their delivery vehicles to not park on the kerb. Clerk to request that Mr Cooper proceed with his suggestions. **Action: Clerk**

- 273/12/10 Pavilion:**  
1. Plans for extension  
NP and JF have met with the architects who have submitted the first draft of specifications, these will be sent to the builders who have already given quotes. As the quotes received were so varied the specifications should help in getting more comparable quotations. A second set of plans will be drawn up giving more detail. The architects will need £150 in order to proceed with the planning department. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- 274/12/10 Standing Orders:**  
Are on circulation.
- 275/12/10 Playground:**  
1. Monthly Report  
All equipment has been inspected and is in good working order.  
A new bin has been ordered.  
There are branches in the ditch which need to be cleared.  
JF and Clerk to order two new dog signs. **Action: JF/Clerk**  
2. Netball posts  
Are in the Clerk's office and will be installed as soon as the weather permits.
- 276/12/10 Football club:**  
The Agreement has been signed and a cheque for £150.00 has been received.
- 277/12/10 Correspondence and Clerk's Report:**  
- Pavilion Electrics – Have now been done.  
- Japanese knotweed – Clerk has contacted Mike Cooper (CCC) who is looking into the situation. Landowner and neighbouring resident will be notified. **Action: Clerk**  
- Clerk has reported the damaged post near the war memorial to Highways  
- Cemetery gates have been reported to MD Landscapes who put in the posts in May 2007  
- Clerk has finished their bookkeeping course which was very informative. Clerk will be meeting the Internal auditor to go through the accounts and how best to proceed, this will help for the precept figures.  
**Correspondence circulated in December**  
SPEP Training – Infra-red thermal imaging camera, Rural Housing and Development, s106, letter to Mrs Deakin church wall, letter from resident cc to PC, CCC Street Lighting, ACRE – Trailblazer, County Guidance, Standards Committee, electrical survey on pavilion, Play Areas, S137 allocation £6.44, PSCO email, letter to Mr Hardwood Clark – dog bin, Carter Jonas – planning, The clerk, South Cambs magazine, Playground safety surfacing
- 278/12/10 Financial Assistance:**  
1. Meldreth Warden Scheme – to be discussed at the next meeting. JC did not declare a personal or prejudicial interest as the item was not discussed.
- 279/12/10 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:**
- |                      |        |       |        |               |                        |
|----------------------|--------|-------|--------|---------------|------------------------|
| J Damant             | 619.95 | 0     | 619.95 | salary        | LGA 1972 s112          |
| Inland Revenue       | 177.83 | 0     | 177.83 | PAYE/NI       | LGA 1972 s112          |
| J Damant             | 46.52  | 0     | 46.52  | expenses      | LGA 1972 s111          |
| M Taylor             | 268.80 | 0     | 268.80 | salary        | LGA 1972 s112          |
| J Howard Electricals | 329.00 | 0     | 49.00  | 280.00        | pavilion LGA 1972 s113 |
| G B Goodwin          | 500.00 | 0     | 500.00 | grass cutting | OSA 1906 s 9&10        |
| Mackays              | 76.77  | 11.43 | 65.34  | posts         | OSA 1906 s 9&10        |
| Stationery Cupboard  | 20.42  | 3.04  | 17.38  | ink           | LGA 1972 s111          |
| Pipex                | 19.99  | 2.98  | 17.01  | broadband     | TA 1984                |
| Royal British Legion | 75.00  | 0     | 75.00  | wreath        | S137                   |
- Local Government Act (LGA); Open Spaces Act (OSA); Telecomms Act (TA)
- Deposits**  
R Christie – Saturday football £ 150.00  
OPC – nov rent £ 70.00  
Payments were proposed by CAL, seconded by JF all agreed. Cheques were signed by

- 280/12/10 Holy Trinity Church:**  
1. Church wall update – APB reported that the specification for the wall had now been received for the builders. It was proposed that Mr Hadwen be given the contract as it was the lowest and best value for money and he has worked in the village and comes highly recommended. The information will now be sent to the Diocese of Ely who will give the final decision and report back to the Parish Council once a decision has been made. The Parish Council pay for the work but the Diocese need to give their consent. The quotation does included the £1,000 contingency.  
2. Chestnut tree in the corner of the churchyard  
Clerk has reported this to SCDC Tree Officer, awaiting for advice on how to proceed.
- 281/12/10 Councillors' Reports:**  
**JC-** PPP report circulated  
**GVB-** Proposed that the redundant computer equipment be donated to CAP, if they do not want it then it should be recycled, seconded by CAL, all agreed.  
**RAS-** (See item 269/12/10.7) RAS will enquire with EDF if the lights are not working by the end of the week.
- 282/12/10 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:**  
There were no Councillor or Clerk comments  
Agenda items for next meeting:  
PPP  
Precept  
Pay roll/SAGE or Excel training for Clerk
- 283/12/10 Action Points: if not already covered:**  
There were no action points.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 9.20pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the Green Room of the Village Hall.

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Chairman

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Date

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