

**MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL**

**UNApproved** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011, 7.30pm in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

**Present:** Mr S Hawkins (SH) – Chairman; Mr G V Borgonon (GVB); Mr S W J Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C J Fallon (JF); Mr C A Land (CAL); Mr N Pellatt (NP)

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

- 284/01/11 To receive any apologies for absence:**  
Apologies received from Mr R A Searles, Mr A P Burlton and Mrs J Montague-Fuller.
- 285/01/11 To receive any Declarations of Interests both personal and prejudicial from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:**  
As the husband to the warden of the Meldreth Warden Scheme JC declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 300/01/11.  
JF and NP both declared a personal interest in 295/01/11 as members of the Sunday Football Club.
- 286/01/11 Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3mins per item]**  
There were no public present.
- 287/01/11 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010:**  
The minutes were proposed by CAL to be a true record, seconded by GVB all agreed. The Chairman then signed the minutes.
- 288/01/11 Matters arising: (no actions information only)**  
**1. Netball posts** – are in the office waiting to be installed  
**2. Waste bin for recreation ground** – are in the office waiting to be installed.  
Clerk to arrange for the installation of both the above items. **Action:Clerk**
- 289/01/11 Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, and Land Information Only**  
Planning meeting held on the 16th December  
SCDC Decisions:  
S/1899/10, 4-6 Chiswick End, erection of dwelling following demolition of the existing two properties – has been withdrawn.  
S/1772/10, 90 High Street, permission has been granted for an extension.  
Other items discussed:  
Holland's Site – Holland's are looking into the possibility of relocating to the old traveller's site on Metal Hill, more enquiries need to be made.  
Gocold – If the neighbours are in agreement with the environmental assessment the Parish Council have no objections.  
Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan – The old market site on Kneesworth/Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth has been proposed as a possible area for a new traveller and gypsy site. At the moment this is just a response to a consultation.  
Planning meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
S/1856/10, 62 Station Road, alterations to listed building for a conservatory. Parish Council recommends approval with no comments.  
SCDC Decisions:  
S/2001/10, 17 Chiswick End, permission has been granted for an extension and alterations.  
S/1865/10, 75 High Street, permission has been granted for a side extension to provide domestic garaging.  
S/1801/10, 19 Whitecroft Road, permission has been granted for the erection of a new dwelling with revised parking and turning for existing dwelling.
- 290/01/11 Report from District Councillor:**  
1. 2011 will see a national census take place. It is important for residents to make sure that their registered address is correct. This information can be checked by looking on the SCDC website and if incorrect to call the Address Management Team on 03450 450 500.  
2. Due to the cold weather of late, residents with physical impairments or disabilities who are unable to place their bins at their collection point, can have their bins collected from a more convenient place on the property eg., by the front door, an alternative 'sack-based' service is also available. Contact SCDC on 03450 450 063 email: [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or download applications [www.scambs.gov.uk](http://www.scambs.gov.uk).

3. Budget and objective setting from 2011. Views are being sought on SCDC service priorities for 2011 onwards. There are 15 key actions for (2011/12) which have been identified to improve customer service and the local environment. This is to be finalised in February 2011.

4. Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP) – membership has increased to 23 parishes.

**291/01/11**

**Report from County Councillor:**

1. Neighbourhood Panels and the County Council's wish to transform them into multi-agency, all-purpose public meetings beyond a police remit: there is a view that the County Council has failed in its input to help provide solutions to work done by Speedwatch teams. Meldreth and Great Chishill are two examples of where Speedwatch has been going for a long time, clear patterns exposed, but no meaningful problem-solving from CCC Highways.

2. County Council are now in budget discussions.

3. The Highways Cabinet member has now formally declined the suggestion of adding volunteer drivers to the Addenbrooke's Road White List, having taken his officer's advice that this is unnecessary. If you wish to write to him directly his email is

[mac.mcquire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:mac.mcquire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk). It was proposed by GVB that the Parish Council write to Mr McQuire expressing their concern and that it is felt this is not the correct approach, this was seconded by JC and agreed by all. JC also suggested that as many of the councillors are volunteer drivers that maybe they should also write as individuals with their personal concerns.

**Action: GVB/Clerk**

4. Highways has finally produced a plan for proposed double yellow lines, and draft consultation letter text.

5. Thank you to all local residents who attended the December 8th meeting of the Rail User Group, including some new faces from Meldreth. We heard a presentation from the National Express line manager who has done work on reducing anti-social behaviour around stations, and who has been involved in helping to develop a Community Rail Partnership in Fenland. Community Rail Partnerships involve collaboration with district and county councils and give leverage to local interests when franchises are renegotiated. Cllr van de Ven will be meeting Railfuture East Anglia (a regional watchdog group) in the near future to learn more. There is no Community Rail Partnership in South Cambs; there is no dedicated officer support at either SCDC or CCC to progress such an initiative – but it should be explored as part of the continuing effort to ensure a strong position for our only meaningful public transport network.

6. A meeting will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 10am, Melbourn Parish Office (now moved to MVC former Adult Education offices) to discuss the details of collaborative parish council support for continuing the Melbourn Youth Club.

**292/01/11**

**Democratic Services:**

To be discussed at the next meeting.

**293/01/11**

**Parish Sustainable Energy Partnership**

GVB reported that Mr David Smith has volunteered to follow this project up. GVB and Mr Smith will attend the workshop on the 13<sup>th</sup> January at Girton.

**Action: GVB**

**294/01/11**

**Curb outside the village shop**

Clerk has contacted Highways and a notice has appeared in Meldreth Matters.

**295/01/11**

**Pavilion:**

1. Plans for extension

NP reported that the more detailed plans have not yet been received. Cambridgeshire FA has forwarded some financial information on grants, and that they were willing to come out to Meldreth to discuss the project. JF suggested that another councillor should attend the meeting along with herself and NP. JF will contact APB to see if he would be available. The clerk also suggested that she may attend. NP proposed that the Tennis Club should also be invited, this was seconded by SH and all agreed. JF will contact them. JF will arrange the meeting.

**Action: JF**

During the latest cold spell the pipes in the pavilion needed attention, and a plumber was called in, luckily there has been no lasting damage. The pipes are not lagged but the system has now been drained.

296/01/11

**Standing Orders:**

GVB proposed that the Standing Orders be adopted subject to the following:

1. The Chairman and Vice Chairman be the main contacts on the Media Policy, via the Clerk, seconded by JC all agreed.
2. The financial orders be reduced to £15,000 from £30,000
3. Power of Well-being, to leave the text as is, and not to pass a resolution at the moment.
4. Three councillors need to head the Internal Standing Code of Conduct, these will be the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and one other. This will be part of the Annual Meeting in May. These were seconded by CAL all agreed.

297/01/11

**Playground:**

1. Monthly Report – no meeting has taken place but the equipment has been checked and is in good working order.

298/01/11

**Off road horse riding around Meldreth**

To be discussed at next month's meeting.

299/01/11

**Correspondence and Clerk's Report:**

Japanese knotweed – is in hand, landowner is aware of the situation

1. letter concerning blocked drain on the High Street/Bell Close – Clerk has contacted Highways who have agreed to clear the drain.

2. Concern on overhanging ivy and vegetation on certain paths. Clerk will contact the properties concerned. **Action: Clerk**

3. Trailblazer – they are looking for 5 parishes to partake in this scheme and they have already received this amount of applications.

3. Street lighting – At the moment PC are paying CCC to carry out the maintenance of the street lights, however this may change for the next year, more information will be forwarded by CCC. If a contractor is taken on then insurance will need to be looked at, as at the moment this is covered with SCDC.

4. Addenbrookes Access Road – Q. what is the defined period of time ? this is the time it takes a car to travel through and drop off a passenger compared to a vehicle driving straight through 'rat running', but what the actual time has not been defined (see item 391/01/11.3)

5. Payrole training – cost is £60 for LGR to come to the office (approx 2hrs training), would be very beneficial as clerk has to do payroll. Proposed by NP, seconded by CAL that the Clerk have this training, all agreed.

6. Affordable Housing – request for further info has been passed from ACRE to Tim West. They have not contacted the clerk.

7. Invitation to Localism events – CCC (Locality Team and Extended Schools Partnership) Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2-3.30 Melbourn VC or 19<sup>th</sup> January 7-8.30 at Guilden Morden VH.

8. Parish Forum meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at Cambourne from 5.30.

9. Cemetery gates have been reported to MD Landscapes who put in the posts in May 2007 – Clerk still waiting from them to contact her.

10. Have met with Bruce Huett who is presently looking through the accounts.

Clerk to ask Highways if they could look at the hedge at 25/27 North End as it needs cutting back. **Action: Clerk**

**Correspondence circulated in December**

Winter Services – Highways, Road Closures for events, CCC – Older People's Newsletter, NALC – The Localism Bill (important to read), Prayers at Council, CCC – Bassinbourn, Melbourn, Comberton & Gamblingay Locality, Wildlife Training Workshops, Community Action, CCC – Winter Service Opportunities for third-party working, MPC Website, Meldreth and Melbourn Self Help Group – Funding request.

300/01/11

**Financial Assistance:**

1. Meldreth Warden Scheme – JC left the room.

It was proposed by CAL, seconded by GVB that £1,000 be made payable to the Warden Scheme, all agreed. The cheque will be available at the next meeting.

301/01/11

**Precept:**

SH prepared the figures which were circulated and a discussion was had on how the monies would be spent. SH proposed a precept figure of £39,885, seconded by CAL all agreed. This figure would breakdown to £54.67 per band D house, per annum.

**302/01/11 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:**

**January payments**

J Damant	578.86	0	Salary	LGA 1972 s112
Inland Revenue	155.03	0	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
M Taylor	282.50	0	Salary	LGA 1972 s112
Whaddon PC	50.00	0	cllr training	LGA 1972 s113
Glasdon UK Ltd	150.82	22.46	litter bin	LGA 1972 s113
Pipex	19.99	2.98	broadband	TA 1984
Village Hall Trust	76.00	0	room rental	LGA 1972 s113
EON	29.59	1.41	electric	LGA 1972 s113
Cambridge Water	1.21	0	water cemetery	LGA
G B Goodwin	500.00	0	grass cutting	OSA 1906 s 9/10

**Deposits**

OPC	£ 70.00	0	Dec rent
Newlings of Royston	£ 90.00	0	Funeral fees

All payments (additional payments are shaded) proposed by SH, seconded by NP all agreed. Cheques signed by SH and JF.

**303/01/11 Holy Trinity Church:**

**1. Church wall update**

Planning fees would be £85 (half the normal costs), however there may be a possibility that the diocese may be able to do this. If the diocese is unable to arrange then the parish council will proceed. Will wait until Trustees have informed the Parish Council as to what is occurring.

**2. Chestnut tree in the corner of the churchyard**

The report from the Tree Officer (SCDC) – 'several brackets are growing around the base and up the lower stem are 'Ganoderma' a basal rot and sounding the stem with a mallet there are significant areas of degraded wood. Advice is that the tree should come done'. Clerk to arrange.

**Action: Clerk**

**304/01/11 Councillors' Reports:**

**JC**

The P3 path surveys are due to be done over the next couple of weeks. Chippings will be laid on footpath 6.

**GVB**

Could the planning article which appeared in the Meldreth Matters, by Mr Searles, be put onto the parish website. GVB will discuss with RAS.

**Action: GVB**

Freedom of Information to be finalised by end of March.

**305/01/11 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:**

**Agenda items:**

Democratic Services

Off road horse riding around Meldreth

PPP

SPEP

**306/01/11 Action Points: if not already covered:**

There were no action points.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9 pm. The next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> February in the Green Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date