

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Unapproved Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 3rd February 2011, 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; Mr S W J Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C J Fallon (JF); Mr C A Land (CAL); Mrs J Montague-Fuller; Mr N Pellatt (NP); Mr R A Searles (RAS)

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

- 307/02/11 To receive any apologies for absence:**
Cllr S Soond sent his apologies; all other councillors were in attendance.
- 308/02/11 To receive any Declarations of Interests both personal and prejudicial from Councillors on any item listed on the Agenda:**
Personal declarations were declared by NP and JF for item 317/02/11 as members of the Sunday Football club.
Personal declaration was declared by JM-F for item 232/02/11 as she is horse rider.
- 309/02/11 Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3 mins per item]**
- Guest Speaker – Amanda Silvester SCDC (Youth Club) – Ms Silvester had given all required information to Cllr van de Ven so did not attend the meeting.
There were 5 members of the public present
Items discussed:
- Parking of vehicles on the bend at North End - this has been discussed with the police in the past; the vehicles are not causing any traffic infringements. They were asked to make sure the vehicles were correctly parked at night so that their reflector lights can be seen by approaching vehicles, this has been done.
- Land that borders the proposed development on the Holland's site has many trees close to the boundary. A resident was concerned that the proposed building could damage the roots. JM-F will investigate and contact the Tree Officer at SCDC if needed.
- Royal Wedding – Residents would like to put on a Street Party to celebrate the royal wedding. There will be costs involved if the High Street is used, as the road has to be closed off. The residents would meet the costs by selling tickets; other venues which wouldn't cost could be a cul-de-sac, the recreation ground or the British Queen car park.
- 310/02/11 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 6th January 2010:**
It was proposed by CAL that the minutes were a true record, seconded by JF all agreed. Chairman then signed the minutes.
- 311/02/11 Matters arising: (no actions information only)**
Chestnut Tree in churchyard – Tree Officer and Tree Surgeon have inspected the tree and deemed it dangerous and to be removed. Quotations are awaited.
Action: Clerk to advise PCC secretary
- 312/02/11 Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, and Land Information Only**
Planning meeting held on the 20th January
15 Chiswick End, S/2242/10 - Rear extension to form two storey dwelling, Parish Council recommend **Approval** with comments. 'Drawings do not show the rear elevation on the west side which would indicate an increase in ridge height, though this is thought to be minimal'.
30 Station Road, St John's Farm, S/2063/10 - Single storey side extension, Parish Council recommend **Approval** with no comments.
104-106 High Street, S/1884/10 - Proposed single storey extension and internal alterations and two proposed gable roofs. Parish Council recommend **Approval with comments**. 'While work is going on many vehicles are parking out on the road; though this is not contravening any traffic laws it has resulted in many complaints from local residents, some who have found difficulties in existing their neighbouring properties'.
104-106 High Street, S/1886/10 - Alterations and extensions. Parish Council Recommend **Approval with comments** (see item S/1884/10)
SCDC Decisions: - **Holland's Site, S/1643/09/0** - Erection of 20 Houses (including 6 affordable), Application has been withdrawn for extension of time limit. **107 North End, S/2032/10** - Application has been granted for single storey cart shed addition to existing two storey outbuilding.

Other items:

Church wall – The Parish Council need to put in the planning application. Mr Alan Hazelwood will arrange this.

Planning meeting held on the 4th February – verbal report
SCDC Decisions

62 Station Road, S/1856/10 – Permission has been refused for alterations to listed building for conservatory.

Land to the North of Chiswick End (Holland's)S/0233/10/RM (erection of 20 houses, 6 affordable) The Council approves details for the submission of reserved matters of outline planning permission S/1543/02/0, in respect of approval of siting, design and external appearance of buildings, means of access and landscaping

The Coppice, 25 North End, S/2037/10 – application has been withdrawn

Other Items

Church wall – planning permission for buttresses update. A letter has been received from Mrs Deakin giving permission for the buttresses. The Parish Council have to pay the £85 for the planning application. Architect will arrange.

Gocold S/1107/10 – Planning Committee SCDC meeting. RAS and JC attended the planning meeting on 2nd February, RAS spoke in support and planning permission was granted subject to conditions. Neighbours do still have some reservations but on the whole they are in agreement with the report.

Affordable Housing – Mr Tim West of Jephson has written to the Parish Council requesting if they can attend a meeting to discuss affordable housing in Meldreth. There is still concern about the housing survey conducted by Cambridgeshire ACRE, as it did not verify a high need. Clerk to request for further details i.e. footprint and proposed layout and where are they intending to build.

313/02/11

Report from District Councillor:

Cllr Soond was absent and no report was received.

314/02/11

Report from County Councillor:

Budget cuts: The County Council is making enormous cuts - £160 million over five years and £50 million in the first year. Every aspect of council services will be affected. To be voted on Feb. 15th.

Bus services: The County Council is proposing to cut all bus subsidies over the next four years, and this will affect bus service in Meldreth: 139 Wednesday bus, and 128 Mon-Sat bus. Cambridgeshire is one of the worst-hit counties in terms of bus subsidy cuts.

Post-16 Education Transport: CCC appears to be backtracking from proposal to eliminate post-16 education transport subsidies.

Rail User Group (RUB):

a. AGM: March 8 – good attendance expected by council officers, rail industry.

b. Community Rail Partnership: FCC has asked to meet Cllr van de Ven next week to discuss a pilot project which could strengthen our position for the future.

c. Station Birthday Party: Cllr van de Ven met the Local History Group to discuss the station birthday, on July 9th (to be confirmed).

d. Meldreth Manor has offered to host RUB meetings in the future and this would facilitate participation by its students in helping to campaign on disabled access issues. One that came to Cllr van de Ven's attention when they attended the Youth Parliament at Meldreth Manor last week was the fact that a disabled person who requires the accompaniment of a carer on the train must buy two tickets – one also for the carer.

Oil Club:

Residents living in outlying areas of the villages who are not connected to mains gas have been in touch about the very high heating oil bills they are struggling to cope with.

A bulk-oil buying club was recently set up in Barton. The idea is to benefit from bulk-buying and best prices on the day, conducted on the club's behalf by a local oil buyer. There is no joining fee and one can place an order whenever it suits. Payment is made per order, and directly to the oil supplier, not the bulk buyer. There appears to be an interest in starting up a club along the same lines, for Foxton and the other villages, it is proposed that it be called The Melbourn County Division Oil Club. While the parish council could commend the initiative for consideration by parishioners they have neither the remit nor the information to endorse it.

- 315/02/11 Democratic Services:**
SCDC had offered to host the PC website, however the website appears to be running well so it was proposed by GVB and seconded by RAS to keep it as it is and all agreed.
- 316/02/11 Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP)**
GVB and Mr David Smith attended the recent workshop this was well attended, by many parishes. The idea is to get parishes involved in various schemes of sustainability and there is no limit to what can be done. Such schemes can be: Car sharing, garden sharing and energy monitors to name a few, but there are many others. It was proposed by GVB that Meldreth should sign up to the scheme, this was seconded by APB; all agreed.
- 317/02/11 Pavilion:**
1. Plans for extension
NP and JF attended an on-site meeting with Cambridgeshire FA on 20th January and discussed various way of raising funds.
The architect EFL (Architectural) Design has submitted drawings which all councillors have seen. It was proposed by CAL that the council should pay £590 towards the preparation of the final plans, seconded by GVB; all agreed. The council has received funds for S106 which can be used against pavilion repairs. Clerk to confirm with SCDC if this can be considered as a permitted development. **Action: Clerk**
- 318/02/11 Village events;**
1. The Great Poppy Weekend – it was agreed by the whole council that there is not the time to do this.
2. Royal Wedding 29th April 2011 – a street party is being arranged by residents (see item 309/02/11). The Parish Council are in full support of this event, but due to the budget cuts feel that they would not be able to support this event financially and would not be able to provide any commemorative items.
- 319/02/11 Playground:**
1. Monthly Report – the play equipment has been inspected and not items need repairing. Some of the other equipment is in hand to be installed and repaired. Net ball posts and new rubbish bin are to be installed, bench near the tennis courts to be repaired along with repairs to the railings.
The car park has deep pot holes, APB to get quotes for repairs. **Action: APB**
- 320/02/11 Off-Road horse riding around Meldreth**
JC and JMF have met with the footpath officers Peter Gaskin and Steve Farraday. There are many riders in the village but it is not safe as there is nowhere to ride without going onto the very busy roads or across bridges. This matter was raised in the Parish Plan and if land can be arranged for riders to access some of the bridleways than there would be very little need for them to go on the roads.
- 321/02/11 Correspondence and Clerk's Report:**
Stakeholder group partnership – workshop 16th February 2-4.30 Harston Village Hall. Cllr van de Ven will be attending.
Parish Liaison Meeting - 29th March 7-8.30 at Cambourne – RAS and SH will attend.
Caloo Funding Assistance info given to NP
Clerk correspondence
Highways have been asked to look at the hedge near 25/27 North End
Clerk has received an invoice for the replacement light at Kneesworth road SC30 from CCC. This has been forwarded onto Paul Quigley SCDC as this light comes under their jurisdiction.
Chasing the grass cutting payment for 2010/11 with Mick Oakman. Next year this is going to be cut and it is being proposed that the PC will only get 75% of the grant received in 2010 which equates to approx £621.
Physiotherapist recommends that the clerk has a more ergonomic key board and a wireless mouse. It was proposed by SH that the clerk purchase these items, seconded by GVB all agreed. **Action:**
Clerk
Clerk to open two new bank accounts with Lloyds, one for a higher deposit (for reserves) the other for the S106 payments. SH and Clerk will arrange. **Action: Clerk/SH**
Clerk has completed the payroll training, will meet with the Chairman to discuss the changes which are needed.

Correspondence circulated in January

email from the History Group, email from MVA – notice board, royal wedding mugs, Localism bill, Zurich Council Insurance (might be worth looking into), Sustainable communities act update, CCC Library services, Tricolor, CCC – grass cutting (cuts to the grant), P3 Report, Oil bulk buying, community newsletter, Traffic survey, CCC – email from CEO Mark Lloyd, SCDC business relief, Speed stickers, update of Government requirements, SLCC training, Clerks & councils direct, LCR

322/02/11

Financial Assistance:

1. Lunch club – to be discussed at the next meeting. This is funding for 2011/2012

322/02/11

Melbourn Youth Club

Funding will soon be withdrawn from the youth club so they are now looking for independent funding and are approaching all the parishes from where the children attend if they could offer any financial support. CCC will pay for the building but will not pay towards any running costs. JF along with Cllr van de Ven attended a meeting where the finances were discussed. They need £6,000 to run for one year and would like a contribution from Meldreth. Clerk has forwarded the financial request to the Youth Club. A Steering Committee will be set up with representatives from each parish.

323/02/11

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 (shaded):****February payments**

J Damant	2032	498.54	salary	LGA 1972 s112
M Taylor	2033	255.10	salary	LGA 1972 s112
Inland Revenue	2034	137.52	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	2035	5.44	expenses	LGA 1972 s113
DJ Thomas	2036	200.00	chippings	OSA 1906 s9/10
Mobile Warden	2037	1,000.00	Donations	S137
Stationery Cupboard	2038	178.25	Ink etc	LGA 1972 s113
J Chamberlain	2039	22.00	P3 Expenses	LGA 1972 s113
CCC	2040	1,545.08	Street lighting	LGA 1972 s111
GB Goodwin	2041	500.00	Grass Cutting	OSA 1906 s9/10
J Damant	2042	48.98	expenses	LGA 1972 s113
SCDC	2043	85.00	Planning	OSA 1906 s9/10

Local Government Act (LGA); Open Spaces Act (OSA); Telecoms Act (TA)

Payments were proposed by CAL, seconded by JF all agreed. JF and RAS signed the cheques.

324/02/11

Holy Trinity Church:

1. Church wall update

The Parish Council will have to pay for the planning application at a cost of £85.00. This was agreed in item 303/01/11

325/02/11

Parish Paths Partnership (PPP)

All footpath networks have been surveyed.

Four tonnes of wood chippings have been laid on footpath 6 (Riverside Walk)

There is to be a Committee Meeting where the annual report and agreement of next year's schedule along with website discussions will take place.

The Meldreth Local History Group has requested information about the footpath network, so they can setup a page on their website.

Mr Tobin very kindly donated some wood chippings which he also arranged to have laid along the section of footpath 6, which runs across his land.

Annual request of CCC ROW Access Team has been submitted.

326/02/11

Councillors' Reports:**SH**

Bus stop request which has already been agreed by council, just need the Clerk to send a letter of notification to CCC. GVB will assist.

Action: Clerk/GVB**J M-F**

There is a lot of rubbish on Mettle Hill, Clerk to inform Mike Cooper to see if Highways can arrange for it to be cleared.

Action: Clerk

JC

Along footpath 9A (Station Road to the Mead) there is rubbish, Clerk to ask if the Litter Picker could take a look.

Action: Clerk**NP**

There is an increase in Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCV) along Whitecroft Road. RAS summarised his report of January 2010 on the consultation on the draft Freight Advisory map, which addressed the causes of heavy lorries "rat running" through Meldreth. He said that Speedwatch had been logging heavy lorries in Station and Whitecroft roads. RAS will attend a meeting on 2 March between CCC and Parish Councils to plan a new lorry strategy

JF

There is an increase in the amount of dog fouling in the recreation ground, notice to be put in Meldreth Matter. Signs to be ordered. Clerk to enquire about prohibiting dogs onto the recreation ground.

Action: JF/Clerk

327/02/11 Councillors' and Clerk's comments with agenda items for the next meeting:
Annual Village Meeting

328/02/11 Action Points: if not already covered:
There were no action points

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.23, the next meeting will be on 3rd March.

 Chairman

 Date

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