

**MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL****DRAFT**

**Minutes unapproved** of the Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012, 7.30 p.m. 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 S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr C.A.Land (CAL); Mr N. Pellatt (NP)

In attendance: Mrs Pauline Penfold (Acting Clerk)

- 054/06/12      **To receive any apologies for absence:****  
Apologies were received from APB and Cllr S. van de Ven
- 055/06/12      **To receive any Declarations of Interests both personal and prejudicial from Councilors on any item listed on the Agenda:****  
JF and NP declared a personal interest in item 067/06/12 as members of the football team:
- 056/06/12      **Public Participation:** (for up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council – 3 minutes per item)**  
4 members of the public were present.  
Mr Derek Stewart referred to the proposed Jephson Homes development in Whitecroft Road, opposite Oakrits and the intended Water Board connection. The Parish Council would like Cllr van de Ven to enquire when this work and subsequent highway disruption is due to commence. **Action: Svvd**
- 057/06/12      **To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012:****  
**Correction:** The Minutes should read: 'The next meeting will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> June' (not 2<sup>nd</sup> June). The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman, as a true record. Proposed by RAS, seconded by JC all agreed
- 058/06/12      **Matters arising: (no action information only)****  
The Chairman and Vice-Chairman to sign an Acceptance of Office.
- 059/06/12      **Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain and Land** (Planning Meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> May – information only)**  
Bury Lane Fruit Farm, S/0604/12/FL – erection of glasshouses  
The Parish Council recommend Approval with Comments:
1. There is concern about light being reflected off the glass which may cause a hazard for drivers on the A10.
  2. Can paragraph 3.7 in the planning statement be noted and applied to this application, i.e. no retail use and restricted to growing purposes only.
- Planning meeting held 7th June (verbal report)  
**S/1005/12/FL** - 63 High Street, extensions following demolition of existing extensions  
**S/1036/12/FL** – 63 High Street, conversion of former chapel building to dwelling  
The Planning Committee of Meldreth Parish Council consider both applications to be sympathetic and recommend approval.

**060/06/12 Section 106 for 17 – 19 Whitcroft Road:**

Mr James Fisher, Section 106 Officer, at SCDC was asked by the Parish Council to clarify:

'An onsite play area to the value of £25,000 with plans to be submitted to the District Council for approval, prior to the commencement of development, following consultation with Meldreth Parish Council. None of the adjacent dwellings shall be occupied until the owner shall have provided and made 'the LEAP' (a locally equipped area for play) available for public use in accordance with the details approved by the Council. The public open space, including play equipment is to be maintained by the registered provider in perpetuity'.

Meldreth Parish Council to confirm they are satisfied with an on-site play area to the value of £25,000. Clerk to confirm with Mr Fisher on whether Section 106 monies can be used enhancements to existing facilities as well as new projects, including the Pavilion.

**Housing allocation:** concerns have been expressed that houses may be offered to those with no Meldreth connection or employment

The two clauses covering this need to change so they are consistent. There is discrepancy between qualifying persons from Meldreth who shall have priority of allocation over those from neighbouring parishes with both being in priority over those from the wider District. In Section 7 it says that 'if a person with a local connection to Meldreth cannot be identified then the Affordable Dwelling can be offered to those showing a local connection to the villages within a 15 mile radius of the property' A 15 mile radius covers all the villages in South Cambridgeshire and beyond. These two clauses should be changed so that if persons within Meldreth cannot occupy the houses they should first be occupied by persons with connections in neighbouring parishes (being defined as those parishes that share a boundary with Meldreth) before being offered to persons from other parts of South Cambridgeshire. The definition of 'qualifying persons' should be expanded to explain the acceptable local connections to Meldreth.

**Action: Clerk to confirm Parish Council's response to Mr Fisher**

**061/06/12 Report from District Councillor:**

No report was received.

**062/06/12 Report from County Councillor:**

1. Our Children's Centre's new premises in Mortlock Street, Melbourn, will be officially opened on 16<sup>th</sup> June at 10 a.m. This will accompany a Fun Day at the Centre between 10 – 2, to which everyone is welcome.
2. Thameslink Franchise consultation by Department for Transport: this is our Cambridge – King's Cross refranchising and Cllr van de Ven will be preparing a response on behalf of the Rail User Group: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/dft-2012-23/>. Please let her know if there are points you would like the R.U.G. to consider in its response. The R.U.G. meets on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30 p.m., Shepreth Village Hall.
3. The Station Garden has been replanted for the summer and looks really great. The school gardening club has been revitalized with two new adult volunteers and is spending Tuesdays after school doing gardening work.

We have decided, with the school's agreement, that a 'community supported school garden' is the best format, since it does require a lot of hard work and co-ordination to keep it going and a core adult team is key.

We are also offering Duke of Edinburgh volunteers/skills supervision for anyone interested and have interest also from one volunteer who is not in education, employment or training. SvdV will be proposing to MAYD that the station garden work be brought under the umbrella of youth development and have the consent of Meldreth Primary and Melbourn Village College to do this.

Has the Parish Council found a representative for MAYD? SvdV will be attending the next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June but eventually it would be good to have a P.C. Representative.

4. Broadband letter for residents – attached for the Clerk's notice boards. SvdV will be distributing the letter to all residents.
5. MAYD: a very good pilot project, the Bike Bank, teaching bicycle maintenance to six young people at risk of becoming out of education, employment or training, is being offered and will hopefully commence the week of 12<sup>th</sup> June. MAYD has been the recipient of grant funding for this project which will be free of charge and which will involve the use of unclaimed bikes from the police store being done up and then given to participants as an extra means of getting around.
6. More concern about high speeds in Whitcroft Road and Whaddon Road. We talked a while back about pursuing speed limit reductions. Would the Parish Council like to explore this? It will involve leg-work of course, which SvdV can help with and it will cost the parish money. Let SvdV know what you think.

**063/06/12 Co-option of New Councillor:**

The Chairman moved this item to the end of the meeting.

**064/06/12 Street Lighting:**

RAS is seeking clarification on which lights are to be removed. The Clerk to enquire on whether SCDC lights are to be upgraded. SH to report back on the Street Lighting Briefing, which he will be attending on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action: SH**

**065/06/12 Superfast Broadband:**

Clerk to respond on behalf of Meldreth Parish Council.

**066/06/12 Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP)**

As part of the Government's Green Deal due in October 2012 there will be a presentation workshop in Cambridge at the Smart Life Construction Centre, Kings Hedges Road on 12<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Sustainable Energy: an open presentation will be held at Gamlingay Eco Centre on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 – 9 p.m. on the Gamlingay community wind turbines.

**067/06/12 Pavilion:**

Following clarification, discuss relevance of Section 106 to the Pavilion project, see **Item 060/06/12**.

The igloo, slide, rocking horse, roundabout and small swings are in order. Replacement seats for the large swings are waiting to be installed.

The springer has been repaired; the wooden wall (kicking board) is waiting for new boards; the ball frame is in good order.

Painting will be carried out to some of the equipment as soon as possible.

Water in the ditch is still high and we are waiting for it to be cleared.

Tree – planting will take place in the autumn.

Quotes for new play equipment

Awaiting a third quotation for new play equipment.

Mrs Fallon confirmed that the Football Club is satisfied with the positioning of the new equipment. Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by RAS that the Working Group decide on the quotation and to place an order straight away in time for the summer holidays. Clerk to confirm that finance is available through a 106 Agreement..

**Action: Clerk**

**069/06/12 Correspondence and Clerk's Report**

Public garden request from Daniel Pattman. Mr Pellatt to draft a letter of reply. Clerk to seek Phillipa Hart's comments. **Action: Clerk**

A resident had commented on the number of Break-ins in Meldreth. There has also been a slight increase in activity in other villages. Clerk has contacted the resident to suggest she may be interested in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch representative.

**070/06/12 Audit:**

Report from Internal Auditor

The Annual Governance Statement was agreed and the report was signed by the Chairman for the year 2011/2012.

**071/06/12 MAYD:**

Parish Council representative. To be considered after co-option of new Councillor.

**072/06/12 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:**

Staff salaries and PAYE/NI	£733.47, Clerk; £274.95, M. Taylor
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Clerk expenses	£7.00
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G.B. Goodwin, grass cutting	£500.00
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Insurance - pavilion	£144.42
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Insurance – general	£1,176.13
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Rospa inspection fees	£137.40*
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Wicksteed – swing seats	£95.40
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Staples – stationery	£181.76
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B.T.	£164.71 – Direct Debit
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\*Cheque to be delayed until the Report is received.

**Action:**

**Clerk**

Proposed AL, seconded JF

- 073/06/12 Financial Assistance: (SH, RAS, NP, GVB, Clerk)**  
Date for meeting to discuss all the applications received so far  
Clerk to circulate application forms and to discuss on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30 p.m. (prior to Planning). **Action: Clerk**
- 074/06/12 Holy Trinity Church: Agenda item 1, 2.**  
1. Tree Survey Report. Acacia awarded contract. Clerk to enquire on progress of report. **Action: Clerk**  
2. Church wall buttresses – report submitted by APB prior to meeting and circulated.. Work on the wall is progressing.
- 075/06/12 Annual Parish Meeting:**  
Update on what parishioners would like the Parish Council to look into.  
Parish Plan: it was suggested that two councillors, along with the Clerk meet to discuss options and a possible way forward with Rachael Brown (Cambridgeshire ACRE) The Clerk to arrange a meeting with Rachael Brown, NP and APB. **Action: Clerk**
- 076/06/12 Parish Paths Partnership:**  
Since the last report to the Parish Council, the group has carried out the following work:  
Path 6 (Riverside Walk). Another load of chippings has been delivered to the bridge near the pub and were laid on 5<sup>th</sup> May by the Path Working Group.  
Path 9 (Meads). Path edge has been cut back on 23<sup>rd</sup> May by APB.  
Path 9A (Station Road to Path 9) has been cleared of ground weeds and overhanging brambles and  
a litter pick was also carried out on 23<sup>rd</sup> May by the small working group.  
Path 2 (North End section). Path edges have been strimmed by Paul Ray.  
The following work has been highlighted for the near future:  
Path 1 – needs waymarking across the golf course.  
Path 5 – gate problems have again been reported and need to be sorted out by Network Rail. Clerk to chase again. **Action: Clerk**  
Path 6 – path edge in two places is slipping into River Mel and materials needed are being evaluated before a small working party can be arranged. This was reported to Peter Gaskin on his site visit.  
Path 9 – the tree roots in the middle section of the path are pushing through the tarmac which is a problem particularly after dark. This has been reported to Highways by Peter Gaskin.  
Path 11 – a small tree is partially blocking the path and needs cutting back.
- At the moment there is discussion regarding a transfer of the P3 scheme to SCDC from Cambs. CC. JC has submitted the Annual Return but not sure if we will get funding for this year. Still waiting feedback? **Action: Clerk**
- It is planned to have further working parties during the year to cut back overgrown hedges plus checking on path waymarkers and litter.

- 077/06/12 Councillors' Reports:**  
**Mr Chamberlain:** Potholes in Fenny Lane, Westway and between 10 Bell Close alongside the Car Park to 6 Gables Close. Clerk to contact Highways. **Action: Clerk**  
**Mr Land:** broken railings at the junction of Whaddon Road/Kneesworth Road/Fenny Lane. **Action: Clerk**  
**Mrs Fallon:** bus shelter in North End. Clerk to enquire from Susan van de Ven on status of maintenance. **Action: Clerk**  
**Mr Searles:** Clerk to remind Mr Goodwin to cut the verge from 113 North End through to the speed sign. **Action: Clerk**

JC asked the Council to thank George Duncan for collecting litter in North End and Malton Lane. **Action: Clerk**

- 078/06/12 Agenda items for the next meeting:**  
 Whitecroft Road and Whaddon Road: concern about high speeds  
 Street lighting  
 MAYD – Parish Council representative  
 Church Wall

- 079/06/12 Action Points: if not already covered:**  
 There were no Action Points

- 063/06/12 Co-option of new Parish Councillor**  
 There were 4 applicants: Elizabeth Murray, Jon Pumfleet, Derek Stewart and Scott Walker. The Chairman reminded those present that the Council can only co-opt one candidate. Mr Derek Stewart received the most number of votes and was duly co-opted to Meldreth Parish Council. The Chairman thanked those candidates who were unsuccessful and hoped they would put themselves forward for election in May 2013.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m. in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**

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