

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes unapproved of the Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 1st November 2012, 7.30 p.m. in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

Present: Mr R.A. Searles (RAS) Acting Chairman; Mr S.W.J. Chamberlain (JC); Mrs C.J. Fallon (JF); Mr C.A.Land (CAL); Mr N Pellatt (NP), Mr D Stewart (DS)

In attendance: J Damant (Clerk), Cllr S Soond (SCDC) and Cllr S van de Ven (CCC)

- 159/11/12 To receive any apologies for absence:**
There were no apologies all Councillors were in attendance.
- 160/11/12 Councillors to disclose any Pecuniary Interests (disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) include interests held by a member's spouse, civil partner or similar)) listed on the Agenda:**
JC declared a personal interest in item 178/11/12 as his wife is the warden.
- 161/11/12 Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3mins per item]**
The meeting held the public section in the village hall as there were over 200 residents in attendance. Concern has been raised about the proposal from SCDC to reopen the Travellers site on Mettle Hill, Kneesworth Road, Meldreth. Unfortunately, the information concerning this item was too late to include on the agenda, but an Extraordinary meeting will be held on November 6th to discuss this item further.
Many residents were unhappy about the lack of consultation SCDC have given and the time limits insured. Neither the District or County Councillors' along with the Parish Council were aware of SCDC proposal. This first anyone was aware was today 1st November when the press released it along with SCDC representatives visiting the Showman's site on Kneeworth Road.
A petition will be arranged.
- 162/11/12 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4th October 2012:**
The minutes were proposed by CAL to be a true record, seconded by RAS all agreed. The Chairman then signed the minutes.
- 163/11/12 Matters arising: (no actions information only)**
All matters are covered within the agenda.
- 164/11/12 Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Burlton, Chamberlain, Fallon and Land**
Information Only
Planning meeting 19th October
Bury Lane Fruit Farm, S/1984/12/FL - Erection of play barn
Meldreth Parish Council Recommend: **Approval** with no comments.

Meldreth Parish Council is concerned that the Lombardy Poplar trees, originally planted as a wind break on the SW boundary of the site, have very recently been severely polarded to about 2m in height thus revealing the buildings and the photovoltaic panels on the roofs behind the trees. We note that this tree belt is marked on the plans as being retained. We request that the SCDC Trees Officer visits the site to ascertain if the trees will survive such treatment at this time of the year before the sap is down. We further request that, if officers are minded to approve the application, that a condition be imposed to allow the poplars be allowed to regrow to a height that will screen the buildings without shadowing the PV panels or, if the trees die, additional planting be made to have the same effect.
- SCDC Decisions:**

Land adj 106 High Street, S/1193/10 (extension of time implementation) – has been withdrawn.

12 & 14 Chiswick End, S/1489/12/LB – permission has been granted for alterations: return house to one, reopen walls on ground and first floor, install new door on first floor.

12 & 14 Chiswick End, S/1622/12/FL, – permission has been granted for a new timber gate and fencing to screen to garden.

15 Chiswick End, S/1647/12/FL – permission has been granted for conversion of outbuilding

to ancillary studio annexe accommodation.

22 Howard Road, S/1445/12/FL – permission has been granted for extension and hardstanding

Planning meeting for 1st November 2012

43 Chiswick End – S/0272/12/PO – Appeal APP/W0530/Q/12/2181482/NWF – The Parish Council have no further comments to make, comments to remain.

6a Chiswick End, S/2017/12/NM. Application for non material to insert 2 roof lights and increase chimney height This is for information only and no comment is needed. There is to be a very slight increase in height but there will be an increase in width to accommodate an inglenook fire place.

37 North End – Tree work, C/11/40/071. Removal of large Sycamore which is significantly leaning. Removal of large Sycamore which is too close to the house and wall. Parish Council have no comment.

85 High Street – Tree work, C/11/40/071. Fell large Sycamore which is dying and overhangs the house and road. Parish Council have no comment.

SCDC Decisions: 75 High Street, S/1480/12/FL – Permission has been granted for extension.

Other Items: Street naming of Whitecroft Road development to Melrose is currently under consultation with the relevant departments: Royal Mail, SCDC and emergency services.

165/11/12

Report from District Councillor:

There was no report but Cllr Soond spoke to the residents in their village meeting being held at the same time as the parish council meeting regarding the situation with Mettle Hill.

166/11/12

Report from County Councillor:

Flood Risk Register meeting 29 November

Work on Fenny Lane on MM site looking very good.

HCV meeting – initial meeting with Parish Cllr Derek Stewart, Cllr van de Ven, and a county officer looking at the scope for controlling HCV traffic flows in Whitecroft. Discussed county action on helpful directional HCV signage and monitoring of vehicle movements as first steps. County would encourage that the Parish Council discuss with Eternit some bespoke agreements (and any other local business with HVC traffic).

Yellow lines station road – still actively chasing

Book carousel with free paperbacks, provided by Melbourn Library Access Point will go into the railway station booking office. Books are excess contributions by local residents.

Shepreth level crossing: regular, multiple eyewitness accounts of school-bound children/young people ducking through closed level crossing barriers in order to make Cambridge-bound train. Cllr van de Ven has alerted Network Rail who are initiating a full risk assessment to consider if the current system is adequate.

County council-owned Traveller site, Mettle Hill: Cllr van de Ven was contacted mid-morning 31 October by SCDC informing her that SCDC was about to publish, that day, a cabinet paper outlining SCDC intentions to purchase the site and re-open it. No contact from County either. Anticipating that the parish council may wish to activate its right to purchase the land, Cllr van de Ven has asked the county estates team to pencil in a slot to meet parish council representatives early next week. Cllr van de Ven is extremely angry at the lack of contact with Meldreth representatives and feel this removes the District Council's credibility in the matter.

167/11/12

Dispensations:

To be included on the next agenda, wording has to be correct.

Action: Clerk

168/11/12

Speed Limits on Whitecroft and Whaddon Road:

A meeting has taken place with Cllr van de Ven, DS and RAS. Ms Lund (CCC) passed a map and a list of contacts who the parish council may consult with. Need to make a list of proposed changes and pass back to her before the consultation. DS and RAS to organise. RAS will take some measurements and there will be a leaflet drop for all the relevant groups.

Action:DS/RAS

The speed limit through Waddon is presently set at 40mph but this will be changing to

30mph. It is proposed that Meldreth go for 40mph between Whaddon and Meldreth then 30mph near the cross roads at Fenny Lane. It would not be possible to extend this to Whaddon as it is in the countryside and surrounded on both sides by fields.

169/11/12

Section 106 Final Agreement:

- how monies are to be spent (see item 174/11/12)
- further update from the developers, Jephsons on Whitecroft Road. It was proposed by SH that Meldreth accept the full amount of £55,000, this was seconded by GVB all agreed.

170/11/12

Village Maintenance:

- tree at war memorial – clerk still awaiting the report from the Tree Officer at SCDC
- bus shelter at North End – Clerk to enquire with Cllr van de Ven if the youths still wish to repair this. If not ask Dave Chappel how much it would cost to have the bus shelter repaired.

Action: Clerk

SH suggested that a tree replacement plan be implemented, to be discussed further.

171/11/12

Pavilion:

- Plans – until funding is known unable to progress any further.
- Funding (S106 money, grants) – it was proposed by APB that £25,000 from the recent section 106 money from the development at Jephson's be allocated towards improving the pavilion. This was seconded by JC - all agreed. NP will now be able to look into grants.

172/11/12

Neighbourhood Watch (this should be Neighbourhood Panel):

DS attended the recent police panel meeting.
It was noted that there had been obstructive parking problems at the station and large lorries from the building works on Whitecroft road and not on the site as agreed with SCDC Planning. SCDC Planning will investigate. DS did inform the meeting that once yellow lines have been instated on the High Street, near the station entrance, much of the parking issues in this area will cease, however the problem may move elsewhere within the village. The comment regarding the lorries was misleading as they were removing Hazardous Waste (asbestos) and required a fleet of trucks to satisfy the terms of the licensed movement. The site management team are operating within site planning requirements and a resident opposite the site has had no problems to date.

173/11/12

Highways Minor Improvement Scheme:

Parish Council to consider what projects may benefit from this scheme.
Could be used to resurface some of the footpaths, Clerk to enquire with Highways CCC what the schedule is for Meldreth.

Action: Clerk

Clerk to enquire with the Manor school which footpaths cause concern and ask them to prioritise.

Action: Clerk

This scheme is a one off payment and is subsidised by £1 per resident from the parish council funds.

Cllr to look at the report and bring ideas with them to the next meeting. Deadline is 21st

December. RAS will do a costing concerning speed restrictions as the scheme offers

£10,000.

Action: RAS

174/11/12

Playground:

1. Monthly Report – all equipment appears to be working well.

2. Hedges - have been done

The tree has been planted and the tree guard installed.

Clerk to get paint for Dave Chappel so the horse can be painted, once painted Wicksteed will install.

Action: Clerk

175/11/12

General Power of Competence:

To be discussed at the next meeting.

176/11/12

Burial Ground:

APB will get quotes for the rabbit fencing which needs finishing near the front of the burial ground.

Soil needs to be removed from the front, clerk to get quotes.

Clerk and JF inspected the ground and a notice will go into Meldreth Matters stating that the Parish Council are going to clear the older grave stones on the right hand side of ivy and see if they can be cleaned. If families do not wish for the parish council to touch their family stones they must notify the Clerk. Other maintenance work will be carried out this includes removing a dead tree at the front, removing the soil and refurbishing the shed. Quotes are

being sought.

Action: Clerk

177/11/12

Correspondence and Clerk's Report:

SPEP Workshop in Coton on 14th November at 7.30 – GVB will attend.
Gritting volunteers – not needed as there are no grit bins.

Action: GVB

178/11/12

Financial Assistance: (SH, RAS, NP, GVB, Clerk)

MAYD – it was recommended to make a donation of £900. It was proposed by JF and seconded by RAS all agreed.

Meldreth and Melbourn Warden Scheme – until the future of this scheme is known it was agreed to hold the funds. As no monies were being discussed JC did not have to leave the room though he had declared an interest. JC informed the meeting (as the Warden representative) that Mrs Chamberlain will be retiring at the end of the year.

179/11/12

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:

Payments for October

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| J Damant | £ 650.42 | Salary | LGA 1972 s112 |
| M Taylor | £ 281.90 | salary | LGA 1972 s112 |
| J Damant | £ 7.00 | expenses | LGA 1972 s113 |
| Inland Revenue | £ 111.40 | PAYE/NI | LGA 1972 s112 |
| Stationery cupboard | £ 144.50 | Office supplies | LGA 1972 s113 |
| G B Goodwin | £2,500.00 | grass cutting | OSA 1906 s9/10 end of contract |
| G B Goodwin | £ 360.00 | hedge cutting | OSA 1906 s9/10 |
| Talk Talk | £ 15.31 | broadband | TCA 1986 |

Payments were proposed by GVB to be correct, seconded by RAS all agreed. Cheques were signed by JF and SH

180/11/12

On line Banking with Unity Trust:

A report has been circulated and the Clerk has just received some further information. GVB had contact Clerks who use this system and all appear to be very happy with the service the company provides. Unity Trust specialise in local authorities and charities. Clerk will also make enquires with Lloyds to see if internet banking is now available to Parish Councils.

Action: Clerk/GVB

181/11/12

Holy Trinity Church:

1 - Trees – APB. Three quotes have been received but are all to different so need to be redone so that they are in line with each other.

2 – Church wall buttresses - A meeting has taken place. APB and Clerk to meet.

Action: Clerk/APB

182/11/12

Parish Plan Upgrade:

Meeting to arrange.

Action: Clerk

183/11/12

Parish Paths Partnership:

Leaves have been cleared at The Stocks.

Field paths have been inspected after the harvest and the general state is not good, to be discussed further with the landowners.

Footpath 6 Riverbank Repairs – Mr G V Borgonon has ordered the materials, which are to be delivered and weather permitting it is planned to start work as soon as possible.

The following work has been highlight for the future:

Footpath 1 needs way-marking across the golf course.

Footpath 9 the verges need strimming on the Melbourn bypass side. Highways need to be contacted the overhanging tree has not been cut back and is still obstructing the light from the footway light.

Footpath 2, the North End section of the path will need some more wood chippings laid.

At the moment there is discussion regarding a transfer of the P3 scheme to SCDC from CCC. The annual return has been submitted, but it is unsure if any funding will be available. It is planned for further working parties during the year to cut back overgrown hedges plus checking on way-markers and litter.

JC will attend the P3 meeting on 6th November at Whaddon.

184/11/12

Councillors' Reports:

APB – trees/hedges on Mettle Hill – still to be done. **Action: APB**
DS – MAYD have had a meeting and the AGM will be held in July 2013. Figures for attendance shows 100 attending from all villages but does need a better breakdown so each village can see exactly how many children are attending from each village. Attendance charge will be dropped.
The hedge on the corner of Elin Way and Whitecroft Raod is very overgrown. Clerk to write.

Action: Clerk

JF

The hedge on the corner of Bell Close needs cutting back.

Action: Clerk

Article to go into Meldreth Matters asking for residents to check their foliage and cut it back if is it overhanging the public way. Also for residents to report to the Clerk if they see overgrown hedges, in wet weather this can cause problems, especially for children going to school.

Action: Clerk

185/11/12 **Agenda items for the next meeting:**
Mettle Hill

186/11/12 **Action Points: if not already covered:**
Dates for Eternit outing – still to finalise

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.40pm
Next meeting will be on Thursday December 6th at 7.30pm