

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes unApproved of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

Present: Mr C A Land (**CAL**) - Chairman, Mr R A Searles (**RAS**) - Vice Chairman, Mrs C.J. Fallon (**CJF**), Mr S Hawkins (**SH**), Mr A Keena (**AK**), Mr D Lee (**DL**), and Mr D Stewart (**DS**)

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

- 087/07/15 To receive any apologies for absence:**
Apologies were received from Mr N Pellatt; Cllr Hart was in attendance.
- 088/07/15 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:**
There were no interests declared.
- 089/07/15 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 7 members of the public in attendance.
It was requested that priority be given to disabled access to the station. Cllr van de Ven stated that Network Rail/Govia would finance the ramp which would be needed to gain access to the southbound platform but they would not finance the footpaths to the ramp which would also need to be updated to meet DDA regulations. The present footpath which leads from the station to Melbourn is not DDA approved so it would need widening and lights installed, this would be financed by the Parish Council and possible grants. Cllr van de Ven stated that Network Rail needed a definitive statement from the Parish Council in support of this project with a commitment to finance before anything else can be done. (see item 094/07/15). The matter of installing a lift was raised, however this is a matter for Network Rail and not the Parish Council as this is on railway land. Cllr van de Ven stated that this had been discussed by the Rail Users Group but Network Rail are not in support of a lift but would support a ramp.
Mr Graham Borgonon was present for item 110/07/15.
- 090/07/15 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 4th June 2015:**
The minutes were proposed by RAS, seconded by DS to be correct. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.
- 091/07/15 Report from District Councillor:**
Fillcup Field
It is anticipated that this application will now be heard at planning committee at SCDC on 5th August. Members of the public are permitted to attend; if you wish to speak in support of or against the application you must notify the council prior to the committee meeting, otherwise you will not be permitted to appear. Each speaker is limited to a three minute period. A survey to obtain data on pedestrian and bicycle journeys between Meldreth and Shepreth has been carried out by local volunteers in the past 24 hours and this will be fed back to the Highways and Planning departments.
Surgeries
Since being elected in May 2014 Cllr Hart has been holding surgeries on the first Monday afternoon in the month, alternating between Elin Way Community Rooms in Meldreth and The Plough in Shepreth. Attendance is very poor and as a result Cllr Hart has decided to discontinue this service.
- 092/07/15 Report from County Councillor:**
1. Through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) award to the A10 Corridor for 'soft measures' to encourage sustainable transport, MAYD has been awarded another round of Bike Bank funding. This should be delivered through the Youth Club.
The LSTF work also involves working with local employers on Travel Planning and Travel to Work schemes. The Parish Council as an employer is eligible to sign up for the latter, which does involve financial benefits around discounts on cycles and rail fares.
2. Unitary Authorities and Combined Authorities: Central Government has signalled a bold move in the direction of devolution though it is not clear how this would translate at a local level. If the City Deal governance is anything to go by then there are concerns, because

'local' means decisions being taken by a triumvirate of three council leaders (City, County and South Cambs) none of whom have any interest in this part of South Cambs.

3. Filcup survey: Thank you to Meldreth Speedwatch and Shepreth Parish Council for helping to provide the necessary number of people to carry out a survey of cyclists and pedestrians in Meldreth Road near the Filcup Field proposed entrance, concluding this evening at 19:00. It was suggested by Mr Borgonan (Speedwatch) to do a survey on a Saturday, even though Filcup will not be open on Saturdays, the information would be useful. The overhanging verges along this stretch of road are also causing a hindrance, however Cllr van de Ven reported that Highways don't like to encourage pedestrians from walking a road with no footway, RAS said that was irresponsible as, for some residents, they have to walk to travel between the villages.

4. Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group met earlier this week. Cllr van de Ven is to meet Govia on site to look at cycle and car parking issues, as it is at capacity. To set the record straight, they too were unaware of the demolition of the goods shed and the notion of leased car park spaces.

The matter of station access comes up at every meeting and the User Group is well supported by Meldreth residents who have mobility difficulties. In addition to the field access to the London-bound platform, the question of access to the pedestrian path with buggies and wheelchairs up the side of Allerton Terrace continues to come up. Cllr van de Ven suggested that this should be revisited, particularly now that the bungalows in Station Yard are on the market and new traffic can be expected. The vehicle entrance has no dedicated pedestrian provision at all, a more concerted consideration to widen the scope of access through this entrance is needed.

Govia, the train company, is working with the MAYD Youth Club to create a mural in Foxton Station waiting room, which has recently been repainted. They are meeting with MAYD to look at other station projects too.

5. The A10 Corridor Cycling Campaign will meet on 7 July, 7 for 7:30, at AstraZeneca's offices in Melbourn Science Park. Among other things we will be scoping out a strategy for funding the pedestrian/cyclist bridge over the A505, which has already been designed.

093/07/15

Joint Partnership with other Parish Councils:

A meeting is being arranged for July between Meldreth, Shepreth, Whadden and Bassingbourn Parish Councils. The matter of Eternit and turning vehicles to be raised at that meeting.

094/07/15

Solar Farms:

Update from SunEdison (Bury Lane) on the one-off Community Benefit payment of £50,000.

Update from Lightsource (Substation) and the contract for the yearly Community Benefit.

There has been no update from either company.

The matter of funding the ramp was discussed following the public debate (see item 089/07/15).

Footpath leading from the railway station to Melbourn – the footpath will need to be updated to meet DDA requirements, is this a matter for the Parish Council or CCC as the footpath is on private property? RAS reported that CCC are responsible for the footpath and have made repairs in the recent past behind Valley Farm. It was also suggested that a formal request be received from Network Rail stating that they will upgrade the station disabled access (ramp) if the Parish Council undertake the footpath. The fact that Network Rail is asking for confirmation from the Parish Council, the Parish Council need this confirmation too from Network Rail.

Questions were also raised regarding access to the ramp for Meldreth residents. At the moment access would be via the footpath across the Meads then exiting opposite Fieldgate (FP9A). If residents were walking with pushchairs or wheelchairs they would also need to negotiate the station bridge footway which is very narrow and then crossing Station Road opposite Fieldgate Nursery, residents however could be dropped off via vehicle at the nearby layby on Station Road.

The steps at the station will be upgraded to a ramp by Network Rail/Govia as this is their property, but confirmation from Network Rail is needed.

It was suggested that before any decision can be made regarding the ramp and all that it entails that Cllr van de Ven and the Clerk work together to get some clear guidance on what is needed along with some costings. It would be irresponsible of the Parish Council to fund projects which are not viable.

A notice was published in the June edition of Meldreth Matters asking for residents to suggest ways on how they would like the monies spent. The ramp was one of the suggestions put forward.

The Village Hall have put forward a request to have solar panels installed on the roof of the Village Hall.

A working group will be set up to look at all requests, at the moment there are two members; Mrs Joan Gane and Deborah Lane, it is hoped that there will be 5 or 6 members so more people are needed.

095/07/15 Matters arising: (no actions information only)

All items were covered in the agenda.

096/07/15 Planning: Cllrs. Hawkins, Searles, Fallon, Land, Pellatt and Stewart (Full details of planning meetings are available via the Clerk, website or notice board.

There was no Planning Meeting held on 18th June 2015

Planning Meeting 2nd July 2015 – Verbal Report

Former Scrapyard, Chiswick End, S/1233/15/FL - Change of use of land from scrapyard to commercial storage with ancillary storage building

The concern of increased traffic movements was not seen to be of a concern as the business is already running and the level of traffic movements should be no different. This is a new application which addresses the reasons for its original refusal which was due to overlooking from a neighbouring property. The application is for a more secure storage unit to protect equipment. Meldreth Parish Council recommend '**Approval**' with no comments.

13 Chiswick End, S/1285/15/DC - Discharge of conditions 3 (materials), 4 (brickwork and bond), 5 (external joinery), 6 (Foul water), 8(boundary treatment), 9 (hard and soft landscaping) and 11 (traffice management plan) of S/2154/14 **INFORMATION ONLY.** Application was noted with no further comments.

17 North End, S/1503/15/VC - Variation of Condition 4 (Cill height of roof light) of planning reference S/0115/14 for side and rear extensions with detached garage. Meldreth Parish Council recommend '**No Objection**' with no comments.

097/07/15 Eternit routing:

Meldreth agreed to the proposal put to them by Whaddon Parish Council of having one way routing this is where vehicles entering Eternit come via Meldreth and vehicles exiting Eternit leave via Whaddon. AK stated that he was not certain this information is correct as sending vehicle in a certain direction is not practised by Marley Eternit as they do not presently inform drivers which what to leave or enter the site as Marley Eternit would then have to take responsibility for any accidents. It was suggested that this matter be discussed at the Joint Partnership meeting.

Action: CAL

098/07/15 Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2013 in connection with the British Queen:

In the absence of Mr Tobin it was suggested by RAS that this now be removed as it was felt that the pub is already protected by being Grade 2 listed and the only pub in the village and does not need an Article 4.

The subject of the protecting the orchard on Whitecroft Road is a possibility, to be discussed further.

099/07/15 Village Maintenance:

Hedge and trees along Whitecroft Road/Fenny Lane - CAL to contact landowners.

Action: CAL

Grass cutting at Fenny Lane Crossroads. CCC have enquired if the Parish Council can add this area to the grass cutting schedule.

Grass cutting along station bridge. According to CCC map this is for the parish council however the grass cutter has never cut this area in the past, to be included onto the schedule. The contract has one more year to run so these areas to be done as an additional cost.

It was proposed by RAS to have both areas done on a monthly basis until the new contract comes into play where they then can be included, seconded by SH all agreed. Clerk to contact the grass cutting.

Action: Clerk

100/07/15 Playground:

1. Monthly Report – CJF gave the monthly reported. The footrest to be done on the rocking horse and the kicking board needs some attention. Clerk to contact Dave Chappell.

Action: Clerk

2. Quotations have now been received (Wickstead, Hags and Sovereign. Recreation Working Party to report their recommendations for a Zip Wire and Witches Hat. It was proposed by CJF to accept Sovereigns quote, seconded by SH all agreed. Clerk to arrange.

Action: Clerk

Other items such as a toddlers climbing tower and adult gym equipment to be looked at next. Site meeting has been arranged for 13th July. CJF and Clerk to attend.

101/07/15

Pavilion:

NP was absent from the meeting. CJF reported that new plans are now needed as planning had now run out. DS requested that the working party (NP, JCF, DS and DL) meet to discuss this matter further. SH suggested that the project should involve the wider community.

102/07/15

Annual Village Meeting:

Philippa Hart will look over the report taken at the meeting, once this has been done the report will be given to Meldreth Matters for inclusion in August's publication. **Action: Clerk**

103/07/15

Mettle Hill:

Report from Philippa Hart

- Following the working group presentation to the annual village meeting, a summary of the first half of the presentation was published in the current issue of Meldreth Matters. It is intended that a summary of the second half of the presentation (which describes in brief the options perceived to be currently available to the village) will appear in the next issue and a questionnaire will go out one to each household for feedback. It was proposed by SH that a sum of money £500 be made available for printing expenses of the questionnaire, seconded by RAS all agreed. Cllr Hart will forward the proposed questionnaire to the parish council for comments and approval. **Action: Cllr Hart**
- Letter received from The Showmen's Guild – a letter has been received from the Showmen's Guild asking if the Mettle Hill site could be used by them for a residential site for showmen from the East of England. RAS suggested that there are two separate options from the Showmen:
 1. Retirement homes for showmen already on the site in Meldreth
 2. A working showmens site for showmen from the East of England.
- Allotments – an article was put into Meldreth Matters asking that residents contact the Clerk if they wished to have an allotment. In the past couple of months the Clerk has had a couple of requests which were sent to Philippa Hart who unfortunately could not accommodate them, they since managed to get allotments at Melbourn. Since the publishing of the article there has been one further request.

104/07/15

Correspondence and Clerk's Report: Other items may be included for information.

- Notice has been put in Meldreth Matters requesting if residents would be interested in an emailing system for agenda's. Another option but needs further investigation is to use Facebook. It was suggested the Clerk attend the training session on 8th July at SCDC.
- Residents on Howard Road are concerned that SCDC are not applying weed killer in a proper fashion and are subsequently having their gardens sprayed. Clerk is investigating with SCDC.
- Clerk still to arrange a site meeting with Mr P Ray and Mr D Chappel to erect the warning signs at the Village Hall Car park.
- Notice for ideas for spending the solar money has been placed in Meldreth Matters.
- There are presently two residents interested in joining the working group to look at ideas on how to spend the funds.
- Residents at Melrose are concerned that the area of grass for the play area is being neglected by the developers. Clerk informed them that they need to contact SCDC to report this. The land in question is believed to still be under the control of the developers, however there are guidelines they have to follow which is controlled by SCDC. The land in question has never come under the Parish Council.
- Bank Mandate received for Mr Pellatt to become a signatory
- DS and RAS to attend the Parish Planning meeting on 15th July at Cambourne.
- CAL, DL and CJF to attend the Planning training.

- 105/07/15 Highway Items:**
Proposed speed limit along North End/Meldreth Road. Shepreth PC are in support of Meldreth trying to get the speed limit reduced to 40mph. RAS reported that he has not been able to contact Michael Anker (CCC), who may have left and it is proving difficult to speak with anyone in Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- 106/07/15 Flooding:**
It was proposed by RAS, seconded by CAL, agreed by all that the letter should be sent to the Flood and Water Team (CCC) regarding the recent consultation for flooding issues. **Action: Clerk**
- 107/07/15 Boundaries Commission:**
It was proposed by RAS, seconded by CAL, agreed by all, that the letter be sent to the Boundaries Commission (CCC) regarding the proposed restructuring of the boundaries for CCC Councillors. **Action: Clerk**
- 108/07/15 Footway at Biddal's Blvd:**
Clerk has contacted Mr Jon Finney and Mr Paul Sexton. Response has been received from Mr Gavin Wisemen (CCC) suggesting that the Parish Council use MHI scheme to fund this. RAS reported that this is not what was agreed and that the footway was part of the planning agreement with Mr Biddall and that it should not be an expense put back onto the Parish Council. Clerk to send Mr Wisemen the emails which pertain to this decision. **Action: Clerk**
- 109/07/15 Gravestone Inspection at Churchyard:**
Report from CAL – The gravestones appear to be in good order, however the front wall needs further investigation. RAS will speak with Mr Price and the name of the contractor sent to the Clerk. **Action: RAS**
- 110/07/15 Website:**
Mr Borgonon during the public sector has stated that a Parish Councillor along with the Clerk need to monitor and update the website. New software has been installed with is more user friendly making updates easier to manage. Mr Borgonon will undertake the training so that there will be three people trained including himself. The site is secure so different grades/access can be obtained. CAL volunteered. Clerk suggested end of August. **Action: Clerk/CAL**
- 111/07/15 Meldreth Manor School:**
Meeting to be arranged in August, Cllr Hart would like to be included along with CJF and CAL. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk**
- 112/06/15 Tennis Club:**
Request from the club to get the white lines painted. It was proposed by RAS to accept this, seconded by SH all agreed. Clerk to contact the Tennis Club. **Action: Clerk**
- 113/07/15 Councillors' Reports:**
DS – The new development near the station is being known as Railway Close. Clerk responded that no definitive reply had been received from SCDC and that Railway Close, which had been put forward originally had been refused. Clerk to enquire. **Action: Clerk**
MAYD – there is to be a meeting on 21st July.
CAL – the post box has disappeared from Kneesworth Road/Fenny Lane crossroads. Clerk has investigated this matter and it would appear the post box has been stolen. A letter has been written to the Post Office asking for this to be reinstated. The post office have to reapply for planning permission for this, it was suggested that the post box could be reinstated nearer to West Way. **Action: Clerk**
DL – circulated their report with regarding to the recent Police Panel meeting they attended.
- 114/07/15 To receive details of cheques to be drawn on the Parish Council's account as detailed or amended by late payments. To approve payments:**
LGA Local Government Act; TCA Telecommunications Act; OSA Open Spaces Act; PHA Public Health Act; PCA Parish Council Act
1. Cheques for approval and signature including any additional payments:
Payments already made
- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------|
| Staff | £ 1122.17 | June salaries | LGA 1972 s112 |
| D P Gardens | £ 514.16 | Grass cutting (June) | OSA 1906 s9/10 |
| Talk Talk | £ 20.31 | Broadband | TCA 1984 |

Payments for approval

Inland Revenue	£ 222.25	June PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
M Taylor	£ 257.40	reissue of salary payment	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	£ 27.01	Underpayment of salary	LGA 1972 s112
CASuffolk	£ 1,002.82	Insurance	LGA 1972 s111
Cambridge Water	£ 29.38	Cemetery Water	OSA 1906 s9/10
Cambridge Water	£ 90.65	Pavilion Water	OSA 1906 s9/10
Eon	£ 41.41	Electric for pavilion	LGA 1972 s111
D P Gardens	£ 90.00	Verges	OSA 1906 s9/10
B Huett	£ 190.00	Internal auditor	LGA 1972 s111

Payments were proposed by SH, seconded by CJF all agreed.

Deposits:

OPC	£104.70	Office Supplies
OPC	£ 90.00	Office rent (June)
Dignity Funerals	£130.00	Funeral fees

115/06/15**Burial Ground:**

Clerk still looking for a quote for re-fencing the back of the burial ground, two have been received to date. It was proposed by SH that the Parish Council go with the two quotes received, seconded by RAS all agreed. It was proposed to accept the quote from JAB Ground as their work is known and they did the fencing at the front. Clerk to organise.

Action:Clerk**116/06/15****Office Cover for July and August:**

Clerk will be away from the office from July 27th until 14th August.
Cover will be done by SH, CAL and RAS.

117/06/15**Agenda items for the next meeting:**

Community Asset (Article 4) for the orchard on Whitecroft Road

118/06/15**Action Points: if not already covered:**

There were no action points.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.59. The next meeting will take place on 3rd September 2015 in the Green Room of the Village Hall.

Chairman

Date

For the avoidance of doubt the only legally acceptable version of the Minutes of Meldreth Parish Council are those signed in Public Meetings by the Chairman. They are available for public inspection from the Clerk