

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes un Approved of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th January 2016 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 D Lee (**DL**), Mr A Keena (**AK**), and Mr D Stewart (**DS**), Mr A Young (**AY**), Mr S Hawkins (**SH**).

In attendance: S Walmesley (Acting Clerk).

- 238/01/16 To receive any apologies for absence:**
Apologies received from
Mr N Pellatt, Cllr S van de Ven and Mrs J Damant
- 239/01/16 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 declarations declared
- 240/01/16 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)**
There was one member of the public in attendance whilst the update on the Pavilion (Item 253/01/16) was discussed.
- 241/01/16 To sign and approve Minutes of meeting dated 3rd December 2015:**
The minutes were proposed by CJF, seconded by RAS all agreed. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.
- 242/01/16 Report from District Councillor:**
A copy of the report had been circulated to Councillors.
Concern was expressed over the negative personal comment expressed by Cllr Hart, in relation to the future of the Pavilion, in response to a resident's concerns. There was not yet any firm proposals agreed by the Parish Council and therefore the project was a long way from obtaining District Council approval.
The planning application for 75 dwellings in the grounds of Foxton Hall was going before the South Cambridgeshire District Council planning committee on the 13th January. The proposal for 200 additional homes in Melbourn would be going to appeal in July 2016. The result of this would have a bearing on the proposed development on the Eternit site.
- 243/01/16 Report from County Councillor:**
This report had also been circulated to Councillors.
The report provided updates on the Frog End junction, where there was to be a remedial works information evening on the 25th January, and the GP surgery capacity which would be relevant to any development at Eternit.
Councillors raised concern over the village footways. The pavement between the shop and the War Memorial to the west side of the road had been put on the resurfacing list. It had now been removed as the criteria had become more stringent. Cllr van de Ven had asked for remedial work to be carried out on the worst. It was noted that resurfacing had taken place in Shepreth and Barrington. The last work carried out in Meldreth was some patching in Flambards. Cllr van de Ven advised that she would like to invite officers for a tour of the village to inspect the paths.
The path between the Showman's site and Westway was then discussed. It was part of the planning condition for the Showman's planning permission to install the path which they did with consolidated granite chippings. Cambridgeshire County Council had said that they would follow this up in May 2015 but due to the bad weather this had not taken place. Cllr van de Ven had met with the Director of Highways, Emma Murden, in early December 2015 to look at this footway. She agreed the signs should have been relocated and was currently investigating the materials used in the path construction.
Councillors agreed that it needed to be made clear to parishioners that the delay in any resurfacing was not the fault of the Parish Council and that the delay in resolving the issue by CCC/SCDC was unacceptable.
- 244/01/16 Solar Farms:
Sun Edison (Bury Lane)**
The Clerk had received a response to her communication from Alejandro

Baquer, Corporate Social Responsibility EMEA & Latin America, and had now resent the letter asking for clarification.

Lightsource (Substation)

The Clerk had spoken to the working group who advised that it was up to the Parish Council what they wished to donate. The RSPB were looking at spending £15,000 to upgrade the toilet facilities and other facilities at Fowlmere and if Lightsource could have given the full amount they would have done so. This was not possible so that was why the request for £7,500 was split between Meldreth and Mebourn.

SH stated that a formal request had not yet been received. RAS added that the money could be given as a lump sum and if nothing happened until the new financial year this amount would be available in the fund when the second year payment from Lightsource was received. The working group was interested to know what the plans of Melbourn Parish Council were. The Clerk to find out.

**Action-
Clerk**

245/01/16 Solar Money Working Group:

DL advised that the next meeting of the group would be held in two weeks. SH asked if there had been any further requests for money. DL confirmed only the Basketball request (see later).

246/01/16 Matters arising: (no actions information only)

There were no items raised.

247/01/16 Overnight Parking along Station Road at Sudely Grove:

The sign had been ordered and would be placed to Highway specification on the left hand side of the entrance. A resident had raised concerns over the sign but by that stage it had already been ordered.

248/01/16 Planning: Cllrs. Land, Searles, Fallon, Hawkins, Pellatt and Stewart (Full details of planning meetings are available via the Clerk website or notice board).

Planning meeting held on 7th December 2015 was Cancelled

Planning meeting held on 7th January 2016 – Verbal Report.

Land adjoining 47 Howard Road

S/2724/15/FL

Mr M Sumsion

Proposed two bedroom dwelling and access

Meldreth Parish Council recommend **Refusal on the grounds that this was an overdevelopment of the site. There were also concerns over the number of exits onto the bend in the road**

The Sidings, 7 A Whitecroft Road

S/2981/15/LD

Mr A Dudley

Information Only –Lawful Development Certificate for conversion of integrated garage to habitable space

Orchard Cottage, Bury Lane

S/2244/15/OL

Mr L Cottam

Outline application for the erection of timber eco-friendly detached house (all matters reserved)

Meldreth Parish Council recommend **Refusal on the grounds that this proposed dwelling would be outside the village envelope. If approved would set a precedent for other development in the countryside**

SCDC Decisions:

62 North End S/2290/15/FL. Demolition of five bedroom chalet style house and erection of a four bedroom two storey house **-PERMISSION GRANTED**

12 Howard Road S/2233/15/FL . Two storey side extension to footprint of existing single storey extension **-PERMISSION GRANTED**

249/0/16 Marley/Eternit:

Marley/Eternit had agreed to pay for three banners, and to carry out a leaflet drop, which the Parish Council would be able to see beforehand. The presentation would take place on Saturday 27th February 2016 between 2pm and 8pm.

CJF suggested that the leaflet drop should also include Whaddon as some of their residents would be interested in the proposals.

AY suggested that Marley/Eternit be asked to purchase a fourth banner for erection outside the Eternit site. With this addition everyone entering the village

**Action-
Clerk**

- 250/01/16 would see the signs.
Eternit General Items:
These were in hand.
- 251/01/16 **Village Maintenance:**
The Clerk was waiting for information on the landowner regarding the overhanging hedge near Sudely Grove. **Action: Clerk**
- 252/01/16 **Playground:**
1. Monthly Report
CJF confirmed that everything was in order. The slabs by the gate had been laid.
 2. Update to extend the fenced area around the play equipment
A site meeting had been arranged with Hill Trident to extend the play area fencing. This was arranged for the 14th January 2016. CJF would confirm her attendance at the meeting with the Clerk. **Action: CJF**
 3. Quotes to trim vegetation on the ditch and remove tree stumps within the ditch along with other various tree works around the recreation ground
Two quotes had been received and the Clerk would meet with CJF and the Recreation working group to discuss them. **Action: CJF & Clerk**
 4. Request for a better basketball area –could be a project for the Community Fund or S106
E-mails and photographs had been circulated to Councillors of suggestions. CJF advised that there used to be wooden basketball backboards but these had been vandalised. The kicking board was also over 40 years old. AY suggested that metal basketball goals, as they had in the new Trumpington play area, be investigated. CJF would circulate the play equipment manufacturer's brochures. **Action: CJF**
- 253/01/16 **Pavilion:**
DS reported that Parish Council representatives had met with Civic Architects, and Hutchinson Builders representatives, to look at the Pavilion. Following inspection they concluded that in their opinion it was not fit for purpose and unsuitable for a cost effective refurbishment. They suggested a new clad timber framed structure, which would cost in the region of £225K, and this would give a projected life span of up to 100 years. They posed five questions for consideration to address before proceeding –
- What are the inspirations of local residents for the Pavilion?
 - Who would use it?
 - How would it be managed?
 - What would be the business plan?
 - Where would the funding come from?
- Councillors all agreed with the comments made by the Builders and agreed a positive way forward needed to be found. DS stated that there were funds earmarked for the Pavilion which could be spent on redecoration and refurbishment but the building would still be solely for use by the football clubs. A member of the public was invited to speak. She advised that some other villages included changing rooms on their village hall sites which could be a possibility here.
- Councillors agreed that to stir the village into taking some interest in the future of the Pavilion a professional opinion on the building needed to be sought. This could then be relayed to the village through Meldreth Matters. CJF agreed to contact the FA to get their view of the building which was now known to be not up to standard. Once this was confirmed by the FA then parishioners would be advised that unless people came forward to help to formulate a future strategy for the Pavilion **it would close at the end of the football season.**
- It was also agreed that an item advising of the inspection would be placed in Meldreth Matters this coming month ahead of the FA view. **Action: CJF**
- 254/01/16 **Rugby Group Benevolent Fund;**
The Clerk had the information on the criteria. RAS advised that if anyone who had worked for CEMEX lived in Meldreth then Meldreth was eligible to apply to the fund. AK stated that he was aware of people currently living in Meldreth who worked at the site when it closed. **Action: DS**
- 255/01/16 **Mettle Hill:**
Mettle Hill Public Consultation on Proposals – The Clerk had sent a letter to all parties that had shown an interest in Mettle Hill to ask for their proposal and if they

would attend a public presentation at the Annual General Meeting on the 19th May 2016.

A discussion took place on the idea of a dual usage site and also how this would be progressed following the presentation. AY added that the wildlife group involvement would work alongside other parties. It was recognised that Councillors would need to make the decision based on parishioner feedback. The Clerk was reminded to include Park Homes, and Tingdine in the invitation. Mettle Hill Fighting Fund – The transfer of the funds was in hand.

**-Action
Clerk**

256/01/16 Correspondence and Clerk's Report: Other items may be included for information.

Parish Council Elections – The next elections are due to take place in 2018, regardless to when recent elections have take place. This will result in all parishes having their four elections at the same time and thus minimising costs.

SPEP – thermal imaging cameras will be available in the New Year. Training sessions are available on 14th January 6-7pm at Cambourn

The Practical Solutions Group (PSG) – Meeting to take place on 4th February at Melbourn Village College. This meeting is for neighbouring parishes within the Melbourn Village College catchment area to help support social activities for young people. The youth club is one project already running.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that this was the same evening as the next Parish Council meeting so they would not be able to attend. Apologies to be forwarded to Cllr van de Ven.

**-Action
Clerk**

Correspondence from resident – would like to set up a project whereby young people are paired up with older residents in Meldreth and Melbourn. Could be a project for the PSG. This had been referred to Cllr van de Ven who thought it would be a good idea.

SCDC Consultation on the Strategic Policies identified for Neighbourhood Planning – responses from Parish Councils are being sought and will be reported to the Planning Portfolio Holder Cllr Robert Turner at his meeting on 14th March 2016

Bus Shelter –The shelter at The Stocks had wood worm which would be treated. It appeared to be stable but might need new slats, if the wood worm had spread to the frame.

257/01/16 Highway Items:

There were no items raised.

258/01/16 Community Speed Signs

Whaddon had purchased their signs for Bridge Street from a CW Technologies UK Ltd. They were advisory signs that stated that 20 was plenty, or had a picture of children playing with SLOW marked on them. The cost was not yet known.

259/01/16 Footway at Biddal's Blvd:

An update was provided in the County Councillor report.

260/01/16 Precept 2016/17:

SH circulated details of the draft budget prepared by the Financial Working Group. He explained the precept calculation. After discussion it was proposed by SH, seconded by AY, that the precept amount for 2016/17 be £57,345 an increase of 2% on the current year. The Clerk to make the demand to South Cambridgeshire County Council.

**Action:
Clerk**

261/01/16 Councillors' Reports:

Parish Council Liaison Meeting –CAL was unable to attend the meeting held in Cambourne on the 8th December 2015. RAS was aware that the minutes had been produced and would circulate them to Councillors.

Burning Rubber –DL advised that he had received a complaint regarding the smell of burning rubber from a resident of Whitcroft Road. The resident would be advised to speak to the South Cambridgeshire District Council EHO officer.

**Action:
DL**

Pet Crematorium –AY expressed concern over the proposals for the site which included a large pyrolysis centre with a 30 metre stack. He was concerned over the pollution issue in the village and agreed to circulate details to Councillors for discussion as an agenda item at the next meeting.

**Action:
AY**

Cemetery –CJF advised that 120 rabbits had been removed from the Cemetery and the SCOPE premises. There was a rabbit proof fence around the cemetery but it appeared that the rabbits were getting under the far right hand corner.

262/01/16 Financial Assistance:
Melbourn Library –This would be discussed at the next meeting.
Fowlmere RSPB –This had been discussed under Item 244/01/16.

263/01/16 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. Payments including any additional payments:

Payments already made:

	Payment	Vat	Item	Power
Staff	£1,129.59	0	December salaries	LGA 1972 s112
D P Gardens	£514.16	0	Grass cutting (October)	OSA 1906 s9/10
Talk Talk	£20.31	0	Broadband	TCA 1984

Payments for approval:

	Payment	Vat	Item	Power
Inland Revenue	£227.43	0	December PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	£5.81	0	Expenses	LGA 1972 s113
British Legion	£75.00	0	Poppy Wreath	LGA 1972 s137

Deposits:

There were no deposits
The Clerk would circulate an updated Financial Report.
Payment were proposed by CAL, seconded by JF all agreed.

**Action:
Clerk**

264/01/16 East Anglian Air Ambulance Training and Defib Machine (eaaa)
Juliette Walter had agreed to attend the next Parish Council meeting to demonstrate both CPR and defibrillators. Ms Walter's works with the British Heart Foundation.

265/01/16 Landscaping at Melrose
This was with the Planning Officer, Paul Sexton, who had advised the Clerk that he would not be able to respond to the query by this meeting.
Councillors expressed their concerns over this as the site seemed to be ignored and forgotten. There did not appear to be any landscaping plans. DS advised that he had correspondence from various people, relating to the site and the inclusion of a community orchard, which he would circulate to Councillors.

**Action:
DS**

266/01/16 Agenda items for the next meeting:
Recycling Development on A505 (Pet Crematorium/Cemetery)

**Action:
Clerk**

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.42pm

The next meeting will be held in the 'Green Room' of the Village Hall on February 4th 2016 at 7.30pm

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