

MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL (MPC)

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APPROVED MINUTES of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 4th September 2014 at 7:00pm (19:00hrs) in the Green Room of Meldreth Village Hall.

Present: Mr S Hawkins – Chairman (**SH**); Mr R A Searles (**RAS**); Mrs J Fallon (**JF**); Mr C A Land (**CAL**); Mr N Pellatt (**NP**) and Mr D Stewart (**DS**)

In attendance: Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr Hart (SCDC) and Cllr van de Ven (CCC).

2. To sign and approve Minutes of meeting held on 21st August 2014.

The minutes were proposed by CAL and seconded by DS all agreed. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.

3. Public Participation:

(For up to 15 mins members of the public may contribute their views and comments - 3mins per item)

Sun Edison Project: Mr Andrew Hodgson – Savilles, Mr David Gilbert, Mr Mark Scandler and Ms ???

Lightsource Project: Ms Jessica Gittoes and Mr Cairan Dillon

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

Presentation from Sun Edison: Letters will be sent out to all residents with communication details for the company. Vehicles will use the layby on the A10 as a holding area while awaiting instructions and an escort before entering the village. There will be three Banksmen positioned within the village to make sure vehicle movements are adhered to. One at the top of the bridge, one within the village and one at the entrance of Gilhooly's. Vehicles should not have to back in as they are solid body and smaller than the articulated trucks. There will be no vehicles entering the site from Whitecroft Road or the High Street. Vehicles will reverse out of the site with the aid of a Banksman to guide them. Melbourn Parish Council were concerned that vehicles may miss the right hand turn and enter Melbourn, this should not happen as vehicles will be escorted into Meldreth. The Local History Group would like to be involved, Mr Hodgson is very happy for this to happen.

Presentation from Lightsource: There are planning applications for two further solar farms in the local area – Muncey's Farm and Black Peak Farm, though neither of these is within the parish of Meldreth. However, they need a substation and it is proposed to build this substation next to the existing substation in Meldreth. There will be screening from all aspects of the development so it will not be visible. The substation application is running ahead of the solar farm applications due to delays within planning. The question was raised as to what would happen if the solar farm applications did not go through. If both applications were refused then, if work had started, the decommissioning would have to take place. All cables will be underground, there will be nothing above ground.

4. 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.

5. Request for the following:

5.1 Bury Lane Fruit Farm, Melbourn Bypass, Meldreth S/1887/14/VC

SunEdison

Variation of condition 2 of planning reference S/2616/13

Meldreth Parish Council recommend 'Approval'. Meldreth Local History Group would also like to be involved this information their letter of request to be included in the Parish Council's response.

5.2 1 Station Road, S/1240/14/FL
Mr A P Burlton
Installation of solar panels on farm land for the production of electricity.
Vote. 4 for Refusal, 2 for Approval.
Meldreth Parish Council recommend 'Refusal'. The Parish Council are worried about the proliferation of solar panels in this area and feel that the visual affect would be unsightly. It was suggest that the possibility of using roof space on the buildings at Valley Farm maybe a better option.

5.3 Land North West of A10, Meldreth S/1928/14/FL
Mr Colm Ryan, Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd
Electrical Substation
RAS suggested that this decision be deferred until the next planning meeting on 18th September, that way feedback from the proposed solar farms will be available. The information has not be read by all councillors as it was not received in time.

6. SCDC Decisions:
There were no decisions.

7. Other Items:
The appeal for the Scrapyard at Chiswick End will be discussed at the next meeting.
Eden Farms have given clarification on the working hours: 24 hours for transport working. Clerk to enquire if a further response from Meldreth PC as the received amendment covers the information submitted before our recommendation was made.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7:50pm (19:50hrs).

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