

**MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

CHAIRMAN: Mr Richard Goddin

Clerk: Mrs J Damant
Parish Council Office
Sheltered Housing Communal Room
Elin Way
Meldreth SG8 6LX

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To members of the Council:

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Meldreth Parish Council on Thursday 7th September 2017 at 7.30 p.m in the Green Room of the Village Hall for the purpose of transacting the following business.

To members of the Public:

You are invited to attend a meeting of Meldreth Parish Council on Thursday 7th September 2017 at 7.30 p.m in the Green Room of the Village Hall for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Clerk: _____

Date: 1st September 2017

AGENDA

- 141/09/17 To receive any apologies for absence: LGA 1972 sch12 para 40 – Quorate is one third but no less than 3 members LGA 1972 sch12, para 45**
- 142/09/17 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:**
- 143/09/17 Public Participation: [For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments to the Parish Council - 3mins per item]**
- 144/09/17 To approve and sign Minutes of meeting dated 3rd August 2017:**
- 145/09/17 District Councillor Report: Appendix 1**
Report circulated – questions from Parish Councillors
- 146/09/17 County Councillor Report:**
Report circulated – questions from Parish Councillors

Working Group Updates/Reports:

- 147/09/17 Marley Eternit Working Group**
- 148/09/17 Meldreth Futures Working Group:**
Report by Cllr Young
Update on recent applications
- 149/09/17 Village Traffic Working Group:**
Meeting will be held 26th September at 7pm in the Green Room. Items for discussion need to be with Cllr Young by the 22nd September.

Planning:

- 150/09/17 Planning Extracts:(Town and Country Planning Act 1990 schedule 1, paragraph 8)**
Cllrs. Goddin, Land, Lee, Pellatt, Searles and Young (Full Planning Minutes are available via the Clerk, website or notice board).
Planning meeting held on 20th July 2017: No Meeting
Planning meeting held on 3rd August 2017:
Land Rear of 19-21 Whitecroft Road,S/2553/17/OL - Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved apart from access for the erection of two dwellings and change of use of part field/paddock to ecological amenity land. Vote taken with four Councillors in agreement of recommending **Object and one against. The Parish Council Recommended Object with comments.'The proposed dwellings were outside the village framework and the integrity of the village envelope should be protected. Councillors were concerned that if this application was allowed it would set a precedent for encroachment into the countryside'. The Parish Council did not want the application to be referred to the South Cambridgeshire District Council Planning Committee**

32 Station Road (Fieldgate Nurseries), S/2465/17/FL - Retrospective-replacement single storey storage shed. Vote taken with all Councillors in agreement of recommending **Support**.

7 Brewery Lane, Agricultural barn at rear of Brewery Farm, S/2346/17/FL - Conversion of existing barn into a single dwelling and includes a single storey extension to the west and proposed carport. Vote taken with all Councillors in agreement of recommending **Support**.

34 Chiswick End, S/2319/17/FL - Demolition and replacement of existing detached garage. Vote taken with all Councillors in agreement of recommending **Object**. The Parish Council Recommended Object with comments. The size of the proposed garage is not on the scale of a domestic garage being four times the size of what is currently there. The industrial nature of the proposed construction materials are not suitable for a residential village setting.

Scrap Yard, Chiswick End, S/3529/17/OL - Erection of 6 dwellings with associated access and car parking. It was noted that there was further information still to be received on this application. It was agreed to defer a discussion until the next Planning Committee meeting.

63 High Street, S/2507/17/TP - Robinia (T30) reduce height by 20% because of excessive shading and to encourage growth to lower branches. Ash (No TPO) reduce height by 20% because of excessive shading and to encourage growth of lower branches. There were no concerns raised.

Planning meeting held on 24th August 2017:

85 High Street, S/2528/17/LB - Installation of Gas Boiler that will require the addition of a horizontal flue and condensate pipe to the rear of the property, the removal of two oil storage tanks, and replacement of oil pipework with gas pipework. Meldreth Parish Council recommend **'Support'** with no comments. Cllr Young abstained.

Meldreth Primary School, S/0244/17/CC - Development of the existing 171 place primary school to include two single storey extensions, 2 canopies, additional car and cycle parking, hard PE court together with hard and soft landscaping to enable it to expand to a 210 place primary school. Documentation had not been received in time for this meeting, Clerk to ask for this to be deferred until the next planning meeting on 7th September. **DEFERRED**.

56 Whitecroft Road, S/276117/FL - Two storey rear extension and detached garage. Meldreth Parish Council recommend **'Support'** with no comments.

Orchard Lodge, 80A High Street, S/2724/17/FL - Erection to 'The Master Annexe' -single storey, two bedroom log cabin to be located to the side of existing property as ancillary accommodation. Meldreth Parish Council recommend **'Support'** with comments. 'If permission is granted for this application that the cabin it will not be sold as a separate dwelling to 80a High Street.

Scrap yard, Chiswick End, S/3529/16/OL - Erection of 5 dwellings with associated access and car parking. Additional information. The outline application has been changed from 5 dwellings to 6. One dwelling has been turned into two semi-detached dwellings. Meldreth Parish Council recommend **'Support'** with comments. All concerns raised in the the past appear to have been addressed.

4 Stone Lane, S/2845/17/FL - Proposed alterations and extension. Meldreth Parish Council recommend **'Support'** with no comments. Cllr Searles abstained.

Land Rear of 19-21 Whitecroft Road (amended), S/2553/17/OL. Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved apart from access for the erection of two dwellings and change of use of part field/paddock to ecological amenity land (**Amended red line area**). Meldreth Parish Council noted the amendment of the red line area, but the Parish Council still maintain their objections to the development.

Planning meeting held on 6th September 2017: verbal report

151/09/17 **Marley Eternit: Proposed development of 150 dwellings:**
Update

152/09/17 **Green Spaces Review and the Local Plan:**
Appendix 2

Major Projects

153/09/17 **Pavilion Construction:**(LGA 1972 s111)

154/09/17 **Security for Pavilion:** (Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s31)
Update on CCTV policy

155/09/17 Pavilion Management Programme:
Cleaning will commence on Friday 8th September 2017.
Pavilion Agreement (payments)

156/09/17 Church Wall:
Update on progress.

157/09/17 Mettle Hill:
Update of tenders for making site safe and secure.

158/09/17 Local Highway Improvement Scheme: (LHI)
Deadline for submission is 30th September 2017.

Ongoing Projects

159/09/17 Playground:
Monthly Report

160/09/17 Recreation Ground:

- Ditch Clearance – Tenders received to clear the ditch, this now needs to be done before any of the companies can tender for maintenance and repairs to the banks on the ditch.
- Recreation Ground Maintenance: Tenders received to clear hedges at play area along with other maintenance work needed in the recreation ground.

161/09/17 Horse Chestnut Tree (Stocks)
Tenders received to maintain the Horse Chestnut Tree situated at the Stocks.

162/09/17 Street light survey:
Survey to replacing the lights along North End (SC1-SC9) and Chiswick End (SC10-SC13). The cost of this survey was £399.85 and already agreed. Update

163/09/17 Football Club Rental Payments:
Amendment to July's meeting. Rental fees for the Saturday Club were agreed during the May meeting to be set at £300 per annum, so the decision to have it at £350 which was agreed during the July meeting is void.

164/09/17 Proposed closing of the railway crossing on footpath 10:
Update if one

165/09/17 Defibrillators:

- Village Hall – defibrillator and case have been ordered.
- Red telephone box – Mr Chappel has indicated that the maintenance work needed at the telephone box situated on North End is achievable. Once the box has been repaired Clerk will order the defibrillator which will be installed by Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT). Clerk has asked that the box be adopted by CHT on behalf of the Parish Council, but that the Parish Council remain responsible.

Administrative /Other

166/09/17 Correspondence and Clerk's Report:

- Cambridgeshire Acre are holding workshops to look at the future of libraries (Monday 2nd October Cambridge Central Library at Lion Yard 18:30-21:00)
- Christmas Tree Festival to be held on Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd volunteers needed.
- Residents letter regarding Sheltered Housing – Cllr Hart is aware of this
- Parish Planning Forum - 12th September 18:00 to 20:00 – RG will attend
- Report that the gully at the junction of the High Street and Gable Close has been done incorrectly and the incorrect materials have been used. The gully outside the school which was reported some time ago has still not been reset and resurfaced. Refer to Cllr van de Ven (CCC)
- A resident along the High Street is having problems with commuters parking outside their house, they have two parking bays outside the house but they are taken up every day by commuters. Cllr van de Ven is aware of this. Can the Parish Council do anything to help in this matter?

167/09/17 Matters arising: (no actions, information only)
Grass cutting update for extra funding.

168/09/17 Meeting with Cambridgeshire Acre:
Meeting date still to be finalised but will be in October and will be for members of the Parish Council and Meldreth Futures Working Group. Neighbourhood Plans will be discussed.

Finance

169/09/17 Pavilion:
Payment of £1,445.00 for additional works carried out by the KTL Building Services, this is above the agreed quote.

170/09/17 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/internet payment for approval and signature including any additional payments:

Payments already made

	Gross	Vat		Power	
Staff	confidential	0	September Salaries	LGA 1972 s112	Bacs
Inland Revenue	confidential	0	September PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112	bacs
SMART	confidential	0	Pension contributions	LGA 1972 s112	DD
Talk Talk	22.31	0	Broadband	TCA 1984	DD
D P Gardens	615	0	Grass and verge cutting May	OSA 1906 s9/10	Bacs
KTL Building Services	11620	0	Stage 6,7,8 pavilion	LGA 1972 s	Bacs
BT	339.06	56.51	Phone	TCA 1986	DD
J Damant	24.07	0	Expenses	LGA 1972 s133	Bacs

Payments awaiting Approval

	Gross	Vat		Power	
R Goddin	10.5	0	Expenses - keys	LGA 1972 s133	bacs
KTL Building Services	1445	0	Extra work at Pavilion	LGA 1972 s	

Deposits

OPC rent	180
Burial fees	25

171/09/17 Melwood:
Retrospective funding application showing what has been spent as there was an underspend.

172/09/17 Community Access Point (CAP):
Decision from the Parish Council to continue with the scheme once the present computers have ceased to be functional. History Group still use the machines.

173/09/17 Community Gritting Scheme 2017/18:
Under this scheme the Parish Council agrees specific routes in their area which are important to the local community and agrees them with the County Council. Volunteers can then sign up to grit these routes using equipment provided by the County Council.

174/09/17 Rural Travel Hubs: Appendix 3
Meldreth has been identified as a possible location for a transport hub to serve a wider locality. Report from Cllr Goddin.

175/09/17 Mobile Phone Mast:
There have been reports that residents with EE, Virgin and Three have been unable to get reception due to a damaged mast. Residents have been in touch with the various suppliers but the mast has still not be repaired. Request to see if the Parish Council are able to do anything.

176/09/17 Councillors' Reports:

Agenda items for the next meeting:

- **Burial Ground** - Cars on two occasions have been parked inside the gates, these are not vehicles belonging to grave diggers, this may be a result of someone not knowing the rules or someone who has a wheelchair need. Maybe an idea to put a bolt that is lockable on the bottom of one of the gates.
- **Office IT system**
- **Mettle Hill Working Group**
- **Tennis Club Working Group**

District Councillor Report

September 2017

Marley

This will have been heard at SCDC Planning Committee the day before the Parish Council meeting, but Cllr Goddin has understandably asked for early submission of reports owing to the lengthy agenda. No doubt you will receive news of the decision of the planning committee. At the time of writing, we are seeking advice from Philip Kratz who has kindly agreed to appear on behalf of Meldreth objectors again, concerning how best to present Meldreth's position before the committee where the application will have a full hearing again.

Local Plan update

SCDC Head of Planning has told members that 1675 homes are needed to be delivered in the District per year for 20 years and that it is contemplated that there will be 44100 jobs generated in that time.

The Local Plan has been suspended for almost as long as I have been a district councillor but it is something to be able to report that the examination in public finished July 2017! The Inspector's report is expected autumn 2017 which may require potential modifications to be made by SC Planning department. With a following wind, adoption of the Plan is hoped for early 2018, by which time the Council will be starting to consult in the next Local Plan!

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mayor

The Mayor, James Palmer, has had his plans to increase his budget for Staffing his office by £500,000 over his campaign pledge of £1.3million thwarted by the Combined Authority Scrutiny and Overview Committee calling the decision in. The Committee has also expressed concerns over consultancy fees which run into hundreds of thousands of pounds and which do not appear as staffing costs even though they are. The call in requires the Combined Authority Board to hold an EGM which takes place on Monday 4th September. I hope to have an update for you by next week's meeting.

Combined Authority Transport Strategy

Various projects have been given the green light by the Combined Authority to be explored which include a rapid transport strategy for Cambridge, possible dualling of the A10, improving the A47 to improve connectivity for the Fens. None of this is set in stone and in the meantime Planning Committee is passing planning permissions for hundreds of new houses in advance of any prospect of infrastructure improvements. As I have said previously, we have hitherto been lucky in Meldreth to have only had one really large application on the Marley site to have had to deal with.

Bin collection

The Environmental Services Portfolio Holder has recommended to SC Cabinet that the council moves to a mixed recycling strategy. As I understand it this means that there will no longer be a separate paper caddy within the blue bin and all dry recycling will be able to be disposed of together. I will have more information in due course.

Elite Athlete Award Scheme

The Elite Athlete Award Scheme opened for applications on 1 September with £10,000 available to help support local elite athletes reach their potential. The scheme is open to both able-bodied and disabled athletes, who live in South Cambridgeshire, whether competing regionally, making progress nationally or representing Team GB. Grants can be used to fund any aspect of equipment, training or competition costs. The maximum grant award will be £2,000 per applicant. Full details and an online application form can be found at:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/eliteathlete>

Enquiries to:

duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713070

Community Chest Grants

There has recently been a windfall of £30,000 into the Community Chest administered by SCDC owing to a community project not getting off the ground. Local groups and charities are invited to apply for grants up to £1,000 for identified projects or contributions towards them. The Community Chest Grants scheme is available to voluntary and community sector groups and parish councils and funding is allocated on a first come, first served basis and awards are decided at the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder's meeting (usually monthly). For further information on eligibility and information needed to support an application please go to

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest>

National Non Domestic Rates Local Discretionary Relief

Recent government changes to business rates, although they have benefited some businesses, have also resulted in a number of small businesses having their rates increase dramatically. The District Council has a ring-fenced amount of money and runs a discretionary scheme to businesses experiencing hardship as a result of the changes. For more information please go to <https://www.scams.gov.uk/.../around-300-south-cambridgeshire-businesses-could-receive-funds-rate-relief>

Neighbourhood Plans

There is a Parish Planning Forum at 6-8pm on September 12th where Neighbourhood Plans will be on the agenda. I have said before I would be happy to steer a Neighbourhood Plan for Meldreth, so if there is my appetite for this, please can the Parish Council consider offering its support.

Cllr Philippa Hart
Meldreth and Shepreth Ward
philippahart@btinternet.com 07811323572

Update about progress for the Local Green Space Review and the Local Plan examination

Dear Parish Council

Following on from my e-mail which I sent to you on the 30th of June 2017, this e-mail is an update about progress for the Local Green Spaces Review and the Local Plan examination.

Local Green Spaces - Review at request of the Inspectors

At his Planning Portfolio Holder meeting on 26 July, Cllr Robert Turner will consider a report which reviews the Local Green Spaces at the request of the Inspectors. The report responds to the Inspectors' letter to the Council in March 2017 with their interim findings on the Local Green Spaces (LGS) policy and the sites proposed to be designated. Their view is that the Council did not set the bar high enough when it carried out the assessment of this new national type of local space designation during the preparation of the submitted Local Plan. They particularly referred to the National Planning Policy Framework description of these areas, that they must be 'demonstrably special', of 'particular local significance', and the 'Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space'. They gave a number of examples where they considered sites did not meet these tests.

Council officers have carried out a review of the 172 sites identified in the submission Local Plan, to reassess each site against the tests and taking close account of the findings of the Inspectors. In doing so we have considered whether sites that are not suitable as LGS should either return to, or become new Protected Village Amenity Areas (PVAA) or Important Countryside Frontages (ICF), as advised by the Inspectors. These existing designations in the plan provide protection to suitable sites within village frameworks or adjoining village frameworks, but not to the level of green belt type protection which is the effect of LGS.

The review has concluded that most of the identified village greens, recreation grounds and wildlife areas continue to warrant LGS status. Informal areas of amenity land or playspace in housing areas within villages would be more appropriately PVAA. Meadows or fields on the edges of villages have been the most complex to assess, but given the Inspectors' conclusions, and the examples they provided of this types of site, a number are not recommended for LGS.

The results of this review included splitting some sites meaning that 196 parcels of land have been considered instead of 172 included in the submitted Plan. The review recommends that 82 sites are retained as Local Green Space, 24 sites are returned to PVAA, 43 sites are classified as new PVAA, 4 sites return to ICF, and 43 sites are no longer subject to LGS and not PVAA or ICF. The majority of this final category of site cannot be proposed as PVAA because they are outside village frameworks where the policy does not apply. However, they are located where countryside policies apply, and once a 5 year supply is regained will have that protection against development.

Once agreed by the portfolio holder the LGS report will be submitted to the Inspectors for their consideration. Whilst we appreciate that Parish Councils will be disappointed at the changes that need to be made to the Local Green Spaces policy, it is important that the Council responds constructively to the Inspectors' concerns so that the Local Plan can move forward towards adoption and the changes recommended reflect the clear steer provided by the Inspectors.

The report also captures some of the other options available for local communities in respect of those sites now affected by the review. These include Neighbourhood Plans, Community Assets Register, or registering of common land / village greens.

As part of the wider local plan process the Inspectors will identify modifications needed to make the plan sound, and this will include any changes to the original 172 LGS sites they consider need to be made in response to the work the Council has now undertaken. These changes will then be subject to public consultation (before they make their final report), which we anticipate will take place in the Autumn.

Spotlight on better travel options to get in to Cambridge at meeting with parish councils

29 June 2017

Senior councillors in South Cambridgeshire have thanked parish councils for their positive response to an initiative that aims to increase residents' travel options and cut the number of cars that travel into Cambridge.

At a meeting with parish councils this week, Cllr Francis Burkitt, South Cambridgeshire District Council's cabinet member for the Greater Cambridge City Deal, outlined the plan to investigate rural travel hubs, which could help people connect to public transport links closer to their homes.

Alongside cutting the number of cars travelling in to Cambridge, Cllr Burkitt also explained it could also help improve travel options to move around the district.

The positive response to the aim of giving villagers better access to public transport at the meeting this week follows Cllr Burkitt writing to all parish councils to initiate the idea last year and ask for their views on whether hubs could help them.

At the meeting, parish councils heard that this will now be taken forward by the Greater Cambridge City Deal, which will announce more details next week, including how local people can make sure their ideas and views are taken on board.

Cllr Francis Burkitt, South Cambridgeshire District Council's cabinet member for the Greater Cambridge City Deal and vice chair of the partnership's Executive Board, said: "I'm really pleased with the positive response we have had so far to rural travel hubs that could both increase and improve our residents' travel options as well as cut the number of people using their cars to get in to Cambridge. However, it is important to remember that this is very early days and we need to work out what our residents want out of a rural travel hub. At one end of the scale, it could be additional car and cycle parking near a train station or guided bus stop in one of our villages. At the other end of the scale, it could be a larger interchange that could involve re-routing buses to connect to other services so everyone gets a more frequent service. We've got no set ideas, and the first step is to ask everyone's views. The early conversation with representatives of our parish councils was really positive and I'd really encourage everyone to engage in the initiative when the details are published next week."

Cllr Peter Topping, Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council, said "The District Council has championed rural travel hubs as we must make sure that our villages get the transport links and infrastructure they deserve. Our villages are special places and the plans must be community led as it is not a simple one size fits all. The ideas, suggestions and expertise in our villages must be harnessed in this fact-finding stage to make sure that the project focusses on the things that can make a lasting difference to our communities. I am grateful for the positive response from parish councils so far as around a dozen were keen last year when we contacted them. Anyone who queues to get in to Cambridge each morning will tell you that a solution must be found and I would urge all those people to make sure they help shape these plans."

The Greater Cambridge City Deal's Executive Board approved a £100,000 feasibility study on rural travel hubs in March this year, and tasked South Cambridgeshire District Council officers with leading the initial stage of the project. The results of the study and views from local communities that will be gathered over the coming months are expected to be presented to the Board and Assembly in January 2018.