

**PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms on Elin Way.

Present: Cllr R Goddin- Chairman (**RG**), Cllr RASearles- Vice Chairman (**RAS**), Cllr J Fallon (**JF**), Cllr R James (RJ), Cllr C A Land (**CAL**), Cllr N Pellatt (**NP**), Cllr A Young (**AY**)

*In attendance: Mrs J Damant (Clerk), Cllr S van de Ven (CCC), Cllr SA Hart (SCDC) and Cllr J Hales (SCDC)*

- 196/01/22**      **To receive any apologies for absence:** (LGA 1972 sch 12 para 40) – Quorate is one third but no less than 3 members (LGA 1972 sch 12 para 45)  
Apologies have been received from Cllr Searles (personal matters) and Cllr Land (personal matters). These were accepted and agreed by the council.
- 197/01/22**      **Pecuniary Interests:** Councilor's to disclose any Pecuniary Interests (disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) include interests held by a member's spouse, civil partner or similar) in any item listed on the agenda.  
There were no interests declared.
- 198/01/22**      **Public Participation:** If a member of the public wishes to make any comments or raise any questions under Standing Order 3(e), about an item on the Agenda the Council would prefer this to be done by an email or letter with the script of their comments and questions being sent to the Clerk in advance of the meeting. A member of the public may alternatively make a verbal statement during this part of the meeting. Priority will be given to any such email or letter and it will be read out by the Clerk, subject to the time limits stated in the Council's Standing Orders. These consist of a limit of 15 minutes in total (which will apply to the total of both written and verbal contributions) and an individual limit of three minutes per item of either type.  
There were six members of the public in attendance, including the three local authority councils.
- 199/02/22**      **To Approve and Sign Minutes of Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021:**  
The minutes were proposed by Cllr Pellatt, seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.
- 200/01/22**      **Planning: (Town and Country Planning act 1990 sch 1, para 8)**  
(Full planning Minutes are available via the clerk, website or notice board)  
SWCAG will be meeting in February with regards to the Thakeham development, further details will be sent out nearer the time.
- 201/01/22**      **District and County Reports: (Cllrs van de Ven, Hales and Hart)**  
Full report has been received and circulated to the council. Cllr Hart added that though the rules for covid are being relaxed people should still take care. There is still a high percentage of COVID cases within the schools and within this area of South Cambridgeshire. Cllr Goddin also reported that it is unlikely that internet/zoom meetings will be reinstated by the Parish Council, this resolution has to come direct from government and with the relaxation of COVID rules this is now very unlikely to happen.
- 203/01/22**      **Precept 2022/23**  
The financial working group have looked over the budget from last year and what is expected in the coming year. Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Goddin that a precept request of £66,000 be given to SCDC, this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all. Cllr Goddin reported that in the light of financial pressure on household bills the Parish Council are not increasing the precept this year. It is hoped that by controlling the Parish Council expenditure that all necessary costs will be met. This may mean that certain items will be held back. One of these projects is the churchyard wall. The Parish Council are very aware of their statutory duties with regards to the churchyard wall and a Health & Safety inspection has now been completed. This will be reported on at the next meeting but only items that are absolutely necessary, with regards to H&S, will be considered at this time all other projects will be put on hold, for the time being.

204/01/22

**Co Option for two seats:**

There were three candidates standing for the two available seats. Each seat was voted on separately. The first seat, following a ballot election, whereby Mr McGarry was voted on, the second seat MrBostanci was voted on. Both candidates then signed their Agreement to Abide by the Code of Conduct and took their seats at the council table. Cllr Goddin thanked all the candidates and reminded everyone that the full Parish Council will be up for election in May 2022

205/01/22

**Finances and payments: December 2021**

To receive details of cheques/bacs 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; RTRA Road Traffic Regulations Act.

**PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION –MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021**

Payee	Amount £	Vat £	Description	Power
Salaries, HMRC, Pension	Confidential	0	Employees payments for December 2021	LGA 1972 s112
Drax Power	£29.20	£1.41	Street lighting power November 2021	PCA 1957 s3
E-On	£19.98	£0.95	Pavilion electricity	LGA 1972 s143
DP Garden Services	£721.66	0	Grasscutting December 2021	OSA 1906 s9/10
Viking	£115.67	£19.28	Stationery	LGA 1972 s133
SCDC	£27.50	0	Hire of Room for PC meeting	LGA 1972 s133
Mrs J Damant(McAfee)	£89.99	0	Anti virus program	LGA 1972 s133
Archive Uklimites	66.00	11.00	Paper shredding	LGA 1972 s133
Philimore Garden	33.08 7.72 <b>40.80</b>	5.52 1.29 <b>6.81</b>	Shrubs for recreation area	OSA 1906 s9/10
SCDC	27.50	0	Hiring of Communal Room	LGA 1972 s133

Payment for Hags has now been paid as the matter concerning the swing seat has been resolved. Grass cutting grant has been received.

It was proposed by Cllr Goddin that all payments were in agreement, this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all.

206/01/22

**Reports from Councillors:**

Cllr Goddin reported that there is nothing new to report and that no meeting has yet taken place. It was suggested that Flambards be asked to put forward their proposals on how to address the matter of the cracked hard standing areas. It is known that not all residents are members of the Flambards Residents Association but the matter was raised initially by them. One possible suggestion would be to grass over some of the areas in question. This matter is relevant to all residents of Flambards, not just those who have signed up to the Association.

Cllr James is looking into the Health and Safety aspects of the church yard grounds including the wall. It was raised by the church wardens that the church wall could be a safety hazard as there is a drop to the road on the opposite side. A survey has now been carried out and the survey will now be looked at. The main area of concern are the outside electrics, the wall itself is not of any major concern. For the Parish Council to repair the wall are looking at a cost of £100k. The survey carried out has shown that the wall is not the major concern but there are other items that are. Further discussion to be had.

Cllr Fallon circulated the monthly report. A new tree has now been planted though not in the positions originally agreed. However, there will be further trees being planted in the recreation ground so this is not of any major concern. MrSkuce has looked at various items which need some attention at the recreation ground and will submit a quote to the Clerk. The mound of earth left by the gate will be sorted in the spring.

Cllr Garner reported that the PTA have submitted a second form requesting further funding for the swimming pool. The Parish Council had already agreed that if there was a small shortfall which may hamper the completion of putting in a swimming pool at the primary school they would be happy to help. This to be formally approved at the next meeting. The further request is for £2500.

Cllr Pellatt reported that an agreement has been met with Meldreth, Orwell and Bassingbourn football clubs. Orwell have the contract to play on the Meldreth pitch on Saturdays, however if they are not using the pitch, then Bassingbourn may do so. There are only a few games left in the season so no contract has been drawn up for Bassingbourn, however if they are unable to get back onto their own pitch this will need to be re-looked at and a more formal agreement arranged.

207/01/22

**Clerk's Report:**

- Maintenance programmes are being dealt with, Clerk waiting for a quote. This will include the following:
- Installation of the new bench at the corner of Howard and Whitecroft Road, matting in the recreation ground - Zip wire, basket ball area, gates and bench areas, guttering at the pavilion, device to stop youths accessing the roof.
- Zip wire, approved at last meeting, will be done within the next few weeks.
- Still awaiting the two new notice boards.
- Clerk has two litter bins but still does not know where these are to be placed. There are a lot already in the recreation ground.
- Nobody has contacted the Clerk with regards to the finger posts.
- Clerk is still waiting to hear from SCDC as to when the road signs at Whitecroft Road will be reinstalled.
- Clerk to arrange a site meeting with Highways with regards to the foliage on Station Road.
- Clerk has posted a note in Meldreth Matters regarding the Queen's Jubilee to see if there are any organisations or residents who would like to put something together. Clerk will collate all responses. The clerk also reported that there is to be a new Meldreth Rainbows Pack, and that they have contacted the Clerk enquiring as to whether there was anything happening in Meldreth with regards to the Queen's Jubilee.

208/01/22

**LHI:**

The date of the panel meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Mrs Gilmore has kindly offered to assist the Clerk with both the panel meeting and putting together a document.

209/01/22

**Agenda Items next meeting:**

Recreation Ground – purchase of see saw; Churchyard Projects; Planning Issues like the Arc; Jubilee celebrations; Village infrastructure; Traffic working group; Flambarads

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm. The next meeting is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

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