

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MELDRETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms on Elin Way.

Present: Cllr R James – Chairman (**RJ**), Cllr A Bostanci(**AB**), Cllr J Fallon (**JF**), Cllr N Garner (**NG**), Cllr C A Land (**CAL**) and Cllr N Pellatt (**NP**)

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

- 077/07/22** **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 were received all for personal reasons, from Cllrs Goddin, Meridew and McGarry, these were agreed and accepted from the Council. In the absence of Cllr Goddin, Cllr James took the Chair.
- 078/07/22** **Councillor to sign their Acceptance of Office:**
All councillors have now signed their Acceptance of Office.
- 079/07/22** **Pecuniary Interests:** Councillors 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. ((*Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulation 2012/1464*)).
There were no interests declared.
- 080/07/22** **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 two members of the public in attendance who were there to discuss the Village Hall donation. The Village Hall is presently undergoing a major refurbishment project. They have approached the Parish Council for a financial donation which will be used to assist in some of the refurbishment. The Parish Council have received the accounts and the tenders along with the village hall's recommendations.
Mr Young explained that it is hoped that once the refurbishment has been finished that the venue would be open to many more events including weddings. The Green Room will become a meeting room. There are five phases and it is expected to take between 3 to 5 years to complete. It was explained that though the bank accounts are healthy, at the moment, there will not be enough to complete the whole project. The building is over 52 years old and has had little done to it over the years. At the moment £16,000 has already been spent on the kitchen.
A new boiler has been installed; however, there is S106 money due to the Parish Council for the development behind 79 High Street. Once this has been received the money will be transferred to the Village Hall.
- 081/07/22** **To Approve and Sign Minutes of Meeting held on 9th June 2022:**
Cllr Bostanci wanted it noted that under item 074/06/22 he had not requested childrens bootcamps he was enquiring about training on the adult gym equipment.
With this amendment it was proposed by Cllr Garner to accept the minutes, this was seconded by Cllr Land and agreed by all. The Chairman then signed the minutes.
- 082/07/22** **Planning: (Town and Country Planning act 1990 sch 1, para 8)**
Planning minutes can be seen on the website.
11 Marys Way, 22/02632/CL2PD there were no comments.
- 083/07/22** **District and County Reports:**
Report has been circulated. Cllr Garner asked about the East West Rail and if anything was happening, County Councillor van de Ven will enquire. Cllr James reported that there is a Stake Holders meeting in July and he will attend, but there have been no other events.
Cllr Bostanci enquired if Meldreth could be part of the Melbourn Greenway? The current activities are making the case for funding of the bridge section over the A10 roundabout to complete the Melbourn/Meldreth leg to Royston. There is an awareness ride planned for the 25th Sept at 10am. A request was also made to the District Councillors for some recent data on cycle path usage.
Q. How much support is there for this, are cyclists using the routes?

A. The route is not complete but the Greenway will complete it, there are some areas where cyclists have to still use the road. There is no law stating that cyclists have to use a cycle route. Cllr Bostanci stated that he does use the cycle route on a regular basis and in his experience, there are many users of this route.

The cycle route is a multi-use path for both cyclists, walkers and runners and since covid it has become very popular with runners.

The Melbourn Greenway came about from the 2011 census and the recent ONS data highlighted the growth in population (up 17% in Cambridge, 8% in South Cambridge) and a shift towards a more elderly population. The consequences of these increases are yet to be reflected fully by SCDC policy.

There is help for older residents who are in financial hardship, grants are dependent on individual situations. Age (UK) may also be able to assist, further information can be found at Melbourn Hub.

084/07/22 Update from the Annual Village Meeting:
To be discussed at the September meeting.

085/07/22 Community Rail Partnership; (CPR)
It was proposed by Cllr Garner to pay £5 an hour for the room hire to hold the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Fallon and agreed by all. Cllrs James and Bostanci declared an interest as they are part of the activity group. The CPR which includes representatives from the local Parish Councils (Meldreth, Melbourn, Shepreth and Foxton) has already delivered many improvements in and around the railway – such as parking changes, lobbying for extra trains, gardening, cycling improvement and passenger benefit. The meeting venues are shared between the parishes it represents.

086/07/22 Covid 19 Update
Cllr James reported that cases of covid have been increasing. MCSS are still there to assist those in need.

087/07/22 Flambards Lease
Cllr James reported that there was a plan to communicate with the residents, it was agreed this could be taken to the Flambards Association Annual Meeting which has not yet taken place. The Parish Council have sought a quote so there is an idea of what the costs could be. No further movement at the moment, waiting for Flambards Association to get back to the Parish Council.

088/07/22 Recreation Ground and Pavilion:
Inspection report for June from Cllr Fallon has been completed. Clerk has reported the matting issues to Vic who is looking into this along with repairs needed for the rocking horse.

Cllr Land has looked into the cost of further dog signs to replace those vandalised. These are made of a more robust material so not so easy to bend. It was decided to defer this to September.

Equipment, Adult Gym Equipment. The Clerk is in the process of contacting the contractors to come and tighten up the loose equipment.

Two new waste bins have been installed.

089/07/22 Village Infrastructure

- Notice boards – The new ones have been collected by the contractor and will be installed soon.
- Notice board outside the shop has been reported as being loose in the ground, contractor has looked at the board and can find no movement, he has however put some tape to repair the cracked Perspex. Clerk to enquire on having this repaired. **Action: Clerk**
- Speed sign along Whitecroft Road
- Speed sign and Kill your Speed sign along North End. Can this be moved to Whitecroft Road. Clerk to contact Highways to enquire. **Action: Clerk**
- The new bench will be installed at the junction of North End and Whitecroft Road.
- Clerk to look at the Community Chest Grant for a possible new bench to be placed at Fenny Lane. **Action: Clerk**
- It was proposed by Cllr Fallon to accept the quote of £60.00 to complete the woodwork needed for the finger posts, this was seconded by Cllr Pellatt and agreed by all. Unlimited Logos can do the signage work at a cost of £168.00. It was proposed by Cllr Pellatt to accept this quote, seconded by Cllr Land and agreed by all. Clerk to action. **Action: Clerk**

Meeting closed at 20.27

Mrs Gilmore stated that she did not think Highways would allow the sign to be moved. There are very strict guidelines for signage along Whitecroft Road. When she tried, as a Parish Councillor, to get repeater signs along Whitecroft Road, it was not allowed as the lamps are not at the stated distance to allow this.

Meeting opened at 20.29

090/07/22 Churchyard safety issues

Cllr James reported that they had sent a letter to the Diocese of Ely regarding the temporary H& S barriers, which have been placed along the top of the front wall are both proportionate and reasonable. Still awaiting a response. Clerk to make enquiries and to also see what CAPALC advice (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils) **Action: Clerk**

091/07/22 Community Benefit Application:

Request from the Village Hall - £11,000

The matter was discussed see item 080/07/22. The Village Hall have requested an amount of £11,000 to go towards phase 2 of the Village Hall Refurbishment Project. The Village Hall is seen as a central and important feature of the village and it should be encouraged to seek further investment for usage. The Parish Council have not contributed for any projects for the Village Hall in a long time.

Meeting closed 20.37

Mrs Gilmore reported that they have had bookings/classes being cancelled due to the state of the hall.

Meeting opened 20.38

It was proposed by Cllr Land to accept the request of £11,000 subject to the following: 'Would like to see Meldreth Village Hall's Constitution to make sure that there are no barriers to use by any/or Meldreth residents, this was seconded by Cllr Garner and agreed by all.

It was agreed that the funds will come out of the Community Benefit Account.

Mrs Gilmore will ask the Village Hall Chairman to send a copy to the clerk.

Once the constitution has been seen and an agreement from the Finance Team, payment can be authorized. **Action: FWG**

092/07/22 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:

Standing Orders to be updated to the latest version, these will be sent out and for all councillors to look and see if there are any changes needed. **Action: Clerk/Cllrs**

Financial Regulations are still in date, were agreed in November 2021. The Clerk will send out to all councillors to be looked over for any possible changes. **Action: Clerk/Cllrs**

093/07/22 Finances and payments: July 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.

Payee	Amount £	Vat £	Description	Power
Salaries, HMRC, Pension	£2025.29	0	Employees payments for June 2022	LGA 1972 s112
Drax Power DD	£29.46	£1.42	Street lighting power June 2022	PCA 1957 s3
E-On DD	£17.77	£0.74	Pavilion electricity	LGA 1972 s143
DP Garden Services	£1430	0	Grasscutting: June 2022	OSA 1906 s9/10
South Cambs Landscape	372.00	0	Various works in the recreation ground (dog fouling signs and posts)	OSA 1906 s9/10
Viking	71.59	£11.93	Ink	LGA 1972 s111
Econgard	102.00	£17.00	Renewal of maintenance contract – Pavilion	LGA 1972 s111
ICO	£40.00	0	Renewal of Data Protection Registration	LGA 1972 s111
Bruce Huett	£100.00	0	Internal audit 2021/22	LGA 1972 s111
Morelock	£300.00	£50.00	Replacement parts for Speed Monitoring Kit	HA 1980 s274A

				Pg 019
Unlimited Logos	£210.00	£42.00	Finger posts sign work	OSA 0906 s9/10
J Morgan	£60.00	0	Finger posts carpentry work	OSA 1906 S9/10

094/07/22 Bank Signatory:
Clerk to check with Cllr Meridew regarding her application to become a Councillor. **Action: Clerk**

095/07/22 Reports from Councillors:
Cllr James: Transport Survey. Following a brief discussion on the integrities of this survey it was agreed to defer until the September meeting. Councillors can always respond as individuals; however, a response from the Council will have to be done later, as will not be in time for the survey's deadline. It was felt that some of the issue within the survey are important to address and a general letter could be sent after the deadline. One issue was concerning people from Meldreth as it stated 350 go to Cambridge from Meldreth, 120 by train, but there was no evidence of other ways ie cycling. It was assumed that 230 were driving in, but there was no statistical evidence for these figures.

096/07/21 Clerk's Report:
BT bill update - ongoing
The Clerk was asked to look into possible Summer bootcamps. See item 081/07/22. Clerk did look into bootcamps for children and adults at a cost of £120 per session but they would be every early morning sessions and the Council did not think many children would attend. Cllr Garner reported that MAYD are currently running after school camps which will be extended to run throughout August.

Cllr Garner reported that the children attending MAYD (Youth Club) enjoy the sport facilities. They will be going out for funding at the end of the year and will be approaching the Parish Councils and Royston Town Council from which many of the children in attendance come from.

Cllr Bostanci would like to volunteer to attend the A10 Cycle Path Campaign (Melbourn Greenway), they are looking at the stretch of greenway to go over the A505 bridge which will link up Royston. Cllr Bostanci will be the Parish Council representative on this group. Cllr James would be interested in seeing a traffic survey on this to establish the real need for it.

Cllr Land there are still cables along Fenny Lane which appear to be telephone cables. Clerk to contact Open Reach. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Joan reported an overgrown hedge along Howard Road, Clerk to write to have it cut back as at the moment it is causing pedestrians to walk into the road. **Action: Clerk**

There is a rotten branch hanging over the footway along North End, near No.17. Clerk to enquire with Highways to have it removed. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr James: There will be no August meeting; however, planning meetings still take place. Could the Clerk put together a list of policies and assign councillors, this way it would share the work load. Policies, where possible, to be matched to Councillors responsibilities. **Action: Clerk**

096/07/22 Agenda Items next meeting:
Transport Survey, Policies, Financial Regs, Standing Orders, Gym Equipment, Traffic Signage, Stay Wires at North End. Overhanging branch along North End, Cables at Fenny Lane, Update on Annual Meeting, MAYD.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.20. The next meeting is scheduled for the 1st September 2022.

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.