

# MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Country Club at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Cllrs. present: - Cllr. Mrs.A. Hudson, Cllr. A. Loynes, (Chair). Cllr. D. Ward. Cllr. Mrs. J. Heal. Cllr. Scott. Cllr. Mrs. Stocking.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. Bowes, Dist Cllr. Combe & Cty Cllr. Mrs. Howe,

Members of Public present – Mrs. J. Ward, Mr. Unsworth,

P.C. Graham Sadd Community Police Officer

The Chair welcomed PC Sadd to the meeting and said that he would allow him to make his report early in the meeting.

### 13/2/1 Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were unanimously passed as a true record on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal seconded by Cllr. Mrs Hudson.

### 13/2/2 Matters arising

The Clerk was asked to contact Dist. Cllr. Combe re the fly tipping survey.

It was reported that since the chickens had been removed from the allotment plot commented on last meeting, the rat problem seems to have disappeared also.

### 13/2/3 Community Police Officer's Report

PC Sadd reported that there had been only 5 reported crimes in the area since the beginning of the year none of which were serious. There had been damage to motor vehicles some vandalism and one theft from the Industrial estate.

### 13/2/4 Councillor's Reports

#### Churchyard.

The Churchyard was again looking fine..

#### South Side

Apart from the Great Dane and consequent large quantities of dog excrement at the junction of Grove Road & Melton Street, it was reported that the Astley Terrace sign still had not been replaced. The Clerk said he would report this again. There were also several untaxed cars which PC Sadd said he would look into.

#### Bus Shelter Site

The Bus Shelter site was currently fairly tidy. But Fly tipping was still a problem albeit that the DC did clear this regularly.

#### Recreation Field

The Recreation field was looking good at present save for one or two moles. And some dog mess.

#### North side / Allotments

It was reported that sheep had escaped from the adjacent field and caused damage to several allotments. The Clerk would write to the farmer concerned. And ask him to respond within 7 days.

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**Play Area.**

It was reported that the Sheep had also been on the play area and had left a lot of droppings which was unpleasant for children. The Clerk was asked to lock the Play area until this problem had been 'washed away'

It was agreed that the northern gate of the play area could be permanently locked.

It was further reported that the steps on the slide were again broken. The Handymen to be asked to repair these,

**13/2/5 Street Lighting**

The Clerk reported that there were now many more issues to be considered with regard to the street lights. There should be an annual physical safety inspection as well as regular electrical safety testing. Cllr. Mrs Stocking said that she questioned the need for so many street lights especially those in the alleyways. Also the possibility of future legislation on light pollution may require new lamps to be installed.

After some discussion it was generally agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hudson by a vote of 5 for and 1 against, that all of the lights should be kept.

It was further agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Loynes seconded by Cllr. Scott that the Council should enter into a 3 year maintenance contract for the lights by MHB Services.

It was also agreed that since the precept may need to be increased to cover the costs of an annual repair program the remainder of discussion on this should be adjourned until the annual meeting in May after the PC elections when public opinion could be gauged.

**13/2/6 Goal Posts**

After some discussion it was agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Scott seconded by Cllr. Loynes that the Council accept the offer from the Football Foundation to fund 50% of the cost of new Goal Posts & nets for the Recreation Field and the Play Area . This would be at a cost to the Council £ 445.00 plus installation at approx. £250.00

**13/2/7 Handyman Agreement**

The Handyman's contract must be modified to take in more areas of maintenance. If the current Handyman is unable or unwilling to do the extra work then the job may have to be re-allocated or put out to NCS,

It was proposed by Cllr. Scott that the agreement be changed to include the extra jobs and to see how the current Handyman reacted to these changes.

Two persons had responded to the advertisement for a 'Play Area Warden' The Chair & Clerk would interview these applicants in the near future.

The Clerk, in the meantime, to obtain a quote from NCS to cut the bottle bank grass and to trim hedges in the play area.

Mr. Fish had asked for an increase in his annual remuneration of approx. 12%.,The Council agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Loynes seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hudson voted that Mr. Fish be offered an increase of 5%. The voting was 5 for 1 against.

The Clerk was asked to write to ROSPA for an annual inspection of the Play Equipment

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**13/2/8 Planning matters**

Plans were before the Council for the erection of a Field Barn on the Astley estate. It was agreed to offer no objection / comment on these.

**13/2/9 Correspondence**

There was little of note this month

**13/2/10 Cheques for signature and / or approval**

CHEQUE No.	Amount	item	item	payee
101218	£155.00	Handyman	Maint.	Mr. F.J.K. Velthaus
101219	£250.00	Handyman	Maint.	Mr. F.J.K. Velthaus
	Cheque 101218	was paid last	month see	January minutes
<b>Total</b>	<b>£405.00</b>			

These cheques were agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal seconded by Cllr. Ward.

**Public Forum**

Mr. Unsworth asked if there was anything which could be done regarding dogs fouling the footways. The Chair said this was a perennial problem but asked the Clerk to endeavour to obtain some 'Official' warning notices from the DC.

The Drains were still blocked in Briston Road, Clerk to contact Highways once more.

Cllr. Mrs. Hudson asked the Council to accept her apologies for the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.35 hours. Next meeting would be the 13th of March 2007.

Clerk.....

Chairman.....

