

MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Country Club at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 11th September 2007

Cllrs. present: - Cllr. A. Loynes, (Chair). Cllr. Mrs. P. Stocking. Cllr. Mrs. H. Bowes.
Cllr. Mrs. C. Velthaus. Cllr. Mrs. M. Hayes. Cllr. S. Unsworth

Dist. Cllr. R. Combe. Cty. Cllr. Jacky Howe
Members of Public present - Mr. Q. Brown

Also present Mr. Phil Godwin & Ms Cathy Batchelar from NNDC,
PCSO Barry Fletcher and PCSO Joe Rowbotham.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. J. Heal.

11/9/1 Minutes of 3/7/2007

The minutes of the August meeting were unanimously passed as a true record on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Bowes seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stocking.

11/9/2 Matters arising

There had been no response from complainants re the removal of trees in Colville Road Dist Cllr. Jacky Howe would pursue this.

Cllr. Mrs. Bowes had much information on the Street lighting but since this evening's agenda was full this would be postpone till the October meeting.

11/9/3 Report from County Cllr.

Cllr. J. Howe apologised in advance for being unable to attend the October meeting. She is involved in the fight to prevent Norwich becoming a Unitary Authority. She is also collecting information re the recent flooding incidents with a view to helping prevent future problems.

11/9/4 District Cllrs Report

Cllr. R. Combe said that he had little to report but would like to remain for the item on the Conservation Area. He would bring up one small item later in the meeting.

11/9/5 Report from The Community Police Officer

PCSO Fletcher outlined the crime reports for the last two months. These were small and the only serious reports were two thefts from the industrial estate.

PCSO Fletcher said that he was disappointed that the Police had been unable to bring a prosecution in connection with the damage to the slide. This was due to lack of evidence. However, the two lads responsible had been identified and had been given a serious talking to by the police, since when they seem to have quietened down.

PCSO Fletcher also mentioned the 'Community Speed Watch' scheme in which Communities could purchase a radar gun and conduct there own speed checks. There was however a £750 charge for each gun. Communities could however share the cost and the use of the equipment. The Clerk would contact neighbouring Parishes to see if there was any interest and speak to PC Childs at Holt if it was felt there was sufficient interest to make the purchase of a radar gun feasible.

11/9/6 Presentation of the Conservation Area Appraisal & Proposals

Mr. Philip Godwin and Ms Cathy Batchelar of NNDC gave a short presentation on the above and then answered questions which the PC had formulated from reading and discussing the document.

It was generally agreed that the scheme had great merit and that the village would almost certainly welcome many of the initiatives and proposals. It was far from clear however if any funding would be available. It was noted that little if any benefit or controls had come from the existing Conservation Area which had been in place since 1990.

The DC would revise the document in the light of this evening's comments from members and wished to take it to public consultation once this was done. It was suggested that a leaflet drop and poster campaign be made stating dates and times when villagers could view the proposals and talk to DC Officers. It was suggested that this could be in the Country club during times that this was open. The DC Officers would come back to the Council with drafts of the revised document and the proposed leaflet drop for comment.

The Chair then asked Cllr. Combe if he would bring forward his item. Cllr. Combe asked if the Council had received a letter regarding Pest Control and the fact that the DC had withdrawn many services in this area. The Clerk said that he had informed the Council of this some time ago but that he had not been asked to comment to the DC.

11/9/7 Cllrs. Reports

Churchyard.

Cllr. Mrs Heal was not present but the Clerk had seen the churchyard recently and it was looking good.

South Side

The Grass in Grove Road had now been cut. But the Astley Terrace sign had still not been replaced.

Bus Shelter Site

This was now tidy but there was some graffiti in the bus shelter. The Chair informed the Council that there was a prosecution pending with regard to fly tipping.

Recreation Field

The Recreation field was looking good at present but there were several moles and the area behind the eastern goal post had not been cut by NCS. They were also not cutting to the edge of the field such that the grass area was gradually getting smaller. The Clerk would contact NCS concerning this. Strimming was required around the slide & seat. Clerk to contact handyman.

North side / Allotments

These were looking good at the moment save for one or two plots and Cllr. Mrs. Bowes would liaise with the Clerk about these.

Play Area.

The Rocking Rocket had been repaired but the waste bins were full. The Clerk would investigate the provision of more and cheaper waste bins.

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11/9/8 ROSPA Report on Play Area

The Chair ran through all the points he had identified from the report and earmarked some for further investigation. Members would look at these and report back to the next meeting when the Council would decide what action it will take.

11/9/9 Correspondence

There was little of note save for the precept request on which the Clerk & Cllr. Loynes would liaise to formulate a budget forecast for 2008/2009.

There were also two requests for funding by organisations which would be postponed until the next meeting.

11/9/ 10 Cheques for signature and / or approval

CHEQUE No.	Amount	item	item	payee
101245	£210.00	Grass Cutting	Churchyard	Mr.J. Fish
101246	£53.99	Street lighting	Contract	MHB Services
Total	£263.99			

These Cheques were agreed on a proposition by Cllr.Unsworth seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Bowes.

11/9/11 Other Business

Cllr. Mrs. Velthaus asked if a request could be made for a road crossing near the bus shelter. Members agreed that this would be valuable since the road was wide here and children crossed for the school buses. The Clerk would investigate the procedure for making such a request.

The Chair said that there would be a presentation at the next meeting concerning the proposed development in Grove Road and this should not last more than 20-25 minutes.

The Chair then handed a letter to the Clerk containing his resignation from the Chair at the end of this meeting but stating that he would remain a member of the Council. The Clerk explained that this was due to Cllr. Lyons having a conflict of interests concerning the above proposed development but that he would consider taking the Chair again once this issue was resolved.

It was agreed therefore that a new Chair be elected. Cllr. Mrs. Heal was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Stocking and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hayes. Since there were no further nominations Cllr. Mrs. Heal was elected Chair by a majority of 5, the resigning Chair abstained from the vote.

It was agreed to elect a new Vice Chair at the next meeting.

The Meeting ended at 21.05 hrs.

Clerk.....

Chairman.....

