

# MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Country Club at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 1st July 2008**

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

Dist. Cllr. R. Combe, County Cllr. Jacky Howe. (The latter arrived late)

Members of public, The Village Green Campaign & Melton Constable Community Trust were also present.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30. p.m.

### **1/7/1 Minutes of 10/6/2008**

The minutes of the June meeting were passed as a true record on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal seconded Cllr. Mrs. Stocking

### **1/7/2 Matters arising**

District Cllr. Combe said that this Council was short listed for Street light funding  
The problem of a cheque for Briston Play School was resolved.  
The area opposite the Chip Shop had been cleared.

### **1/7/3 Report from District Cllr.**

Cllr. Robin Combe reported that the LDF had been agreed by the D.C. He also said that the proposed unitary Authority would probably be the whole of Norfolk option and as such much more power should be devolved to PCs. Cllr. Combe thought that this move could only worsen local government. Cllr. Combe would also check on permissions for the bottle bank site.

### **1/7/4 Cllrs. Reports**

#### **Churchyard.**

The Churchyard was again reported as still looking fine.

#### **South Side**

Apart from the Astley Terrace sign still not having been replaced there was little else to report.

#### **Bus Shelter Site**

Is currently clear but there is still ongoing fly tipping. There was a discussion on what could be done about this and Cllr. Heal said that she would check the Thornage site, which did not seem to suffer from such problems, and see what the wording was on their signs.

#### **Recreation Field**

The Recreation field was looking good at present.

#### **North side / Allotments**

This item was elsewhere agendered.

#### **Play Area.**

This seemed OK at present but for the missing piece of matting around the roundabout and the strimming of the alleyway to the area. Clerk to check price for re-turfing the football area.

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**1/7/5 Allotments**

There were still cars parked on one or two allotments which were not in garages and hence against the allotment rules. There was some discussion on this and the general feeling was that since there was a general problem with parking the Council would ignore this for the present but if the problem became more acute then action may need to be taken.

It was agreed that the dog mess seemed less now. The Clerk to contact Mark Whitmore at the D.C. for warning notices.

**1/7/6 Composting Plot**

Ms. Mandy Huntridge tenant of the plot said that she received back some 16% of the questionnaires which she delivered around the village and of these some 70% said that they would use the service. Ms Huntridge said that she will be applying for funding for landscaping, a shredder, tools and sheds. There were queries re access to the plot. And suggestions that this might be via the farm. Mandy is to check on the insurance aspect.

**1/7/7 Community Allotment**

The Council pointed out that the plot was let to Ms. Huntridge and that it was difficult to see how they could allow lots of people to use small pieces of the plot for growing a small number of vegetables for themselves.

It was suggested that the Council might consider dividing some of the ordinary plots and letting smaller areas for those who did not want a large plot.

**1/7/8 Parish Plan**

Ms Mackenzie –Dodds, Cllr. Mrs. Heal and Cllr. Mrs. Hayes have met informally to discuss this and will meet with Peter Smith from the Rural Community Council who has some experience in this matter. They would also plan for a public meeting in the Autumn to encompass all groups and form a steering group.

It was recommended that someone from the P.C. be in the steering group as this may help with sourcing funding in the future. It was also stressed that plans should be kept to a feasible level.

**1/7/9 Local Development Framework**

There was a general discussion on this and the feeling was that since all of the potential development sites were in Briston it was not really in this Council's remit to comment at this stage. Comments could be reserved until any specific plans were put forward when there would be an opportunity to endorse or object.

**1/7/10 Planning Matters**

There were no plans to discuss this month.

**1/7/11 Correspondence**

There had been an application to the County Council for part of the land in Grove Road to be declared a Village Green and the Council had been asked for its comments. This Item to be agendered for the next meeting.

The Chair read a letter from Mr. Stocking, the Clerk, stating that he wished to retire from the post at the end of this financial year i.e. on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. The Chair said that he was sad that the Clerk wished to retire but understood his reasons for wishing to do so. The Chair thanked the Clerk for the long notice he had given.

This item to be placed on agenda for next meeting.

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**1/7/12 Report from County Cllr.**

Cllr. Jacky Howe said that she had no answer from the County Council Legal Dept concerning the permissions for the Bus Shelter Site. She would continue to chase this. It was pointed out that unless the go-ahead was received soon the Council was in danger of losing the grant it had been given from the Local Partnership. She said that we will hear the Boundary Commission report in July and asked if the Clerk had received documents on 'Sustainable Communities' and 'Unlocking Democracy'. The Clerk said that he had not. Cllr. Mrs. Howe said that she would ensure that these were sent to the Clerk.

**1/7/13 Cheques for signature and / or approval**

101290	£150.00	Fencing	Materials	F.J.A. Velthaus (cash)	Paid
101291	£517.11	1/3 Salary	rent & expns	Mr. J. Stocking	
101292	£53.99	Lighting Repair	Contract	MHB Services	
101293	£35.00	Various	Repairs	Mr. F. J. A. Velthaus	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£721.10</b>				

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

**Other Business**

The updated Conservation document was discussed and it was agreed that very little had changed apart from the removal of some non-feasible items. The document had now been approved by the D.C.

Cllr. Mrs. Stocking asked if she could seek funding for conservation of some Railway Heritage items. This was unanimously agreed

**Handyman**

The handy had told the chair that he no longer felt able to cut the grass on the bus shelter site and other cutting and strimming jobs. But would continue with all other duties. It was agreed to accept a revised contract for the Handyman on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stocking.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes from Mr. Fish, Mr. Kendal and NCS.

It was pointed out that the war memorial needed weed killing Cllr. Mrs Velthaus to inform.

There is to be a site meeting to discuss Mrs. Reynolds allotment on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30. meet at the play area.

**Public Forum**

There were no matters raised.

Clerk.....

Chairman.....

