

# **MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Country Club at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 10th June 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. H. Bowes, Cllr, Mrs.  
M. Hayes.  
Dist. Cllr. R. Combe. County Cllr. Jacky Howe also Mark Ashwell of NNDC

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

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30. p.m. and signed his declaration of acceptance of Office.

### **10/6/1 Minutes of 13/5/2008**

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

### **10/6/2 Matters arising**

Cllr. Mrs Bowes said that the new applications for street light funding had been submitted.

It was noted that the litter picking day was a great success with 16 persons attending. Cllr Heal thanked all those who had helped.

Cllr. Heal declared an interest in the Burgh Hall Planning item on the agenda and said she would leave the meeting whilst this was being discussed.

### **10/6/3 Presentation of Local Development framework Site Specific Proposals by Mark Ashwell of NNDC**

Mark Ashwell of NNDC explained to the meeting the affect of the Site Specific Proposals on Melton Constable. He asked the Parish to let the DC know of any local issues which could affect the suitability of land for development. There were no signification development proposals for Melton Constable but this did not preclude members for commenting on sites in Briston which may affect both Parishes.

There was no formal period for comments on the proposals but it would be preferable if any comments were received by the DC by October. The Proposals did not exclude infill developments within the boundaries.

The Chair then adjourned the meeting at 19.50 for questions from the public present.

The meeting was formally reconvened at 19.54

The Clerk was asked to agenda this item for the next meeting.

### **10/6/4 Report from County Cllr.**

Cllr. Jacky Howe apologised for not attending more meetings but she had many Parishes in the constituency. She said that she was now leader of the Lib Dems on the CC. and also on the Health Scrutiny Committee . She has also been very involved in the Unitary Authority Debate, and said that it was very important that the PC respond to the consultation document.

She had also recently been appointed a Governor of Astley School.

She had approached the Highways Dept re a pedestrian crossing and was aware of concerns over speed and traffic through the village.

She had also been in touch with concerns over the trees in Colville road but said that the work had been put back at present.

The Bottle bank site permissions were being progressed but as yet there had been no result. She will chase this as a matter of urgency.

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**10/6/5 Report from District Cllr.**

Cllr. Robin Combe said that he was very unhappy with the Unitary Juggernaut which, in his opinion, was wholly undemocratic and would make local government even more remote.

He said that the local Conservation Document was coming up for adoption by the DC later this month and asked if the Council had seen the revised proposals. Members admitted that they had not and Cllr. Combe said that he would see to it that a copy was sent to the Clerk as soon as possible. Cllr. Combe congratulated the litter picking initiative and thanked all those responsible.

The Chair then adjourned the meeting at 20.04 so that Mrs. Pamela Mowl could speak on the Village Green Campaigns concerns over traffic issues in the village.

The Chair outlined the letter the Council had received from Mrs. Mowl which had been copied to all Cllrs.

Mrs. Mowl passed some photographs for the perusal of members and outlined the Campaign's concerns with traffic in the village which included proposals for speed humps, a pedestrian crossing and weight restrictions on vehicles passing through the village.

The Meeting was reconvened at 20.08 and C.Cllr Jacky Howe said that a Traffic survey was possible but it would need local volunteers to carry this out. She said that parking would always be a problem and there was no easy solution. Weight restrictions were not really feasible because the road through the village was a major route and the Industrial estate relied heavily on road transport.

The Chair said that the Council had campaigned long and hard for many years on all of the issues raised but had met with little success or co-operation.

The Council agreed that they would fully support and consider any feasible measures proposed to calm traffic.

**10/6/6 Cllrs. Reports**

**Churchyard.**

The Churchyard was again reported as still looking fine.

**South Side**

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

**Bus Shelter Site**

Is currently completely clear.

**Recreation Field**

The Recreation field was looking good at present. The Council was asked to ensure that the area around the seat was kept clear and that it might consider the provision of another seat.

**North side / Allotments**

The Clerk said that most plots were now tidy. There were however two plots on which there was an accumulation of rubbish. And that he would write to the tenants concerned.

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**Play Area.**

An extra 2 rubbish bins had been placed on the area. And the litter recently cleared there had however been incidents of drinking by older youths. It was also reported that there was a lot of bird droppings on some of the swings.

**10/6/7 Composting Plot**

Ms. Mandy Huntridge tenant of the plot said that she is composing a questionnaire to see what the uptake might be of people wishing to participate in the proposed scheme. This would be circulated shortly.

**10/6/8 Planning matters**

There were two plans before the Council for the conversion of Barns at Burgh Farm into four dwellings.

Cllr. Mrs Heal left the meeting at this juncture as she had declared an interest in this item.

There were some concerns about the safety of access to the site and also about the boundary between the site and the children's play area to the east.

It was agreed unanimously on a proposal by Cllr. Loynes seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stocking that the Council offer no objection to the plans but mention concerns on the access safety and the security of the boundary between the site & the children's play area.

There was another application for a single storey extension at the Dairy Farm Melton Park.

The Council agree unanimously to offer no objection/comment to these plans on a proposal by Cllr. Unsworth seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Bowes.

**10/6/9 Correspondence**

There had been complaints about 'foreigners' behaving badly and drinking in the play area. The Clerk to contact P.C. Fletcher concerning this.

It was suggested that the Council investigate pictorial notices at the Bottle Bank site to discourage the dumping of inappropriate items. C. Cllr. Jacky Howe said she had seen such notices and would let the Clerk know where these might be obtained.

**10/6/10 Cheques for signature and / or approval**

<b>CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE &amp;/OR APPROVAL 10/06/2008</b>				
CHEQUE No.	Amount	item	item	payee
101285	£50.00	Int. Audit	Fee	Mrs. C. Longhorn
101286	£805.51	1/2 Year	Grounds Cont.	Nrfk. Cty. Services
101287	£53.99	Street Lighting	Repair Contract	MHB Services
101288	£100.00	Briston Play Schl	Donation	Briston Playschool
101299	£125.00	Handyman	Duties	F J A Velthaus
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,134.50</b>			

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The Chair said that he had reason to believe that cheque 101288 should not be paid as he had certain information about Briston Play School. which he would communicate to the Council in Camera at the end of the meeting.

These Cheques with the exception of cheque 101288 were unanimously agreed on a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Heal, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Hayes.

**10/6/11 Approval of Governance statement by Council for audit.**

The Clerk asked that the Council approve the audit return Governance statements these were approved unanimously on a proposition by Cllr Mrs. Heal seconded by Cllr. Unsworth.

Because of holiday commitments it was agreed that the July meeting be brought forward to 1<sup>st</sup> July

**The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum**

Mr. Cox spoke about car parking in the village and agreed with the Council that little could be done at present, and that when looked at objectively things were not as bad as sometimes perceived.

Ms. Mackenzie-Dodds asked if the Council had ever considered a 'Parish Plan' The Chair said that this had been mooted in the past but that there had been no-one willing to carry matters forward. Cllr. Mrs Heal said that she would liaise with Ms Mackenzie –Dodds over this.

Mrs. Mowl said that a further traffic calming suggestion could be for speed humps in the side streets.

The Clerk to contact Mr. Eke about the undergrowth on his land opposite the Chip Shop obscuring the view toward Briston for drivers.

Cllr. Mrs Bowes thanked Ms Huntridge for her help in completing the lighting application.

The Chair then asked the public to leave the meeting for a confidential matter.

**The meeting reconvened to discuss this.**

The Chair then told the Council that he had heard on good authority that the Briston Play School would close in seven weeks time.

In view of this it was agreed to investigate the matter further and if necessary to agenda a special resolution at the next meeting to rescind the decision to donate £100.00 to this organisation.

The Handy man wished to give up the grass cutting. The Clerk & Chair to speak to him to ascertain what jobs he was still willing to undertake.

Clerk.....

Chairman.....

