

MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the meeting of Melton Constable Parish Council held on 9th August 2011, 7.30pm at The Country Club.

Present: M.Hayes Chair
J. Heal
A.Carr
J. Cox
P. Stocking

J. Carr Clerk

Also present two members of the public and PC Jamie Wedderburn from Holt SNT

1401 To Consider Apologies for Absence

Resolved to accept apologies from Cllrs F and I Bruce (holidays)

Proposed: Cllr J Heal, seconded: Cllr J Cox

1402 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th June 2011

Resolved to accept as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July

Proposed: Cllr J Cox, seconded: Chair M Hayes

And those of the meeting held on 14th June, Proposed Cllr J Heal, seconded: Cllr J Cox

No matters arising from the above

1403 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr J Cox declared an interest in the item on allotments as he is a tenant. He will participate in the debate on rent increase as a member of the public only.

Cllrs J Heal and P Stocking declared an interest in the Country Club letter as their husbands are trustees.

1404 Matters for Report arising from the 14th June minutes

Item 1384: Melton Constable leaflet: due to holidays no progress has been made. This item adjourned to September.

1385: Website: The domain name www.meltonconstable-pc.org.uk was renewed in March. It is noted that it is registered to Adrian Loynes and this should be changed to Melton Constable Parish Council at the next registration renewal. Cllr Carr has checked on the current status of development, which was initiated by ex-Cllr Bowes, who had gained agreement from some local businesses to participate. Cllr Carr requests that Council members and the public offer ideas for the website content for consideration before the next meeting

Page 1 of 5 Melton Constable Parish Council Meeting 9th August 2011.

THESE MINUTES ARE CONFIRMED BY FULL COUNCIL

Some examples of what might be included were given: MC leaflet; MC history; industrial and railway heritage.

Cllr Stocking has a number of items which, after checking copyright, may be suitable.

Cllr Carr also suggests that members may wish to have email addresses using the domain name.

Village Sign: Mr J Stocking has kindly agreed to refurbish the sign but help will be required to dismantle and transport it to him. Cllr Heal will ask Mr B Lockhart if he is able to supply the resource to do this.

1386(a) Liaison with Briston PC: there has been no news regarding a meeting with Lomax. Chair Hayes has urged them to consider improving footpath access.

1389: Railway Arch: Due to excessive workload Mr D King has been unable to help at present. The PC is not in a position to give authority to erect or dismantle signs as the land belongs to Highways. An approach has been made to StructureFlex regarding support to produce the plaque. They are willing to help but would like to replace their company board on the site. Cllr Stocking proposes to draft a letter in reply for Council to approve prior to sending. The PC may be asked to loan money for the sign, which is estimated to be less than £100, and could be repaid by local fundraising events.

1390: Training: Briston PC are unable to participate as previously planned. MC PC have agreed a date convenient for all to be 15th September. Chair Hayes will contact NALC to book this. Cllr Heal has offered the venue. Chair to confirm final details

1405 07.52pm: Meeting adjourned to allow Public Participation

SNT Report from PC J Wedderburn: Calls to police – 6; Crimes committed – 5, including criminal damage to vehicle with an arrest made; 1 theft and 3 assaults due to drunk and disorderly behaviour resulting in a court appearance.

4 uninsured cars have been seized from Astley Terrace area with a further 10 vehicles being investigated.

PC Wedderburn then gave a report from the Chief Constable reassuring residents regarding the civil unrest. Local police numbers are not to be reduced in spite of some officers volunteering to help their Metropolitan colleagues. Local police are working additional shifts to cover. He read out a press release and this will be copied and published onto the village notice board.

The next SNAP meeting is on Wednesday 14th September at the Holt Youth Project.

He handed over a notice for the board regarding a cycle marking event at Holt police station on 9th September.

Cllr Stocking reported drunk and disorderly behaviour had been noted on the area behind the Chinese delivery building and that excess bottles have been dumped in the Astley Terrace area in spite of its close proximity to the bottle banks. PC Wedderburn promised to give attention to the littering problem by raising awareness with those responsible.

Thanks were given to PC Jamie Wedderburn for his attendance at this meeting in view of his excessive workload .

Public comments included concern at the amount of dead branches littering the alleyway alongside the allotments leading to the Rec at the end of Burgh Beck Road. A suggestion was made that Cllr F Bruce contacts the relevant allotment tenant(s). Cllr Heal agreed to discuss this with Cllr F Bruce.

Cllr J Cox as a member of the public put forward his views on the proposed allotment rent increase and his concerns that allotment holders may be required to subsidise non allotment holders if the rent was raised too far above the percentage increase which council will be required to pay the landlord.

He argued to increase the rent by no more than the percentage increase agreed with the landlord.

08.09pm meeting reconvened

1406 Members' Reports

Churchyard: fine

Bus Shelter site: MW White have removed paper recycling bin as Council agreed to remain with NNDC. However, NNDC have not yet replaced the bin and are not able to commit to a date when this will be done. Cllr Carr will maintain frequent contact with NNDC to progress this.

Bottle banks are overflowing and two calls have been made in the last week to address this. Kier have said they will action as soon as possible.

Grass has been strimmed and a rabbit guard fitted to the young tree. It was noted that only 1 of the 4 trees planted this year has survived due to the poor soil conditions. It was recommended that the cut grass be left to try and improve the soil. It was noted that grass on the mound is sparse and may need reseeding.

Bus Shelter: unsuccessful attempts have been made to contact the handyman who previously repaired the broken guttering. Council agreed that quotes should be obtained from other suppliers. **Cllr Carr will action.**

Textile recycling bank: It was noted that sometime today a large clothes and shoe recycling bank had been placed alongside the bottle banks, sponsored by the SCOPE charity. It was agreed to determine whether Highways had authorised this as MC PC members were not informed. All members agreed that it was unsightly and spoilt the appearance to the village entrance and unnecessary due to other textile banks locally.

Cllr Carr proposed that a request made for it to be removed. Seconded by Cllr Stocking, 4 in favour, 1 against.

A request has been made by NNDC for a Salvation Army textile recycling bank to be provided on this site. **Cllr Carr proposed that this be refused, seconded by Cllr Stocking, 4 in favour, 1 against.**

Allotments:

Asbestos: District Cllr Wright has been asked if NNDC would offer financial support for the removal of asbestos. Awaiting a reply.

Rent increase: Discussion revolved around comparison with other local council rents and what additional costs may be incurred for maintaining the site, including removing asbestos; whether allotment holders have subsidised non allotment holders with an argument made that historically the reverse was more likely.

It was proposed that the rent increase should be contained within the percentage increase that has been agreed between the landlord and the council for the forthcoming allotment year. This will be rounded up to the nearest pound. The rent will be reviewed again in twelve months' time in the light of what expenses have been incurred during the year.

Proposed: J Heal, seconded: P Stocking 3 in favour, 2 abstentions.

Certain plots are not being maintained according to the tenancy agreement and letters will be written to those tenants outlining their responsibilities. **Clerk to action.**

Play Area: Cllr Heal has attended a course on 'inspecting your play area', which she found useful. A Hubbard has attended to the immediate work required and will continue to empty the bins. Volunteers, including Gavin Nicholls, will be approached regarding fence repairs. The swing log has been repaired and thanks given to Allyson Crawford who took the photographs which were sent to RoSPA and thanks to Jim Hayes who repaired it.

Thanks were given to Dave Burnly who emptied the bins while A Hubbard was off sick. The BBQ has been returned and MC PC were thanked for the loan. The treadmill is badly worn but can be repaired. **Jim Hayes has agreed to do this and estimates the cost to be c.£100. Cllr Heal proposed this should go ahead, seconded by Cllr Carr, all in favour.**

Recreation Ground: A working party is to be assembled to repair the slide. **Cllr I Bruce will action.**

Southside: Thanks given to David Longdon for repairing a guard. Awaiting reply from District Cllr Wright on what maintenance NNDC will supply. Cllrs Cox and Heal will prune the trees.

1407 Street Lighting

Melton Street: Solar panels removed and in store at Dairy Farm. 2 lights are not working and awaiting replacement parts from MHB.

Solar lights: new infra red detectors have been fitted to nine of the ten lights – it was agreed that the one adjacent to the bowling green was not fitted as the sensor was needed for another assembly. However, Cllr Cox reports that the lights only remain on for 4 secs. G&B will be contacted for clarification of the item ‘timer’ on the quote to see if this is responsible, or whether it is something different. Final payment is due and the **cheque will be signed today but held until clarification of the timer issue is determined. Proposed by Cllr Carr, seconded Cllr Stocking, all in favour.**

1408 Country Club letter

It was resolved to approve the draft and send the letter offering discussion and support
Proposed: Cllr A Carr, seconded: Cllr J Cox, 3 in favour, two abstentions.

Chair Hayes suggested that items 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 on the agenda should be postponed to the September agenda, which was agreed.

1409 Remembrance Sunday

A request has been made for a donation of £30 for a wreath.

Proposed: Cllr Carr, Seconded, Cllr Stocking, 4 in favour, 1 abstention

Cllr Stocking agreed to represent Council at the service

1410 Planning application

PF/11/0911: Erection of single storey extension (extension of period of commencement of planning permission ref. PF/08/0768) Foxburrow 13a The Dairy Farm, Melton

Proposed to reply, no objections or comments, Cllr Carr, seconded Cllr Cox, all in favour

1411 Financial

Resolved to approve the financial statement for June and July 2011

Proposed: Cllr Heal, seconded Cllr Stocking, all in favour

Resolved to approve the following payments

Proposed: Cllr Heal, seconded: Cllr Stocking, all in favour

Cheque No	Payee	Item	Amount
101514	MCCA	Grant for carpet bowls: insurance/activities	75
101515	J Hayes	maintenance - play equipment	84.78
101516	MC Country Club	hall hire	52
101517	Mazars LLP	external auditor	342
101518	A Hubbard	maintenance - play area jan - aug	105.32
101519	G&B Electrical	lighting	5633.89
101520	MHB Services	Lighting maintenance Jly/Aug and Melton St light installation	6918.6
DD	Eon	electricity - June	86.96
DD	Eon	electricity - July	86.96

1412 Items for next agenda

BT Telephone Box
Grit Bins
Water Towers
Communications to public
New footpaths
Industrial estate pollution
Road crossing
Parish Boundary
Website Development

1413 Date of next meeting

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 13th September 7.30pm at the Country Club

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Clerk

Chair

Dated