

# MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: J Carr**  
**The Old Dairy**  
**Holt Road**  
**Burgh Parva**  
**Melton Constable**  
**NR24 2PU**

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**MINUTES** of the meeting of Melton Constable Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011, 7.30pm at The Country Club.

Present: M.Hayes Chair  
J. Heal  
F. Bruce  
I. Bruce  
A.Carr  
J. Cox  
P. Stocking  
  
J. Carr Clerk

No members of the public were present, nor officers from Holt SNT.

1436 To Consider Apologies for Absence

Cllr Heal sent apologies that she would be approximately 30mins late.  
County/District Cllr R Wright sent apologies that he would be late.

1437 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011

**It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> September as a true and accurate record.**

**Proposed: Cllr P Stocking, seconded: Cllr J Cox, all in favour**

1438 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None declared.

1439 Matters arising from last minutes for information purposes

1417: the village welcome leaflet, translated into Polish, Lithuanian and Latvian will be completed and ready for distribution next week. NNDC to be contacted for an appropriate copy of the file to be sent and retained by MCPC for future updates. **Clerk to action.**

1422: NCC have replied re grit bins. They won't provide or finance grit bins but will provide free grit for bins that the Parish Council install. Highways to be contacted to approve an appropriate site and to confirm that the grit will be free of charge. Quotes for bin to be obtained and final decision made at November meeting. **Clerk to action.**

1423: It was noted with appreciation that the BT public telephone box has now been cleaned and repaired.

Items: Public Participation and Members' Reports were postponed until the arrival of Cllrs Wright and Heal

1440 Thefts from Allotments

There have been various reports that produce is being removed without permission from some allotment sites. The police have been notified. Discussion ensued regarding whether posters should be displayed and the content. It was noted that more stable posts would be required for the posters to be displayed more securely than is at present possible. It was agreed that the handyman be asked to do this. **Clerk to action.**

**It was resolved to erect notices as written, with appropriate translations, to raise awareness that the allotments are private and that the consequence of theft is prosecution.**

**Proposed: Cllr J Cox, seconded: Cllr F Bruce, all in favour**

1441 Public Participation

8.00pm: **Meeting adjourned to allow the public and County/District Councillor to inform the meeting.**

There were no members of the public present.

County and District Cllr R Wright gave information on:

High Speed Broadband – the bid has been successful and this will now proceed to the procurement stage for County wide installation. The working party will now turn its attention to improve mobile telephone coverage across the County.

The Fare's Fair campaign has been launched with the aim of retrieving from central government a £4.5m shortfall in the funding of local bus routes. This has been caused by an unexpectedly high uptake of concessionary fares, particularly on the Coasthopper.

Now that Parish Councils are taking on increased responsibility for hedge cutting and footpath clearance, NCC has been encouraging landowners to comply with their statutory responsibility to clear footpaths and rights of way to reduce the onus on PCs. Cllr Wright will contact the landowner of the footpath running from the end of Burgh Beck Road alongside the recreation ground and paddock requesting that this be cleared.

There will be a zero percent increase of Council Tax at County and District level.

Asbestos can only be cleared by an approved private contractor. The quantity of loose sheets that have been found on the allotments would cost nearly £2000 to remove. Cllr Wright will check out whether finance would be available to assist the Parish in its endeavor to remove this waste.

The police provided a report to be included in the minutes in their absence:

**RECORDED CRIMES x 5**

4 x Theft (3 x Shoplifting from Co-Op)

1 x Assault (Children fighting, has been dealt with and resolved)

**CALLS TO POLICE x 26**

4x Theft

6 x Suspicious Circumstances

2 x Highway Obstruction

5 x Nuisance ASB

1 x Missing Person

2 x Concern for Safety

1 x Criminal Damage

2 x Domestic Incident

2 x Personal ASB

1 x Violence Against Person

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THESE MINUTES ARE CONFIRMED APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL

There has been an abnormally high number of Theft/Shoplifting from the CO-OP stores in Briston and Melton Constable and this has been discussed with the shops directly as it cannot continue. The stores have been told they need to take steps to reduce the crime taking place. A meeting is to be held with the CO-OP regional security manager on the 17<sup>th</sup> October to discuss how this issue can be addressed.

Current Priorities for Holt SNT are:

1. THEFT – Detection and Preventative measures
2. ASB (Anti Social Behaviour) – Briston and Melton Constable

The next SNAP meeting to set our new priorities is the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2011

Members reported on the results of the street surgeries which were held by the police last month. Comments ranged from compliments on the police handling of xenophobic attitudes, reports of noise, aggressive and unruly behaviour on the allotments, trespass in gardens and the positive attitude of newcomers to the village when trouble is taken to engage in conversation.

8.22: The meeting reconvened.

#### 1442 Members' Reports

Churchyard: grass is regularly cut.

Southside: Some rubbish remains at the end of Melton St. A small lorry is apparently abandoned on private land.

Bus shelter site: A quote has been received for the replacement guttering. Discussion regarding the risk of future vandalism, taking past history into account, and resultant costs to the Council resulted in a **Resolution to refrain from replacing the guttering.**

**Proposed: Cllr Carr, seconded: Cllr Heal, 1 abstention, 6 in favour.**

The graffiti had been painted over but more graffiti has since appeared.

Seed is available to Cllr Cox who volunteered to reseed the area.

Northside: All fine

Play area: The handyman has repaired the broken items and repainted climbing frame. It was noted that ball games are causing damage to private property and a complaint has been received in writing from a resident adjacent to the play area. The handyman has spoken to the boys concerned and it is hoped they will refrain from causing further nuisance. A letter in reply to the resident will be sent. **Clerk to action.**

The broken fence between the play area and allotment is to be repaired.

Recreation Ground: the investigation into possible grants for improvements has so far produced no result. The Community Service is to be approached for volunteers - ongoing.

Allotments: The waiting list is almost cleared. A request for a garage has been refused on the grounds that the allotments should be used for cultivation of produce. The tree on this plot, which is preventing cultivation on part of the plot and is in danger of splitting, will be removed after permission is sought from NNDC. An allotment tenant has volunteered to do this if he can keep the wood. He will be contacted by Council. The rubbish on Plot 1 has mostly been removed but a large steel pipe and small tractor remain. This plot to be left vacant unless these are cleared.

Plot 47 is unable to be let due to the overgrowth of weeds. Cllr Frank Bruce has offered to work on this plot to clear the ground, rent free for one year. Council agreed on the assurance that if a waiting list was in place at the end of that time, the plot would be available to be re-let.

Weedkiller has been applied to the Japanese Knotweed.

- 1443 Website Development  
Postponed to next agenda due to time constraints.
- 1444 Village Sign  
It was confirmed that this is to be removed and transported to the Mr Stocking for repair
- 1445 Water Towers  
**It was resolved to approve the draft and send**  
**Proposed: Cllr Carr, seconded: Cllr F Bruce, all in favour**
- 1446 Report of meeting with Country Club  
Council representatives met with those from the Country Club to express concern at the potential loss of a central meeting place if the Club were to close. Assurance was given that there was no imminent danger of this.  
Discussion took place around suggestions for the way forward and included ideas for the Council to take over part lease of the property, for the Club to become a cooperative to enable funding applications and extend the resource to a wider community. Further time was required to review suggestions and explore funding opportunities and will be on the November agenda.
- 1447 Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries  
**It was resolved to reply to welcome the changes, which means that Melton Constable will be returning to the North Norfolk Parliamentary constituency.**  
**Proposed: Chair Hayes, seconded: Cllr Heal, all in favour.**
- 1448 Delivering Local Highway Improvements  
Postponed to November meeting – bids not required until 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- 1449 Norfolk Buses Consultation  
It was agreed that members could reply individually and noted that it affected just one route: Sanders 9 and XB through Melton: no winter Sunday services.
- 1450 Planning Applications  
PF/11/1118: Erection of three bay garage, Culpits Farm, Hindolveston Rd, NR24 2NF  
**Resolved to reply ‘no objection, no comment’.**  
**Proposed: Chair Hayes, seconded: Cllr Heal, all in favour**  
PF/11/1167: Erection of extensions to agricultural building, land off Melton Rd  
**Resolved to reply ‘no objection, no comment’.**  
**Proposed: Chair Hayes, seconded: Cllr Carr, 1 abstention, 6 in favour**
- 1451 Budget and Precept 2012/13  
Councillors were given a draft budget to review and consider for approval at November meeting.
- 1452 Donation requests  
Citizens Advice Bureau: **It was resolved to give £50.**  
**Proposed: Cllr Heal, seconded: Chair Hayes, 1 abstention, 6 in favour**  
Norfolk Accident Rescue Service: **It was resolved to give £50.**  
**Proposed Cllr Cox, seconded: Cllr Carr, all in favour**

1453 Financial

**Resolved to approve the financial statement to September 2011**

**Proposed: Cllr Carr, seconded: Cllr Heal, all in favour**

1454 **Resolved to approve the following payments**

**Proposed: Cllr Heal, seconded: Cllr Carr, all in favour**

Cheque No	Payee	Item	Amount
101526	Norse Eastern Ltd	1/2 year Grounds Maintenance	942.12
101527	MC Country Club	Hall Hire Jly-Sept	36
101528	J Carr	Salary Aug-Oct	420.53
	ditto	Clerk's expenses and annual home space charge (£100)	172.35
101529	The Post Office	HMRC - clerk's tax	93.03
101530	GW Harrold & Ptnrs	1/2 yr allotment land rent	400
101531	MHB Services Ltd	lighting contract	55.14
101532	F Bruce	allotment - Roundup	13.27
DD	Eon	electricity - August	86.96

1455 Items for Information

Cllr Carr will review utility contracts to try and improve rates

1456 Items for next agenda

Allotment policy

Website Development

Budget and precept

Grit Bin / Dog Bin / Waste Bin outside fish and chip shop

1457 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm at the Country Club

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Clerk .....

Chair .....

Dated .....