



# MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

APM(17)M

## Melton Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting of Melton held on Wednesday 3 May 2017 commencing at 19:00 in the Hall at Melton Primary School, Melton Road, Melton IP12 1PG.

### Present: Parish Councillors

Cllr Mr J E Bale Cllr Mr N Brown Cllr Mr A Corston Cllr Mrs C Gradwell	Cllr Miss K S Martin Cllr Mr A H Porter [Chairman] Cllr Mr J West
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### Present: Electors

Mrs J Fitzpatrick Mr M Fitzpatrick Ms H Glassock Ms J Henderson Mr M Holmes Mr D Payne	Mr P Webb Mrs P A Williams Ms S Margittai Mrs C McBurney Ms M Burgess
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### In Attendance:

District Cllr Mr J Bidwell County Cllr Mr M Bond Mr M Girling, Headteacher, Melton Primary School	Mr W J Grosvenor <b>Clerk to Melton Parish Council</b>
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17.01

### INTRODUCTION – CHAIRMAN MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman of Melton Parish Council, Cllr Alan Porter, warmly welcomed everyone to the annual parish meeting.

<p><b>17.02</b></p>	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  The following apologies were received:  Dr Therese Coffey MP  Cllr Miss E A Barrington  Cllr Mr M Hearn  Cllr Mrs A Stevens  Cllr Mr C W Taylor  Mrs B Abbott  Mrs J Eckersley</p>
<p><b>17.03</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 4 MAY 2016</b>  Copies of the minutes are available on the Parish Council website at:  <a href="http://www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html">www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html</a></p>
<p><b>17.04</b></p>	<p><b>REPORT ON THE WORK OF MELTON PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016</b>  The Chairman gave his Annual Report which is available in full on the Parish Council website at:  <a href="http://www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html">www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html</a></p>
<p><b>17.05</b></p>	<p><b>MELTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE</b>  In the absence of Cllr Barrington, the Chairman of the Parish Council updated all present on the current status of the Melton Neighbourhood Plan.  The extended publication period linked to the submission stage invitation to comment ended on 13 April 2017, and the draft Neighbourhood Plan has since been referred to the independent Inspector. Hopefully it will be found to be sound and can proceed to the referendum stage later in the year.  Residents can keep up to date with developments on the Neighbourhood Plan by looking at the Neighbourhood Plan website  <a href="http://www.meltonneighbourhoodplan.co.uk">www.meltonneighbourhoodplan.co.uk</a>  or by reading the updates in the <i>Melton Messenger</i>. There are also opportunities for discussion on Neighbourhood Plan related matters at Council meetings.  A question was raised concerning the proposed access route to the proposed new housing on the Carter – Warburg site. It was confirmed that the intention was for the vehicle access to be via the adjacent business park. Only pedestrian access is intended to be via St Andrews Place.</p>

17.06	<p><b>REPORT FROM HEADTEACHER, MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Headteacher, Mr Mark Girling, reported that he had now been in post for five years. When he joined there were 101 children on the roll; now there are 163 distributed over 7 classes. Numbers increase by about 10 a year. He tries to give educational opportunities to all children with a wide curriculum and encourages ambition. He referred to the Learning Ambassador programme developed with Sutton Hoo.</p> <p>Money is tight. Budgetary provision always lags behind the need, although he hopes that the new funding formula, in place from next year, should help. Mr Girling spoke of the “academisation agenda”. Discussions are taking place with parents and staff about forming a Trust with Farlingaye and other primaries within the pyramid – the “Deben Learning Trust”.</p> <p>Mr Girling is also a Trustee of the Melton Trust, and spoke of the support that the Trust has given in relation to meeting the significant costs of meeting special educational needs e.g. educational psychologist input. The Trust was set up to provide hardship relief for Melton residents. Currently, in the wider context, the Trust is looking at the provision of respite provision for carers, giving support to those living with Alzheimer’s, and also working with statutory Social Services to help in meeting local mental health needs.</p>
17.07	<p><b>REPORTS FROM MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</b></p>
17.07.01	<p><b>Report from Member of Parliament</b></p> <p>Dr Therese Coffey offered her apologies and forwarded a report. This is on the Parish Council website at:  <a href="http://www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html">www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/index.html</a></p>
17.07.02	<p><b>Report from District Councillor Jim Bidwell</b></p> <p>Cllr Jim Bidwell began by reminding everyone that until after the General Election on 8 June, there can be no political pronouncements by local councils. He then reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 8 September, Suffolk will host stage 6 of the Tour of Britain cycle race, starting in Newmarket, passing through Woodbridge and Melton and finishing in Aldeburgh.</li> <li>• This year’s Suffolk Armed Forces Day will take place in Felixstowe on 24/25 June, celebrating the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of repulsing the attack by the Dutch on Landguard Fort.</li> <li>• Turning to parish issues, Cllr Bidwell referred to the proposed new parking restrictions on Melton Road / Melton Hill, developed by Suffolk Highways, which are out to consultation. There was concern about access to the shop, and the suggestion was made about having “30 minutes only” waiting bays for a few cars to facilitate this.</li> <li>• Locality Fund – in 2016/17 Cllr Bidwell spent his budget in supporting a sculpture project, Melton Bowls Club, Deben Community Farm and the <i>Melton Messenger</i>.</li> </ul> <p>The Chairman thanked Cllr Bidwell for his report and for all his work on behalf of the residents of Melton throughout the year.</p>

17.07.03	<p><b>Report from County Councillor Michael Bond</b></p> <p>Cllr Michael Bond began by announcing his impending retirement from Suffolk County Council, having served 8 years as a County Councillor (and 10 years as a District Councillor). He considered it a privilege to have represented the people of Melton on the County Council. He referred to the overriding theme in local government throughout that time being one of constant change. He expressed some degree of frustration with the way that central government places funding obligations on local government; e.g. free pensioner travel costing Suffolk CC £8m pa, building schools that then are taken over by unelected Trusts, as well as the costs associated with looking after 700 foster children and over 2,000 adults needing support. He expressed relief that the devolution proposals involving Suffolk will not now progress.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Cllr Bond for his years of untiring service on behalf of the community of Melton, and marked the occasion with a presentation.</p>
17.08	<p><b>REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS</b></p>
17.08.01	<p><b>Report from Melton Women’s Institute</b></p> <p>Mrs J Fitzpatrick gave the following report:</p> <p>“The Melton WI is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and going strong, attracting new members most months. Apart from the main meeting, there are several clubs that members have formed and all are well supported. We have two garden clubs, an art and craft club, walking groups and a camera club. Outings arranged for this year are a trip to Newmarket races in July and Thursford just before Christmas. We will be having our usual stall at the Melton fete. This year’s theme is “in the garden” and we support the hospice, the church and local charities. So ladies, do come along and join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the Burness Rooms. We start at 2pm, details in the <i>Melton Messenger</i>.”</p>
	<p><b><i>A break followed for refreshments</i></b></p>
17.09	<p><b>OPEN FORUM</b></p> <p>On the resumption of the meeting, there was a short open forum on a variety of topics of current interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighbourhood Plan – in response to a question on the timing of the Referendum, it was explained that it is hoped to be able to hold it in the autumn of this year – either September or October. The economics of any village hall project will be different if the Neighbourhood Plan is in place, and the Parish Council wants to clear the Neighbourhood Plan first.</li> <li>• Burkes Wood – is the Council proposing to undertake any remedial works to level out the ground following the damage caused by the willow harvest? Cllr Martin explained that some work had been done. The longer term aim is to direct users of the Wood to a limited number of paths to enable regeneration of the undergrowth. Tree safety work is planned, as well as selective removal to open up the canopy following which new planting will take place. Additionally work is planned in the summer of 2017 to improve the drainage of the lower field, and that will necessitate further disruption to the ground.</li> <li>• What sort of activities could take place in a new village hall? – the aim would be to build on what was available at the former Lindos Centre. A discussion took place on whether it would be practicable to include facilities for badminton.</li> <li>• Does Melton not have other facilities which perhaps could be made multi-functional – Melton Chapel, or the nave of St Andrew’s Church, also St Audry’s, for example? – It was explained that</li> </ul>

leaving aside St Audry's, which is to close, other facilities in the village, Burness Parish Room for example, are generally fully booked, and potential users have to use facilities outside the parish. There is a need for a multi-functional facility at the heart of the community, which is growing. It could complement the Burness Parish Room, which the Council supports.

- The plans for the development of the former Suffolk Coastal office site were discussed. On a show of hands, only one person present liked what is proposed. There was scepticism that all the affordable housing proposed will actually be built. The meeting was reminded that no planning application has yet been submitted. When it is, the Parish Council will have an opportunity to comment.

At the conclusion of the session, the Chairman, Cllr Porter, thanked everyone for attending. There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20.45.