



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

MPC(16)M01

Melton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Melton Parish Council held on Wednesday 13 January 2016 commencing at 19:00 in the Hall at Melton Primary School, Melton Road, Melton IP12 1PG.

Present:

Cllr Mr A H Porter [Chairman] Cllr Mr J E Bale Cllr Mrs M Bevilacqua Cllr Mr N Brown Cllr Mr A G Corston Cllr Mr M Hearn	Cllr Mrs E J G Hilson Cllr Mrs C V McBurney Cllr Miss K S Martin Cllr Mrs A Stevens Cllr Mr C W Taylor Cllr Mr J West
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Absent:

Cllr Miss E A Barrington	Cllr Mr M L Webb
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In Attendance:

County Councillor Michael Bond	Mr W J Grosvenor <i>Clerk to Melton Parish Council</i>
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	PART ONE – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
16.01	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ABSENCE Apologies for absence from Cllrs Barrington and Webb were received and it was RESOLVED to consent to the absences. Apologies for absence were also received from District Councillor Bidwell. Proposed by: Cllr Porter Seconded by: Cllr Martin
16.02	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
16.02.01	To receive Amendments to the Register There were no amendments to the Register.
16.02.02	To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were no declarations of Pecuniary Interest in respect of Items on the Agenda.

16.02.03	<p>To Receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda</p> <p>There were no declarations of Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Items on the Agenda.</p>
16.02.04	<p>To Consider Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared</p> <p>It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensation for Pecuniary Interests declared.</p>
	<p><i>It was RESOLVED to lift Standing Orders</i> <i>The Chairman welcomed County Councillor Michael Bond to the meeting</i></p>
16.03	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</p>
16.03.01	<p>To receive the Safer Neighbourhood Team Report</p> <p>No report was received. It was noted that the Priority Setting SNT meeting was taking place at the same time as Full Council. Cllr Taylor to find out what is likely to be happening to the SNT arrangements given the police restructuring.</p>
16.03.02	<p>To consider an Open Letter from the Chief Constable of Suffolk in relation to match funded PCSO posts</p> <p>Paper MPC(165)03.02 previously distributed was received. 68 of the current PCSO posts in the constabulary will be removed and all existing contracts with town / parish councils terminated. All PCSOs appointed under the new arrangements and funded by towns / parishes must focus on the constabulary's published priorities. Concern was expressed at the implications for Melton and the possible loss of what was agreed to be a good service from the local PCSO. Agreed to NOTE the report.</p>
16.03.03	<p>To consider Consultation on the Future of Suffolk's Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>Paper MPC(165)03.03 previously distributed was received. NOTED that consultation on the Fire and Rescue Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan was ongoing until 22 February 2016.</p>
16.03.04	<p>To receive Reports from the County and District Councillors</p> <p>1. Cllr Bond firstly wished the Members of Melton Parish Council a happy new year.</p> <p>Whilst he had nothing specific to report, his time is being taken up with County Council financial problems which are becoming very difficult. Adult social care costs in particular continue to be a key factor affecting the ability of SCC to operate within its budget.</p> <p>Highways matters are still problematic. A new Assistant Director has been appointed and he is expected to make an impact. At the moment design costs are exorbitant, start dates for small projects impossible to get; all of which makes it difficult for Councillors to face residents who want answers.</p> <p>Parish Councillors with highways problems should get the Clerk to pass them on to the Saxmundham Highways office, and not just complain, but say what needs to be done and by when. At least potholes are being repaired more timely with a new process and quick response. Flooding problems are of course more difficult to solve.</p> <p>Cllr Corston took the opportunity to thank Cllr Bond for finding the monies for the Saddlemakers Lane signage from his locality budget. Cllr Bond remarked that he might lose that budget in future years.</p>

	<p>2. In the absence of Cllr Bidwell for health reasons, the Clerk read the report supplied by him. The items in the report may be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bidwell does still have a small amount unspent in his enabling fund if any Parish Councillor has an idea for spending it that would benefit the community • There is likely to be an increase in the District Council element of the Council Tax this year (probably by 2%) • The search for devolution continues • The new SCDC headquarters building is taking shape, and is on target for completion in the spring to be fitted out for occupation in the autumn • The sale of the Melton Hill offices is moving ahead and offers are being considered • Coastal projects at Bawdsey, Felixstowe and Lowestoft have been selected to receive a share of the £3m Coastal Revival Fund • Bawdsey Radar project and the Quay visitor's centre has been awarded £45k for further development.
16.03.05	<p>To receive Village Matters raised by Members of the Public or Councillors</p> <p>The following matters were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr McBurney expressed continuing concern that nothing was happening regarding the reinstatement / replacement of the hedgerow / trees along the boundary between Riduna Park and the St Andrews Estate. The meeting was reminded that District Cllr Holdcroft had promised to look into that matter and it was suggested that Cllr McBurney email him • Cllr McBurney also expressed concern at the difficulties in crossing Wilford Bridge Road now, which will only be exacerbated once the Riduna Park complex is operational. It is believed that a crossing is planned to serve the pedestrian traffic which will be much increased with the new business complex • Cllr Hearn drew attention to the lack of public toilet facilities on the playing field. Other Members were sympathetic to the problem. However the cost of management and maintenance of such facilities is very high and it was decided to leave the matter for the time being. Facilities do exist in the pavilion for playing field users who have key access • Cllr Martin drew attention to the absence of a defibrillator that is publicly accessible in Melton. The only one that she was aware of is located in the Council offices at Melton Hill. Following discussion it was AGREED that Cllr Martin would contact Cllr Bidwell to see if he is able to fund a defibrillator for the village, to be located outside the Burness Parish Rooms if that location can be agreed.
	<i>It was RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders</i>
16.04	<p>TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2015</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that Minutes MPC(15)M07 previously distributed, be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.</p> <p><i>Proposed by:</i> Cllr Porter <i>Seconded by:</i> Cllr Taylor</p>

<p>16.08</p>	<p>TO AGREE THE PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2016/17 Paper MPC(16)08 previously distributed was received. The report set out options for consideration and decision in relation to the precept requirement which had to be notified to Suffolk Coastal DC by 22 January. Members were invited to consider and agree one of the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To retain the current precept requirement (with the consequent reduction in cost for Band D properties of 40p) 2. To do as the Council did at last precept setting and raise the precept by 0.96% so that in effect Band D properties continue to pay the same amount as this year 3. Raise the precept by 1% (to £67,559). This is not an effective option as it has no real advantages over Option 2. 4. Raise the precept by 2% (to £68,228). <p>Following discussion it was RESOLVED to agree to Option 4. Clerk to notify Suffolk Coastal DC accordingly. Proposed by: Cllr Stevens Secoded by: Cllr Corston</p>
<p>16.09</p>	<p>TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE NEW MELTON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE The Clerk reported that, following the agreement by FERM Committee in December to appoint Alan Comber of Comber Enterprises to devise and set up a new website using <i>onesuffolk</i> software, he had been in touch with Mr Comber, was issuing him with a letter of appointment, and arrangements would be made with the <i>onesuffolk</i> administrator for a website account to be created for Melton with Mr Comber having access to build the new site.</p>
<p>16.10</p>	<p>TO PASS A RESOLUTION TO ALLOW MELTON PARISH COUNCIL EMPLOYEES TO JOIN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME Paper MPC(16)10 previously distributed was received and discussed. Whilst the Local Government Pension Scheme was acknowledged to be expensive for employers, Members recognised that it was what other local councils in the area offered their staff, and if Melton was to attract and retain good staff in the future it needed to make that provision as well. Accordingly it was RESOLVED as follows: <i>“Melton Parish Council resolves that any employee of the Council will be eligible to become a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme with effect from 1 February 2016.”</i> Proposed by: Cllr West Secoded by: Cllr Porter</p>
<p>16.11</p>	<p>TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROGRESS WITH THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN In the absence of Cllr Barrington the Clerk read out a note provided by her. The key points are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship with the Suffolk Coastal Planners is now much improved • They have proposed a scheme for land behind St Andrews estate and the Carter site plus the remainder of the Girdlestons site. The idea is for a small number of houses and business units together with amenities such as a lake, play area and allotments / community orchard • It will also look at realigning the A1152 over the level crossing to make it safer for HGVs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting scheduled for the end of January with Riduna, Suffolk Coastal planners and Melton's Neighbourhood Plan consultant will hopefully take this idea further • Melton's Neighbourhood Plan consultant is currently working on an environmental assessment and sustainability assessment of the site in question • The next step will be to take this plus the rest of the draft Neighbourhood Plan to the wider community for consultation and feedback. <p>Members agreed to NOTE the report.</p>
16.12	<p>TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE NEW VILLAGE HALL PROJECT</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Councillor Working Group last met on 8 December. The next meeting is on 19 January. The Brief to the architect continues to be developed and refined and there is a visit to Hacheston village hall scheduled for 19 January as well.</p> <p>Prior to Christmas the Suffolk Coastal planners indicated their support for a new village hall on the Council's proposed location.</p> <p>Further work will be done over the coming weeks to both improve the Brief and our understanding of what can be achieved in the context of both the site and the cost to deliver the best possible scheme. At the same time it will be important to try to identify an architect who has the experience and skill to deliver what is required and who the Council can work with and also to begin to look at funding sources.</p>
16.13	<p>TO CONSIDER RISK ISSUES</p> <p>Paper MPC(16)13 previously distributed was received and noted.</p>
16.14	<p>TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES</p>
16.14.01	<p>Burness Parish Rooms Management Committee</p> <p>Paper MPC(16)14.01 previously distributed was received and noted.</p>
16.14.02	<p>Deben Estuary Partnership</p> <p>Nothing to report. The Chairman suggested that this be omitted as a Standing Item on future agendas.</p>
16.14.03	<p>Melton Trust</p> <p>Mr Tony Thompson advised that the only business transacted by the Trust since the previous Full Council meeting was the distribution of the Christmas grants. The next meeting will be on 20 January 2016.</p>
16.14.04	<p>East Suffolk Rail Partnership</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
16.14.05	<p>Melton Primary School</p> <p>Cllr Martin reported that training for School Governors on how to be an outstanding school would be starting on 14 January. She wished also to record her appreciation for the school pupils' singing at the Christmas Fete Party.</p>
16.14.06	<p>Melton Messenger</p> <p>Copy for the February issue has been drafted. The precept decision will be added.</p>
16.14.07	<p>SNT Tasking Group</p> <p>Please see Minute 16.03.01 above.</p>
16.14.08	<p>Sizewell C and EDF Community Forum</p> <p>The Clerk reported late receipt of a briefing note from Cllr Guy McGregor and Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Local Authority Group for Sizewell C.</p>

	The note stated that the bypass proposed for the villages of Marlesford, Little Glemham, Stratford St Andrew and Farnham (the “Four Villages Bypass”) will be renamed “Suffolk’s Energy Gateway” in an attempt to secure funding from the Department of Transport.
16.14.09	Suffolk Association of Local Councils Cllr Porter reported that he attended the AGM. Terry Waite was voted in to become Vice President.
16.15	COUNCILLOR TRAINING REPORTS Cllrs Stevens, Hearn, McBurney and Bevilacqua all reported positively on their recent two day councillor training course.
16.16	TO CONSIDER ITEMS FOR THE MELTON MESSENGER Please see Minute 16.14.06 above.
16.17	CHAIRMAN’S URGENT BUSINESS It was reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a danger that financial support for Suffolk Community Transport might be lost as part of SCC cuts • The transfer from Budgens to Sainsburys in Woodbridge was being held up by issues with Suffolk Coastal DC over parking.
16.18	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS The next meeting of Full Council will take place on Wednesday 9 March 2016 commencing at 19:00 in the Hall at Melton Primary School. There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:57.