



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor GK Butterwick

MPC(07)M7

Minutes of a meeting of the parish council on Wednesday 11th July 2007 commencing at 19:00 in The Burness Parish Room Melton Woodbridge.

Present:

Cllr Mrs BK Abbott
Cllr Mrs ME Addington
Cllr Mr MN Bond
Cllr Mr GK Butterwick [Chairman]
Cllr Mr PJ Brockett
Cllr Miss DE Dann

Cllr Mr AG Dunford [Vice Chairman]
Cllr Mrs PD Ferguson
Cllr EJG Hilson
Cllr Miss LS Leonard
Cllr Mr MW Sherwen
Cllr Mr KR Tester

In Attendance:

Cllr J Bidwell [to 19:55]

Mr MJ Green [Clerk]

Two members of the public

07.100 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ABSENCE

Cllr Brockett informed council that he had been advised by SALC that they should not consent to absence. The Chairman responded that this was contrary to previous advice as follows:

LGA 1972, s 85(1) and (2) – If a member fails throughout six consecutive months to attend any meeting, he ceases automatically to be a member of the council unless he has a statutory excuse or his failure is due to a reason approved by the council.

Apologies need not be conveyed by writing but reasons for absence known to the council should be minuted. Where a council is considering a reason for absence, some reason or explanation must be known to it and this must be approved by affirmative resolution at the earliest possible moment before the end of the six months. If at that moment the council fails to consider the question, the office falls vacant without further ado, and the vacancy must be declared and filled in the proper manner. There is nothing to prevent a local council from approving a reason for absence in advance.

Local Council Administration – C Arnold Baker 2006

07.100.01 Cllr JE Eckersley – Work Commitments

Council received this apology and **consented** to the absence

07.100.02 Cllr C Aitchison - County Councillor

Council received this apology

07.101 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO REGISTER

Cllrs Dunford and Ferguson declared a personal interest in item 07.111

Cllr Abbott declared a personal interest in item 07.108

07.102 OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TALK TO COUNCILLORS

The Chairman proposed the lifting of standing orders. **It was agreed [19:04]**

07.102.01 Questions from Members of the Public

The Rector advised the meeting that a group of his young people were to carry out a rubbish cleanup operation on the bridlepath alongside St Andrew's Church. He asked if it would be possible to arrange for the extra rubbish to be collected by Suffolk Coastal Services. The Clerk was asked by council to look into this matter and liaise with the Rector.

07.102.02 Village Matters/Questions

- (a) To consider the issues raised by the proposed closure of the Melton Nursery at the Burness Parish Room

Cllr Leonard advised council that the nursery had now closed.

07.102.03 County Councillors Report

No report

07.102.04 District Councillors Reports

- (a) Grants Task Committee

Cllr Bidwell advised council that the application for grant aid for the work on the tennis courts had been considered and an allocation of £2,000 had been made.

Councillors expressed their delight at this grant being offered.

- (b) Ipswich Unitary Council Bid

Cllr Bond advised council that this matter had been considered by Suffolk Coastal District Council at a recent meeting. The view taken was that this would not be in the interests of the people of Suffolk due to potential boundary conflicts and therefore they were very much against it. Transition costs were estimated at £12m although savings of £4m a year following were predicted by Ipswich BC. The final decision will now be taken by government. It was noted that a similar bid by Norwich had not been received favourably and that the Suffolk Pathfinder bid was delayed awaiting a decision on the Ipswich bid.

The Chairman proposed the reinstatement of standing orders at 19:18. **It was agreed.**

07.103 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13TH JUNE 2007

Copy of the draft minutes MPC(07)M6 of the meeting held on 13th June 2007 previously circulated were received.

The following amendments were noted.

07.103.01 Correction to para 07.91.03

To read "The district councillor had referred the...."

With this one amendment it was proposed that they be signed as a correct record by the Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Dunford

Seconded by Cllr Tester

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed as a correct record by the chairman

07.104 TO RECEIVE THE CLERKS VERBAL REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

07.104.01 07.91.02(b) Notice of Meetings

A copy of the notice of the meeting had been sent to the church and the school to encourage public participation in the meeting.

07.104.02 07.94 Correspondence

- (a) Lists of correspondence received were now being circulated weekly by email to all councillors. The correspondence was available in the parish office for viewing.
- (b) Requests for grants are included in the list but will be forwarded to the Finance & Risk Management committee for action.
- (c) Cllr Aitchison is following up the issues raised in the correspondence regards the state of the Valley Farm Road surface
- (d) The situation regarding parking around the new Woodbridge Primary school was being carefully monitored to identify potential problems and solutions.
- (e) In response to a councillor's request, it was agreed that, for a trial period, future lists of correspondence would include both incoming and outgoing correspondence, the date of the correspondence and where appropriate a synopsis of the content

07.105 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ORDER THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED

07.105.01 Resolution 07.12 To set the Hire Charge for the Playing Field Hire for 2007/2008 at £1,300.

Proposed by the Chairman

Seconded by the Cllr Tester

It was **RESOLVED** to set the charge payable by Melton Sports & Social Club for the hire of the football pitches on the playing field for the period 1st July 2007 to 30th June 2008 at £1,300. The Chairman stressed that the costs and revenues relating to this use would be thoroughly researched, initially by the Recreation Committee, well before the expiry of this arrangement.

07.106 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

There were none.

It was noted that the scheduled meeting of the Planning Committee on 18th June had been cancelled as there were no applications to consider.

Concern was expressed about the approval for the planning application at 75 Bredfield Road (C07/0888/FUL) and it was noted that this matter will be discussed further at the Parish Council Planning Committee on 23rd July 2007.

07.107 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

07.107.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee

Cllr Ferguson reported that SALC had carried out a carbon footprinting appraisal that had highlighted a number of areas for improvement.

07.107.02 Greenprint Environmental Forum

Paper MPC(07)P107.02 previously circulated was received. It was noted that, with assistance from CRed & the Energy Saving Trust, Wenhaston Parish Council had set up an Energy Saving Committee and organised an Energy Day & Renewal Roadshow.

07.107.03 Melton Trust

No report

07.107.04 Safer Neighbourhood Team Liaison Group

Minutes MPC(07)P107.04 of the meeting held on 21st June 2007 previously circulated were received and noted.

Paper MPC(07)P107.04a – notes of the meeting from the council representative previously circulated were received and noted.

Cllr Dann highlighted the support received from the police for the use of anti-vandal paint as being a good deterrent. This will be considered by the Recreation Committee at its next meeting.

The incidence of graffiti was growing and Woodbridge Town Management Committee is working with Cllr Redsell to raise funds to attack this damage as soon as it occurs. The Chairman suggested that ways of sharing with Woodbridge experiences and expertise in combating graffiti be considered.

Cllr Bond highlighted an instance of this pestilential nuisance at Melton Station. The Clerk was asked to contact Network Rail to see if this graffiti can be removed.

07.107.05 Suffolk Association of Local Councils

Cllr Bond advised that he was awaiting the minutes of the most recent SALC meeting.

07.107.06 Suffolk Coastal Rural Communities Development Partnership

The Chairman reported that there had been no recent meeting, but that the Department of Communities and Local Government was expected to make an announcement shortly which might precipitate renewed activity in this area.

07.107.07 Transport

The new timetable was available on the council website and copies had been mailed or emailed to those on the distribution list.

07.107.08 Woodbridge & Melton Riverside Action Group

Cllr Sherwen advised that there had been no recent meeting.

It was noted that the riverside footpath from Dock Lane to Wilford Bridge was overgrown and the Clerk was asked to contact the appropriate authority to have it attended to.

07.108 TO AGREE THE JOINT APPROACH WITH UFFORD PC TO THE ISSUE OF THE MELTON PARK BOUNDARY

Paper MPC(07)P108 – notes of a meeting with representatives of Ufford PC held on 5th July 2007 and MPC(07)P108_letter draft letter to residents previously circulated were received and noted.

A modified draft of the letter as proposed by the Chairman of Ufford PC was tabled.

The Chairman explained that the main reason for pursuing this matter was one of community rather than the financial impact on the finance of both councils.

Due to the approaching holiday season letters asking for view of the 58 households would not be issued until September 1st with a response date of 30th September.

Proposed that the council circulates the 58 household jointly with Ufford PC to determine the views of the residents affected, the final text to be agreed between the two chairmen, and the cost to be shared with Ufford PC.

Proposed by Cllr Dunford

Seconded by Cllr Tester

It was RESOLVED to circulate the 58 households jointly with Ufford PC to determine the views of the residents affected.

07.109 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FOOTPATHS MEETING HELD ON 18TH JUNE 2007

Paper MPC(07)P109 was tabled received and noted. This would now be referred to the Recreation Committee and Local Transport Rep for action. The Village Plan Committee would monitor the situation.

07.110 TO APPOINT AN ADDITIONAL MEMBER OF THE VILLAGE PLAN COMMITTEE

As a result of the resignation from the Cllr Tester due to work commitments a vacancy for an additional member of the Village Plan Committee had arisen.

Cllr Abbott volunteered for this role, and was thanked by the Chairman.

07.111 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN ON THE PROPOSAL THAT MEETINGS OF THE FULL COUNCIL SHOULD BE HELD ON A DIFFERENT DAY OF THE WEEK

Paper MPC(07)P111 setting out the results of the investigations previously circulated was received and noted.

The Chairman explained that the consensus view was that Thursday was the most convenient evening to hold council meetings for the majority of councillors. The Burness Parish Room was not available other than on the second Wednesday of each month. An alternative venue at the Lindos Centre had been offered. The

Rector advised that St Andrew's Church Hall was not available on Thursday evenings.

Proposed that with effect from September 2007 full council meetings be held on the second Thursday of each month in the Lindos Centre Main Hall.

Proposed by Cllr Dunford

Seconded by Cllr Ferguson.

It was RESOLVED that will effect from September 2007 full council meetings be held on the second Thursday of each month in the Lindos Centre Main Hall.

Dates of meetings from September will now be:

2007

September 13th
October 11th

November 8th
December 13th

2008

January 10th
February 14th
March 13th
April 10th

May 8th
June 12th
July 10th
August 14th

September 11th
October 9th
November 13th
December 11th

07.112 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

07.112.01 Naming of Road

The Chairman drew council's attention to the developer's proposal to name three roads on the former Melton Grange Development as Grange Park Rise, Grange Park Drive and Grange Park Way. Councillors considered these names lacked originality. This would be discussed by the Planning Committee at their next meeting – councillors were encouraged to pass their comments to the Chairman of the Committee before its next meeting on 23rd July

07.112.02 Shrivelling Rights

Cllr Ferguson drew council's attention to the article in 'The Local Councillor' Volume 3 Issue 2 on page 9 regarding the new law for registering greens. This would be considered by the Recreation Committee at its next meeting.

07.112.03 East Anglian Practical Classics Club

Cllr Ferguson advised council that she had been approached by the chairman of the club about using the playing field for a rally to celebrate the club's 20th anniversary in 2008. The matter was referred to the recreation committee.

07.113 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th August 2007 at 19:00 in the Burness Parish Room

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:00

Signed: _____

Date: _____

[Chair]