



# MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor GK Butterwick

**MPC(08)M3**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008 commencing at 19:00 in The Lindos Centre Main Hall Saddlemakers Lane Melton Woodbridge IP12 1PP.

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**Present:**

Cllr Mrs ME Addington  
Cllr Mr PJ Brockett  
Cllr Mr GK Butterwick [Chairman]  
Cllr Miss DE Dann  
Cllr Mr AG Dunford [Vice Chairman]

Cllr Mrs J Eckersley  
Cllr Mrs PD Ferguson  
Cllr Miss LS Leonard  
Cllr Mr MW Sherwen

**In attendance:**

Mr MJ Green  
Mr Peter Ross  
Mr Peter Smith

Clerk to the Parish Council  
SCDC Countryside Officer  
SCDC Countryside Officer

**Residents:**

B Barrington  
J Gregory  
M Gregory

B Guy  
BE Matthews  
D Montaldi

S Thompson  
RA Sambrook  
PJ Sambrook

**08.42 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ABSENCE**

**08.42.01 Cllr Mrs BK Abbott – Work Commitment**

**08.42.02 Cllr MN Bond – Work Commitment**

**08.42.03 Cllr Mrs EJJ Hilson – Work Commitment**

Council received these apologies and **consented** to the absences

**08.42.04 Cllr J Bidwell – District Councillor**

**08.42.05 Cllr CE Aitchison – County Councillor**

Council noted these absences.

**08.43 TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL THE CURRENT VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL**

The Clerk advised the meeting that notice had not been given by ten electors for the Parish claiming an election. Council will therefore fill the vacancy by co-option.

The Clerk invited nominations from electors present at the meeting advising them that should there be more than one nomination a secret ballot would be held. The person with the absolute majority will be the person co-opted.

There were no nominations from members of the public present.

The matter was deferred to the next meeting.

**08.44 TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FROM THE CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR**

The matter was deferred to the next meeting.

**08.45 TO RECEIVE REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTEREST FROM THE CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR**

The matter was deferred to the next meeting.

**08.46 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND ADDITIONS TO THE REGISTER**

**08.46.01 Cllr Brockett**

Amendment to Register to note appointment as Trustee of Melton Trust.

There were no other declarations or amendments to the register.

Proposed that this amendment be received.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Dunford

**It was RESOLVED** that this amendment be received.

**08.47 STANDING ORDER 24 - WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Noted that there have been no questions received.

**08.48 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

**08.48.01 To receive representations from Councillors who have declared a prejudicial interest under item 08.46**

No representations

**08.48.02 To receive representations from members of the public in respect of items on the agenda only**

No representations

**It was RESOLVED** to lift standing orders

**08.49 OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TALK TO COUNCILLORS**

**08.49.01 Planning Application C08/0347 – Erection of 20m Mobile Phone Mast at The Slaughter House Valley Farm Road Melton IP12 1LJ**

The following points were raised by residents attending the meeting in support of their request for Melton Parish Council Planning Committee to review their decision not to object to the planning application:

- (a) Previous applications on this land have been rejected because of the '*high visibility*' of the site and the detrimental effect to the '*character and appearance of the surrounding countryside*,' including the public footpath.
- (b) The needs of the Knackers Yard business are not met by this application and therefore cannot be a balancing consideration.
- (c) There is no attempt to disguise this development and protect the

Conservation Area of Melton.

- (d) Suffolk Coastal must consider provisions from PPS7 and PPG15 in regard to this proposal which require them to look at 'protection from visual intrusion' and 'protection of the countryside for the benefit of all.'
- (e) There is a gross lack of regard from O2 about the ability to share other sites, especially sites nearer to the area they wish to improve the signal in.
- (f) There has been no consultation with the village community, in direct contravention of the Governments Best Practice Guidelines (and indeed the Best Practice Guidelines of O2).
- (g) The requirements of the Village Plan 2007-2010 are not met and one of Melton's valued 'woodland walks' will be ruined if this mast is built.
- (h) If this is approved it will set a precedent for further installations to build on the same piece of land (as has happened elsewhere).
- (i) There is a high risk of potential decrease in value of any surrounding houses.
- (j) The reception area that the application shows improvement in - if it goes ahead - covers the North of Melton and out towards Bromeswell and Eyke. So why are they placing the mast here?
- (k) The potential health risks are of great concern to a large number of people.
- (l) Whilst the Government may currently say that these masts are safe the technology has not been around for long enough for any scientific proof to show that they don't cause serious harm over time to those living close by. It took many years to prove that pylons caused cancer.

A petition containing over 120 names objecting to the proposal has been handed to the SCDC Planning Officer who has also confirmed that an inflatable mast will be erected on 18<sup>th</sup> March to enable an assessment of the visual impact to be made.

The Chairman responded by reminding residents that MPC has no more influence on the planning process than members of the public.

He also confirmed that, due to the level of resident objection to the proposal, Melton Parish Council Planning Committee would reconsider their response at their meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008. The Clerk confirmed that the Planning Officer had agreed an extension of time for the consultation until after the Planning Committee meeting.

Eight residents left the meeting at 19:20

#### **08.49.02 Peter Ross & Peter Smith– SCDC Countryside Officers**

The Chairman welcomed the Countryside Officers to the meeting. Their presentation included the following main points:

- (a) Melton Riverside amenity area was designed and created in the early 1980's
- (b) It was a place to relax play and learn something of the local environment
- (c) Situated at the gateway to an area of outstanding natural beauty

alongside the River Deben, the site is easily accessible by car, cycle, bus, train or by foot

- (d) Over 100,000 visitors call at the site each year but increasingly the visits are limited to the car as much of the site is in need of a 'makeover'
- (e) SCDC wants now to develop new attractions at the site whilst maintaining the fundamental ethos. Improved access for pushchairs and the disabled together with upgrades to the car park surface and opening up new unexplored areas.
- (f) The duck pond and the more secluded wildlife pond requiring dredging as would the main dyke
- (g) New fencing is required to protect the fragile community of wild flowers
- (h) The possibility of an amphitheatre is being investigated together with the upgrading of information & directional signs
- (i) A new picnic area and play area with a sculpture trail is being planned.
- (j) An access for all and dog walkers trail is also included in the plans together with a programme of events for local school use

The overall cost of the project is in the order of £150k and a lottery funding bid is being prepared. SCDC is currently looking for sponsors and supporters for the project.

Council welcomed this initiative agreeing in principle to support the project through publicity and encouragement for the local community to engage with the project.

The Chairman thanked both officers for their very encouraging and informative presentation.

#### **08.50 TO DISCUSS VILLAGE MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

#### **08.51 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Paper P51 previously circulated was received and noted.

The following points were highlighted by the Chairman:

- The boundary committee will have dialogue with local authorities looking into providing an alternative to the failed Ipswich Unitary bid, unitary local government for the county and Waveney & Great Yarmouth
- The consultation would take place from 29<sup>th</sup> September 2008 to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008
- Highways have bid for funding to resolve the problems in Bredfield Road
- The contractor currently building on Bredfield Road will be responsible for clearing the excess mud from the pavement & roads. Gullies have also been cleared which should assist with preventing flooding
- Councillors are encouraged to contact the county councillor if problems persist

## **08.52 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

There was none.

**It was RESOLVED** to reinstate standing orders

## **08.53 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2008**

Proposed that minutes MPC(08)M2 of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman

Proposed by: Cllr Dann

Seconded by: Cllr Dunford

**It was RESOLVED** that minutes MPC(08)M2 of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman

## **08.54 TO CONSIDER A REVISED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND PROCEDURE FOR MEETINGS IN THE YEAR COMMENCING 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2008**

Paper MPC(08)P54 and Schedule of Council Meetings previously circulated was received and noted.

The following points were noted during the ensuing discussion:

- Concern that the Recreation Committee meeting quarterly would not be able to effectively monitor work required on the playing field
- Councillors should meet with the Clerk should they have issues or concerns that need addressing between formal meetings
- Reduction in administration time serving committees would be put to better use
- Ad hoc meetings for specific purposes can be called by councillors should the need arise
- Motions can be placed on the agenda for full council meetings in accordance with SO 17
- MPC website would be enhanced to enable easy access to the planning information contained on the SCDC website
- Councillors needing provision of broadband services should contact the Clerk direct

Proposed that the recommendations for the method of operation of the committees and the servicing arrangements including the proposed schedule of meetings contained in the report are adopted.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Dann

**It was RESOLVED** that the recommendations for the method of operation of the committees and the servicing arrangements including the proposed schedule of meetings contained in the report are adopted.

**08.55 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

**08.55.01 Planning Committee 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

Proposed that minutes PLA(08)M3 previously circulated were received and noted.

Proposed by: Cllr Sherwen

Seconded by: Cllr Addington

**It was RESOLVED** that minutes PLA(08)M3 be received and noted

**08.55.02 Finance & Risk Management Committee 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

Proposed that minutes FRM(08)M1 previously circulated were received and noted.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford

Seconded by: Cllr Ferguson

**It was RESOLVED** that minutes FRM(08)M1 be received and noted

**08.56 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

**08.56.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee**

Minutes of meeting of Burness Parish Room Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> February previously circulated were received and noted.

Cllr Ferguson advised the meeting that the Management Committee were planning an Open Fun Day at the Burness Rooms on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**08.56.02 Greenprint Environmental Forum**

It was reported that there had been a meeting of the Forum in February to look into the effect of Climate Change on Wildlife.

**08.56.03 Melton Community Youth Project**

It was reported that currently the project is in a state of pause with planning for the future of the project ongoing. It was suggested that the young people might be encouraged to join in the Riverside Project.

MCYP was operating as a charity but was not registered yet as its income was less than the threshold for registration.

**08.56.04 Melton Trust**

There had been a meeting of the Trust on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008. In addition to the Rector [ex-officio] and the two Parish Council nominees three other trustees attended [Miss M Davis, Mrs J King and Mr C Wilson]. The treasurer, Mr D Petley, was also in attendance. Miss Davis was Chair of the group.

The next meeting will be on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2008 when the discussion will focus on setting structures, criteria and guidelines for the distribution of grants. A statement of accounts will also be presented at the meeting.

#### **08.56.05 Melton Youth Forum**

MPC representatives had attended the meeting of the Felixstowe Youth Forum on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

Schools from Felixstowe were represented by teachers and pupils with the Mayor, Town Clerk, Police, SCDC Officers and District Councillor Savage in attendance.

Two primary children shared the Chair and the meeting discussed issues such as parking outside school, boy racers and the importance of the beach area.

It was agreed that the possibility of a Melton Youth Forum be investigated further and Cllr Dann & Ferguson offered to contact the local schools to determine support for the scheme.

#### **08.56.06 Safer Neighbourhood Team Liaison Group**

Noted that the next meeting of the SNT Liaison Group will be held on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 in the Lindos Centre Conference Room commencing at 7.30 p.m.

All councillors are invited to attend – please advise the Clerk A.S.A.P. if they are attending.

#### **08.56.07 Suffolk Association of Local Councils**

Minutes of meeting MPC(08)P56.07(a) 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and agenda MPC(08)P56.07(b)10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 previously circulated were received and noted. The Chairman confirmed thankfully that the reference to Cllr Bond in item 11f was incorrect.

Noted that the meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 was cancelled due to adverse weather.

#### **08.56.08 Suffolk Coastal Rural Communities Development Partnership**

Nothing to report.

#### **08.56.09 Transport**

Report MPC(08)P56.09 previously circulated was received and noted.

Additionally it was noted that there had been a recent increase in the Park & Ride fares.

#### **08.56.10 Woodbridge & Melton Riverside Action Group**

Cllr Brockett reported that he had attended a meeting of the group the previous evening as an individual member. MPC is not listed as an interested party.

It was noted that Whisstocks still remains the major issue for WAMRAG.

A new organisation – The Riverside Trust – set up with an interest in boatbuilding within the Haven Gateway

Offer for Chairman to attend MPC meeting to talk about the involvement of Melton.

Agreed to subscribe to the organisation and to make contact with Peter Clay to invite him to future meeting of MPC.

**08.57 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY REPORTS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS**

**08.57.01 Suffolk Primary Care Trust Dispensing Classifications**

It was noted that the email from Dr Sidhu highlighted the adverse effect on Melton residents as a result of the reclassification of Melton as Urban. This means that some 1,700 residents will no longer be able to obtain prescriptions from the doctor's surgery.

Agreed to contact PCT to object to the change which was not in accord with the consultation letter in November and also with the classification contained in the Local Plan.

**08.57.02 Allotments**

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a reply to his letter regarding allotments. The allotments at Wilford Bridge were in private ownership and none were available for hire. Should any become available in the future the owner has agreed to notify the Council.

**08.57.03 National Air Traffic Service [NATS]**

Copies of a leaflet explaining the proposed changes to flight paths was issued and it was agreed that the Planning Committee should investigate whether a response was required from the council.

**08.58 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

There was nothing to report

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

There have been no resolutions received.

**08.60 TO CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE MELTON PARK BOUNDARY CONSULTATION AND TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO SEEK A BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The response from the various boundary departments for assistance in deciding whether to request a boundary review came full circle to referring the matter to the district council.

Proposed that SCDC be requested to undertake a boundary review to bring the 58 properties currently within the Parish of Ufford into the Parish of Melton.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford

Seconded by: Cllr Dann

Voting:

For 7

Against 0

Abstain 2

**It was RESOLVED** that SCDC be requested to undertake a boundary review to bring the 58 properties currently within the Parish of Ufford into the Parish of Melton.



**08.61 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was agreed to invite Peter Ross & Peter Smith to attend the annual parish meeting to talk about the regeneration of the Riverside Amenity Area.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008 in the Lindos Centre Main Hall commencing at 19:00

**08.62 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There was none.

**08.63 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**08.63.01 Full Council**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at 19:00

**08.63.02 Annual Parish Meeting**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at 19:00

**08.63.03 Annual Parish Council Meeting**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 19:00

All meetings will take place in the Lindos Centre Main Hall commencing at 19:00

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:40

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

[Chairman]