



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor GK Butterwick

MPC(08)M6

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 12th June 2008 commencing at 19:00 in The Lindos Centre Main Hall Saddlemakers Lane Melton Woodbridge IP12 1PP.

Present:

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

Cllr Mrs J Eckersley [Part]
Cllr Mrs PD Ferguson
Cllr Mrs EJG Hilson
Cllr Miss LS Leonard
Cllr Miss KS Martin
Cllr Mr MW Sherwen

In attendance:

Mrs B Guy
Mr MJ Green

Resident [till 20:30]
Clerk to the Parish Council

08.111 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ABSENCE

08.111.01 Cllr Mr MN Bond – SCDC Meeting

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

08.111.02 Cllr Mrs CE Aitchison

08.111.03 Cllr Mr J Bidwell

Council noted these apologies

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

There were none.

08.113 STANDING ORDER 24 - WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To note that there have been no questions received.

08.114 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

08.114.01 To receive representations from Councillors who have declared a prejudicial interest under item 08.112

There were no representations.

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

There were no representations.

It was RESOLVED to lift standing orders.

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

The opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of their councillors.

08.115.01 Beresford Road/Bredfield Road Junction

Concern was expressed about road safety issues caused by the indiscriminate parking of contractor's vehicles in the vicinity of the development on Bredfield Road.

Cllr Dann agreed to refer to matter to SNT and ask that they check on the parking to ensure that it is not breaking the law and to encourage safer parking in consideration of other users.

Concern was also expressed about the muddy and potholed state of the footways caused by the developers that was forcing pedestrians onto the roadway with all the inherent dangers associated with that action.

It was agreed to ask Cllr Aitchison to contact SCC Highways to ask them to ensure that the developers keep the footpaths clear and clean.

08.115.02 Girdlestones Development

In response to a question the Chairman confirmed that the site is zoned for employment but with the precedent set by the change of use at the former GAH site there is no reason why SCDC could not consider a change of use. He also confirmed that the council is awaiting any formal notification on the outcome of the planning application and when it would be considered by the District Council's Development Sub-Committee.

08.116 TO DISCUSS VILLAGE MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS

08.116.01 Payphone Removal

The Chairman brought to the attention of council the proposal by BT to remove Payphones that they consider to be little used.

It was agreed to respond to the consultation objecting to the proposal on the following grounds:

- Provision of public call boxes is believed to be a requirement of BT's formal Public Obligation Requirement.
- Removal of all payphones listed in the schedule appears to remove all those in rural areas leaving towns such as Woodbridge as the only locations for public payphones
- The elderly are one of the most vulnerable groups in society, many live in rural areas, use mobile phones least and are most in need of access to public payphones in cases of emergency. Removal of the box at The Street, Melton would cause hardship to the elderly residents of Winifred Fison House.
- The Sustainable Communities Act was enacted in October 2007 but has yet to come into force. It gives power to local communities

to survive and expand – the withdrawal of a public payphone service is counter to the spirit of the Act.

08.116.02 Dispensing Regulations

The NHS Litigation Service had advised that an appeal against the decision to designate Melton as Urban in relation to the Dispensing Classification would be heard in Woodbridge on 21st August 2008.

Council agreed that it was essential for council to be represented. The Clerk will advise NHS that two representatives will be attending.

08.116.03 The Street

Concern was raised about the potential dangers caused in The Street by the parking of vehicles by the users of McColls on the corner with Saddlemakers Lane. Also, the issue of vehicles travelling at speeds not suited for a small narrow road.

Cllr Dann agreed to raise the matter with SNT to see what could be done from an enforcement point of view. Cllr Aitchison was asked to request a meeting with SCC Highways at which the options for traffic calming measures in the village centre, as outlined in the Village Plan, could be discussed.

A report was made about a teenage cyclist using the footpath and forcing people onto the road. As the cyclist was wearing a Farlingaye HS jumper the Clerk was asked to write to the school to ask that they reinforce the safety message.

08.116.04 Melton Playing Field

A visitor to Melton had commented to a councillor what a wonderful facility the play area was at Melton Playing Field. They commented about the warm welcome they had received from Keith Stebbings our Park Warden who they felt was a wonderful ambassador for the village.

08.117 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Aitchison sent her apologies and advised that she had nothing to report this month. However, she wished to commend the Melton Community in their show of opposition to the planning application for the Girdlestone Site on 19th May. This opposition was shown to great effect at both the site and later at Melton Primary School.

08.118 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Both District Councillors were attending other meetings at District and had nothing to report.

It was RESOLVED to reinstate standing orders.

08.119 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8TH MAY 2008

Minutes MPC(08)M5 of the meeting held on 8th May 2008 previously circulated
Page 9 Item 08.107 should be MPC(08)P81 not MPC(08)P82.

Proposed that with this amendment minutes MPC(08)M5 of the meeting held on 8th May 2008 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Brockett

It was RESOLVED that with this amendment minutes MPC(08)M5 of the meeting held on 8th May 2008 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman

08.120 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

08.120.01 Planning Committee 19th May 2008

Proposed that minutes PLA(08)M7 previously circulated were received and noted.

Proposed by: Cllr Sherwen

Seconded by: Cllr Hilson

It was RESOLVED that minutes PLA(08)M7 be received and noted

08.120.02 Employment Committee 12th June 2008

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Leonard as the newly elected Chairman of the Employment Committee and invited her to report on the meeting.

The committee had met to review the Job Description and Contract of the Park Warden in the light of his return to work following medical leave and changed duties.

The new contract would now be signed by the Park Warden and Council Chairman.

Minutes will be distributed in due course.

08.121 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

08.121.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee

Copies of the 2007 AGM Minutes, 2008 Annual Accounts and Minutes of meeting on 25th April 2008 previously circulated were received and noted.

It was reported that the committee were continuing the process of improving the parish rooms. The entrance had been resurfaced and planters will be installed shortly.

Council were invited and agreed to provide a table at the open day on 6th September.

08.121.02 Greenprint Environmental Forum

Further meetings planned as follows:

- 30th June 2008 – Talk on LDF and Green Space Strategies
- 28th July 2008 – Visit to Stone House Organic Farm Thorington
- 22nd September 2008 – Visit to Foxhall Landfill Site & Household Recycling Centre
- 27th October 2008 – Environment & Business Focus Meeting

08.121.03 Melton Trust

Proposed under Standing Order 68, that in respect of this item, to consider the resolution:- "That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw".

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Dunford

It was RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw".

[Deferred to end of meeting.]

08.121.04 Melton Youth Forum

Agreed that this item should read 'Melton Community Youth Project'.

This was reported as a 'work in progress' project with Rector running a small youth club on a Thursday evening. Collaboration with Just 42 on the future was starting.

08.121.05 Safer Neighbourhood Team Liaison Group

Minutes of meeting held on 15th April 2008 and agenda for meeting on 3rd June 2008 enclosed as paper MPC(08)P121.05 previously circulated were received and noted.

Cllr Dann reported on the meeting the minutes of which will be distributed in due course.

'Sponsor your own PCSO' – this is a project where those involved in the pilot scheme would sponsor a PCSO on a shared cost arrangement with Suffolk Constabulary.

Agreed to follow this initiative up through Jayne Cole at SALC [eMail itsalc@btinternet.com] expressing interest and in an informed way will offer collaboration with other local parish councils.

08.121.06 Suffolk Association of Local Councils

Minutes of meeting held on 19th November 2007 and agenda for meeting on 9th June 2008 enclosed as paper MPC(08)P121.06 previously circulated were received and noted.

Cllr Brockett reported on his attendance at the SALC meeting in 9th June.

His detailed notes from the meeting are attached to these minutes.

The Chairman offered his sincere thanks to Cllr Brockett for his report.

It was agreed that Cllr Brockett and Cllr Ferguson would attend the emergence planning workshop on 2nd July 2008.

The indirectly elected East of England Regional Assembly is to be replaced by transferring its powers, including Planning and Housing, to the unelected East of England Development Agency. Consultation (on the SALC website) has a closing date of which is 20 June. In view

of the timescale, it was agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with the Clerk, should be authorised to respond on behalf of the Council."

08.121.07 Transport

No report but noted that a holding response had been received from First Eastern Counties Buses to MPC letter suggesting route/timetable changes.

08.121.08 Woodbridge & Melton Riverside Action Group

Nothing to report.

08.122 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORT FROM WORKING GROUPS

08.122.01 Melton Community Youth Project

Agreed that this item should read 'Melton Youth Forum Working Group'. Nothing to report, other than a second member of the working group was required to assist Cllr Eckersley.

08.122.02 Local Government Review Response

Nothing to report [but see item 08.128].

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

Letter from Linn Barringer Ltd regarding website prompted comments and discussion regarding the limitations of the web hosting email system used by some councillors.

The Clerk agreed to meet with individual councillors to set up Outlook Express to enable greater use of the email system.

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

Nothing to report.

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

There have been no resolutions received.

08.126 TO APPROVE EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT ON THE PLAYING FIELD TO COMPLY WITH SAFETY INSPECTION

Paper MPC(08)P126 was received and noted. Councillors commented that in respect of both the play equipment and the trees surrounding the playing field [several of which were being felled that week], we were paying the price for past failure to undertake regular inspections and maintenance.

Proposed that the emergency expenditure contained in the report be approved.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick.

Seconded by: Cllr Dunford.

It was RESOLVED that the emergency expenditure contained in the report be approved.

08.127 TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION TO DCLG TO BORROW MONEY

Paper MPC(08)P127 previously circulated was received and noted.

The email from Cllr Bond expressing his opposition to the proposal and expressing the view that reserves ought to be used first had been previously circulated to all councillors.

Councillors considered the proposal and the comments of Cllr Bond but after careful consideration:

Proposed that the application to borrow money be approved.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford.

Seconded by: Cllr Brockett.

It was RESOLVED that the application to borrow money be approved.

08.128 TO CONSIDER THE ISSUES RELATING TO COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Paper MPC(08)P128 and DCLG Press Release previously circulated were received and noted.

Proposed that the remit of the Boundary Review Working Group be extended to deal with the issues in these papers. i.e. the implications of the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 and the imminent White Paper on Empowerment.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick.

Seconded by: Cllr Abbott.

It was RESOLVED that the remit of the Boundary Review Working Group be extended to deal with the issues in these papers

08.129 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

08.129.01 Quality Parish Council

The Chairman reported that as the deadline for submitting an application under the existing rules expires on 30th June 2008 he and the Clerk were preparing the application to enable it to be submitted by the due date.

08.129.02 Melton Trust

Proposed that this matter deferred from item 08.121.03 is dealt with under standing order 68 and not minuted.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Dunford.

It was RESOLVED that this matter deferred from item 08.121.03 is dealt with under standing order 68 and not minuted

08.130 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 10th July 2008 in the Lindos Centre Main Hall commencing at 19:00

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:55

Signed: _____ Date: _____
[Chairman]

SALC meeting June 9th 2008
at Riverside Centre Stratford St. Andrew

1) SCC Joint Emergency Planning Unit Mike Topliss highlighted July 2nd (6-8pm) seminar at SCDC offices. Details attached. Volunteer nominees required who can co-ordinate/lead/oversee community emergency planning invited so that they can make positive contribution. This to be participative, workshop event rather than one to attend and listen. Many communities have felt benefit in having a co-ordinator, especially following various flood situations, in knowing who to contact and passing on advice.

They can supply 'fridge magnet' emergency leaflets for distribution to residents which covers what to do/who to contact. (example)

They can also give presentations to local councils on request and cannot recall giving one to Melton.

2). Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Presentation by Bill Parker as to their background, work, (including beach clearings on behalf of Marine Conservation Society) funding and areas covered. Stress on implications of increasing homes, population, transport will have on biodiversity and 'quietness' of area.

New management Plan to be launched at Thorpeness Hotel June 30th (10.15 for 11) at which will be representative from Natural England, local food and subsequent planned walks.

Need to find common ground with Environment Agency as to Blythe and other areas threatened by potential future flooding.

On a question about the Coastal Access Path this still not clarified as to what it will entail. There have been objections from local land owners –see Times this week re landowner in Sutton) and what involved. Does include estuaries and currently up to first local crossing i.e. ferry? But not all crossings have one e.g. Slaughden. Wait for the White Paper.

The Summer edition of their free newspaper now out and obtainable from many locations e.g. libraries and information centres which contains information of their activities and details of many summer events. In addition there is the Stour and Orwell Forum at Shotley Village Hall on July 3rd

They have a Sustainable Development Fund of some £60,000 (which in place for next two years and hopefully for two years succeeding) which they can distribute for worthwhile causes.

Finally they would very much appreciate responses from Parish Councils in respect of what they send out. All feedback is useful.

3) Boundary Committee SCDC are arranging a meeting for 17th July following publication of the Committees report for consultation.

4). Regional Representation John Williams EEAPTC and SALC Deputy Chairman briefed that EERA was due to be replaced by a Development Agency. So far this has the appearance of a QUANGO with no membership of those who have been elected from local

government. Initially it seems that town and local councils do not form part of their remit which worrying as they will have oversee of Planning and Housing so taking these oversites away from local authorities input.

There is a Consultation Document on the SALC website and it will be noted that Environmental matters are hardly in evidence

Town and parish councils will be ignored unless they make representation the closing date of which is June 20th

5) Local Strategic Partnership Representative Invitations are extended for a volunteer. This meets about five times year normally at 5 pm at the Suffolk Police HQ. Any nominations to SALC **ASAP** for consideration at meeting of Executive Committee in two weeks time.

6) Reports from various bodies

SALC executive Report circulated (copy attached) indicating amongst other matters it's achievements over the past two years; launch of the PCSO initiative whereby councils or groups of councils who become part of the pilot programme will have the opportunity to have their won PCSO with indications that first year funded by constabulary thereafter costs split 50/50; Boundary Committee.

On the Boundary Committee informal indications are that it is looking at **One** concept with some modifications upon which it will invite consultation. As well as the SCDC meeting on the subject mentioned above, SALC will try to arrange a further meeting similar to the one in Kesgarve earlier this year.

However councils are urged to arrange consultation with their communities as soon into the consultation period, which commences July 7th, as possible and feeding responses into SALC as well as the Committee

SALC are also looking to re-write their constitution and Councils are invited to let them know what is wanted from SALC

Sizewell Stakeholder Group Plans for Sizewell C and D are expected to be published soon. Re Sizewell A de-commissioning now expected to commence August 2009. Currently about 100 personnel more than needed on site as Sellafield unable to take spent fuel rods. British Energy locking to ship them abroad.

Greenprint held no meeting but paid visit to re-cycling plant at Parham and came away very impressed. This site takes green waste and turns into compost. Large loads mean buyers mainly farmers, market gardeners etc. Although households can purchase if able to take the base quantity.

7) Possible future speakers to be invited to cover integrated public transport.

AOB Indications that Suffolk Acre experiencing problems and as many councils obtain their insurances via them need to investigate.

Formal minutes of the meeting expected to be on SALC website in month's time.