



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL



MPC(09)M12

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Melton Parish Council on Thursday 12th November 2009 commencing at 19:00 in The Lindos Centre Main Hall Saddlemakers Lane Melton IP12 1PP.

Present:

Cllr Miss EA Barrington
Cllr Mr PJ Brockett (Chairman)
Cllr Mr GK Butterwick
Cllr Mr AG Dunford
Cllr Mrs JEJ Eckersley

Cllr Mrs EJG Hilson
Cllr Miss LS Leonard
Cllr Miss KS Martin
Cllr Mr HM Needham

In Attendance:

Mrs B Guy [until 20:30]
Mr S Pask [Items 232 to 236 only]
Mr T Robertson [until 21:00]
Mr MJ Green [Clerk to Melton Parish Council]

It was RESOLVED to attend to agenda items 240.05, 240.06 and 241 out of sequence at the end of the meeting to enable members of the public to remain for all the non-confidential items.

Proposed by: Cllr Brockett

Seconded by: Cllr Martin

09.232 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ANY ABSENCE

09.232.01 Cllr Mrs BJ Abbott – working away

09.232.02 Cllr Mrs ME Addington – away on a course

09.232.03 Cllr Mr MN Bond – attending SCDC Scrutiny Committee Meeting

Cllr Bond in mitigation of his absence had advised council that SCDC Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee will now scrutinize SCDC planning services. The Head of Planning Services is appearing simultaneously before the Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee and the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee at a joint meeting on 12/11/09. In the circumstances he felt that his attendance at the scrutiny meeting would best serve the interests of Melton Parish Council.

09.232.04 Cllr Mr MW Sherwen – working late

It was RESOLVED to accept these apologies and consent to the absences.

Propose by: Cllr Dunford

Seconded by: Cllr Leonard

09.232.05 Cllr Mr J Bidwell

This absence was noted.

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

There were no declarations or additions to the register.

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

It was noted that there had been no written questions received.

09.235 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

09.235.01 To receive representations from Councillors who have declared a prejudicial interest under item 09.233

There were no representations from Councillors as none had declared a prejudicial interest at item 09.233.

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

There were no representations from members of the public in respect of items on the agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** to lift standing orders.

09.236 OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TALK TO COUNCILLORS AND TO DISCUSS VILLAGE MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS

09.236.01 Horse & Groom Public House

Mr Simon Pask advised the meeting that he was a developer from the North East looking to relocate to his home county of Suffolk. He was investigating the possibility of acquiring the Horse & Groom Public House with the aim of converting it to a private residence for his family.

However, before embarking on such a venture he feels that the public house must be given every chance to sell as a business. He was therefore seeking the assistance of the parish council over the next six months in obtaining the views of the community about whether they would wish to acquire the freehold interest and run the Horse & Groom as a Community Facility.

Council agreed to give the matter as much publicity as possible using the Melton Messenger and other media.

09.236.02 Speed Limit on Yarmouth Road and St Audry's Park Road

It was reported that a response had been received from SCC Road Safety Engineering indicating that two requests to reduce the speed limits were considered in 2006. These were to extend the existing 20 mph speed limit to the B1438 junction and to extend the existing 40 mph limit on the B1438 along St Audry's Road to the start of the 20 mph limit. Neither met the DfT criteria and was therefore not supported. Speed surveys were conducted that showed that mean traffic speeds in the derestricted section were 26.8 mph westbound and 29.6 mph eastbound. The speed limits on B1438 between Melton and Ufford were consistent with the level of roadside development. Whilst there was disappointment with the response the matter was left as an open issue for future consideration.

09.236.03 New All Weather Footpath on Playing Field

It was reported that whilst the new footpath was welcomed comment had been expressed by residents about the intensity of the lighting and the cost of the energy used.

Council was reassured that only low energy bulbs were in use and that the level of energy used was monitored carefully with adjustments made to the length of time the path was lit.

09.236.04 Melton Parish Council Notice Boards

Councillors suggested that posters in the notice boards should be restricted to Melton events. The five councillors who had 'adopted' a notice board are to use their discretion should the notice boards become full.

09.237 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Paper MPC(09)P237 previously circulated was received and noted.

The following items were referred to in the county councillor's report:

09.237.01 Car Parks at Campsea Ashe and Melton Railway Stations

The Transport Representative advised the meeting that the freehold to the land was owned by Network Rail and they therefore control any development on the land. Council was assured that the matter was being followed up nationally by the transport representative.

09.237.02 Out of Hours Care for area surrounding Wickham Market

It was understood that this matter was under consideration by the SCC Health Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11/11/09.

09.238 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Paper MPC(09)P238 previously circulated was received and noted.
The following item was referred to in the district councillor's report:

09.238.01 Suffolk Coastal Resource Network

A networking lunch will be held on 24/11/09 from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. at Saxmundham offering advice on funding and development.

It was RESOLVED to reinstate standing orders.

09.239 ASSISTANT CLERK

It was noted that the following arrangements were in place for the filling of the vacancy for the permanent position of Assistant Clerk to Melton Parish Council

09.239.01 Advertisement to members of Society of Local Council Clerks

Distributed by the secretary of the local branch to all clerks in Suffolk on 13/10/2009

09.239.02 Application Packs

Distributed to candidates who have expressed an interest 22/10/2009 – closing date for applications 19/11/2009 9.00 a.m.

09.239.03 Short-listing

Applications will be considered and a short-listing for interview will take place on 19/11/2009

09.239.04 Interviews

Interviews will take place on 26/11/2009

09.239.05 Start Date

The start date will be Tuesday 06/01/2010 subject to ratification of the appointment by the Full Council on 10th December.

09.240 FINANCE MATTERS

09.240.01 Pavilion Electrics

It was RESOLVED to undertake electrical work to enable an electrical installation certificate to be issued at a quotation price of £425 plus VAT.

Proposed by: Cllr Needham **Seconded by:** Cllr Dunford

09.240.02 Pavilion Refurbishment

Paper MPC(09)P240.02 previously circulated was received and noted.

(a) To consider a proposal from the Recreation Committee to refurbish the pavilion

It was RESOLVED to refurbish the pavilion

Proposed by: Cllr Martin **Seconded by:** Cllr Eckersley

(b) To consider a proposal from the Recreation Committee to seek a loan of up to £60,000 to cover the cost of the refurbishment of the pavilion

The proposal was amended to add the words '*subject to a positive outcome to the structural survey*'.

It was RESOLVED to seek a loan of up to £60,000 to cover the cost of the refurbishment of the pavilion subject to a positive outcome to the structural survey.

Proposed by: Cllr Martin **Seconded by:** Cllr Eckersley

As this amended resolution was passed the original resolution falls.

09.240.03 Tennis Court Reserve

(a) Tennis Court Fund

It was RESOLVED that the unspent balance of funds raised for the refurbishment of the tennis courts be retained as a reserve separate from the general reserve

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Martin

(b) All Weather Footpath

It was RESOLVED that the balance of the cost not exceeding £965 of the provision of the all-weather footpath [estimate £9,730] less the provision from the SCDC Playing Space Fund [£8,765] be provided from the tennis court reserve

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Martin

- (c) Capital Repayment of Tennis Court PWLB Loan
It was RESOLVED that the balance of the tennis court reserve be used to part fund the repayment of the capital of the tennis court PWLB Loan
Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Martin

09.240.04 To consider the Monthly Finance Report

Paper MPC(09)P240.04 previously circulated was received and noted.

It was RESOLVED under Standing Order 68, that in respect of items 09.240.05, 09.240.06 and 09.241, 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 and that the discussion is subject to a confidential minute.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Hilson

09.240.05 To discuss the 2010/11 Preliminary Budget Paper

09.240.06 Administrative Workload

09.241 GIRDLESTONE DEVELOPMENT – JUDICIAL REVIEW

09.242 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was RESOLVED that minutes MPC(09)M11 of the parish council meeting held on 8th October 2009 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Butterwick

09.243 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES

09.243.01 Finance Committee 12th October 2009

It was RESOLVED that minutes FRM(09)M4 previously circulated be received and noted.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Needham

09.243.02 Planning Committee 26th October 2009

It was RESOLVED that minutes PLA(09)M10 previously circulated be received and noted.

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick **Seconded by:** Cllr Barrington

09.244 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

09.244.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee

There was nothing report.

09.244.02 Melton Trust

There was nothing to report.

09.244.03 Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Tasking Group

Paper MPC(09)P244.03 previously circulated was received and noted.

09.244.04 Suffolk Association of Local Councils

Minutes of the meeting of the Suffolk Coastal Area Committee on 14th September 2009 tabled were received and noted.

09.244.05 Transport

Paper MPC(09)P244.05 tabled was received and noted.

A revised Public Transport Guide is now available on the parish council website at:

www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/Transport.html

- 09.244.06 Woodbridge and Melton Riverside Action Group**
The Chairman reported that at its AGM on 11/11/09 a report was made by the Riverside Trust as to their aspirations for the Whisstocks site at Woodbridge and its immediate surrounding area commenting upon the discussions they had been having with various parties as to establishing and funding of various water associated activities. It was emphasised that these were early days in the process and if all materialises the end cost will be high.
- 09.245 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**
- 09.245.01 Local Government Review Working Group**
No further action. It was agreed to remove this item from future meeting agendas.
- 09.245.02 Melton Ufford Boundary Review**
Paper MPC(09)P245.02 together with a copy of the article from the Ufford Punch tabled was received and noted.
The Chairman of Melton Parish Council Planning Committee reported that he had been advised that, following the withdrawal of Ufford Parish Council from the process and the publication by them of the reasons why in the Ufford Punch, the officer was now consulting with Head of Services before any further action can be taken. He confirmed that the officer would circulate further information as it becomes available.
- 09.245.03 New Development Working Group**
See item 09.241
- 09.245.04 Pavilion Working Group**
See item 09.240.02
- 09.246 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY REPORTS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS**
- 09.246.01 Response from Chair of Suffolk Police Authority**
This was noted.
- 09.246.02 SCDC Meeting on Efficiencies**
Notes from the meeting were tabled.
- 09.246.03 Use of Burkes Wood for a BMX Trail**
Letter received from Cllr Tucker seeking potential site for BMX Trail – had been previously circulated.
Council considered the matter and although there were positive comments for providing facilities for young people, something that MPC does not current provide, there were also concerns at the potential impact on wildlife and local residents.
Due to these mixed views amongst councillors the matter was referred to the Recreation Committee with the suggestion that Cllr Tucker and Mike Simpson from Just42 Ltd be invited to attend the meeting of the Recreation Committee in January to discuss the matter further.
- 09.246.04 Tollgate Cottage**
The letter from SCDC responding to the concerns pf MPC about the development of Tollgate Cottage was referred to the next meeting of the Planning Committee
- 09.246.05 SCDC Melton Conservation Area Appraisal**
The public consultation on the draft conservation area appraisal was referred to the MPC Planning Committee for action.
- 09.247 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**
Paper MPC(09)P247 tabled was received and noted.
- 09.248 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ORDER THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED**
It was noted that there had been no resolutions or recommendations made.

09.249 TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE CONTINUED USE OF FOOTBALL PITCHES FOLLOWING RECENT DAMAGE BY BIRD AND/OR ANIMALS

The following is a summary of the situation:

- (a) SCC Grounds Service visited the site and identified that long term damage to the grassed areas is being caused by the Chafer Grub that has widely infested the playing field
- (b) Short term remedial work to make the surfaces playable **safely** has been put in hand by SBPM by infilling with soil
- (c) The long term resolution to the problem will be to have the whole field professionally treated with chemicals to eradicate the grub and prevent future infestation
- (d) An order to complete an analysis of the soil to determine the correct chemicals to use has been made through SCC Grounds Service. The chemicals would be safe to the public and would be laid when rainfall was expected to enable the crystals to be fully absorbed into the ground.
- (e) An estimate for £1,850 plus VAT has been provided together with the implications for the use of the playing field during and after the treatment
- (f) The damaged patches would then need digging out and replacing with soil and grass seed

It was RESOLVED to engage appropriate professionals to treat the playing field to eradicate the Chafer Grub without delay.

Proposed by: Cllr Dunford **Seconded by:** Cllr Hilson

09.250 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

09.251 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 10th December 2009 in the Lindos Centre Main Hall commencing at 19:00

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:00.

Signed: _____ Date: _____