



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL



MPC(10)M12

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Melton Parish Council on Thursday 9th December 2010 commencing at 1900 in The Lindos Centre Main Hall Saddlemakers Lane Melton IP12 1PP.

Present:

Cllr Mrs BK Abbott [Vice – Chairman]
Cllr Miss EA Barrington
Cllr Mr MN Bond
Cllr Mr PJ Brockett
Cllr Mr GK Butterwick

Cllr Mrs JEJ Eckersley
Cllr Mrs EJG Hilson
Cllr Mrs KS Martin
Cllr Mr HM Needham

In Attendance:

Mrs J Tricker [until 1910]
PCSO M Smith [until 1930]
PCSO S Chatten-Berry [until 1930]
Mr MJ Green Clerk to Melton Parish Council

10.237 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ANY ABSENCE

10.237.01 Cllr Mrs ME Addington – Medical

Council wished to record their very best wishes to Cllr Addington for a speedy recovery.

10.237.02 Cllr Miss LS Leonard – Child Minding Issues

10.237.03 Cllr Mr MW Sherwen – Working Late

10.237.04 Cllr Mr A Thompson – Working Late

Council considered these apologies and **it was RESOLVED** to accept the apologies and consent to the absence.

Proposed by: Cllr Abbott

Seconded by: Cllr Butterwick.

10.237.05 Cllr Mr J Bidwell – Attending SCDC Committee Meeting

Council noted this apology.

10.238 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.

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

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

10.240 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

10.240.01 To receive representations from Councillors who have declared a prejudicial interest

There were no representations from Councillors

10.240.02 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.

It was RESOLVED to lift standing orders.

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

10.241.01 Safer Cycle Route

Mrs Tricker addressed council and expressed her hope that the cycle path would be installed as this would be of great benefit to pupils going from Melton to Farlingaye High School and also the younger children attending Melton Primary and Woodbridge Primary Schools.

The meeting was advised that the proposal for a route that would run from Melton Traffic Lights, entering the playing field at the NE corner by Hutchison's Meadow, exiting across Jenners Close and then following estate roads through to Farlingaye had reached an impasse as the owner of Jenners Close was not willing to discuss the matter.

An alternative route exiting through the pedestrian gate back onto Melton Road and then alongside the garage was being considered by SCC. SCC has also raised issues over the lighting that was being proposed and would not commit to maintaining the existing lighting as it did not match their requirements. Additional costs were being incurred as the county council was obliged to use their own contractors rather than using the contractors previously engaged by Melton Parish Council. The overall estimated cost had risen to £74,000 that was making the scheme untenable.

10.241.02 SNT

PCSO Smith was welcomed to the meeting and answered questions seeking clarification on the report MPC(10)P246.04. The reported criminal damage to the pavilion had been investigated but unfortunately it had not been possible to identify the culprit.

It was suggested that the SNT might like to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in April to give a presentation on their work. The Clerk agreed to provide the date to PCSO Smith.

10.241.03 Melton Playing Field

It was reported that the sign at the entrance to the woods was unstable and needed to be either removed or secured. The Assistant Clerk to be asked to investigate.

10.241.04 Grit Bins

It was reported that a number of requests for the provision of grit bins had been made but as there was currently no budget for such purchases the Assistant Clerk was to be asked to refer the matter to the Recreation Committee in January.

10.242 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Paper MPC(10)P242 previously circulated was received and noted.

The County Councillor agreed to look at the possibility of using some of the budget allocated for the cycle path that might not now be required being used for the provision of Grit Bins. The Clerk to provide details of location etc.

10.243 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

There was no report.

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

10.244 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11TH NOVEMBER 2010

10.244.01 Amendment #1 – Cllr Needham initials should be HM not NM

With this one amendment it was RESOLVED that Minutes MPC(10)M11 previously circulated were received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman..

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick **Seconded by:** Cllr Hilson.

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

10.245.01 Planning Committee 29th November 2010

Minutes PLA(10)M11 previously circulated were received and noted.

The Chairman of Planning added that he was investigating the LDF Core Strategy latest draft to try to identify those items contained in previous drafts that no longer appear. He intends to report to Planning Committee in January but for completeness will circulate his report to all councillors.

- 10.246 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**
- 10.246.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee**
No report.
- 10.246.02 Deben Estuary Partnership**
No report.
- 10.246.03 Melton Trust**
No report.
- 10.246.04 Safer Neighbourhood Team**
Paper MPC(10)P0264.04 previously circulated was received and noted.
- 10.246.05 Suffolk Association of Local Councils**
A note of the meeting from Cllr Brockett previously circulated as paper MPC(10)P246.05 was received and noted.
In addition it was reported that there were to be changes in the operation of bus passes with the county council taking over responsibility from the district councils. No decision had yet been taken on the changes to the availability of free travel during peak periods.
- 10.246.06 Transport**
It was noted that a revised guide to local transport was now available on the parish council website at: www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk/Transport.html
- 10.247 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**
- 10.247.01 Affordable Housing Working Group**
Cllr Needham reported that the full report was expected in the spring of 2011 but currently 377 questionnaires had been returned by the due date of which 40 expressed a need for affordable housing and a further 9 not living in Melton currently wishing to return expressed a need for affordable housing.
- 10.247.02 Pavilion Working Group**
No report.
- 10.247.03 Suffolk County Council New Strategic Direction Working Group**
It was noted that the response had been circulated.
- 10.248 TO CONSIDER THE MONTHLY FINANCE UPDATE REPORT**
Paper MPC(10)P248 previously circulated was received and noted.
- 10.249 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY REPORTS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS**
During a discussion on the volume of correspondence contained in the lists and in the box available for viewing it was agreed for a trial period to:
- Exclude any adverts
 - Exclude details of seminars
 - Exclude newsletters
 - Exclude planning correspondence
 - Dispense with the use of the correspondence box
- All other items will be included in the weekly correspondence reports. If a councillor wishes to obtain further information they should contact the clerk by email who will look up the original correspondence and either provide a copy or answer the specific query.
Proposed by: Cllr Martin **Seconded by:** Cllr Abbott.
- 10.250 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**
Paper MPC(10)P250 previously circulated was received and noted.
- 10.251 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.

- 10.252 TO APPROVE THE 2011/12 MEETING DATES**
 Copy of dates previously circulated as paper MPC(10)P252 was received and noted.
It was RESOLVED to adopt the meeting dates contained in Paper MPC(10)P252 for the year 1st May 2011 to 30th April 2012.
Proposed by: Cllr Martin **Seconded by:** Cllr Needham.
- 10.253 TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT CLERK FOLLOWING SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF 6 MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD**
It was RESOLVED to confirm the appointment of the assistant clerk following satisfactory completion of the 6 month probationary period.
Proposed by: Cllr Barrington **Seconded by:** Cllr Hilson.
- 10.254 TO CONSIDER DRAFT FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE HANDLING OF THE HEARING BY SCDC TO DECIDE ON THE HORSE & GROOM APPLICATION**
 Deferred from Melton Parish Council Planning Committee 29/11/2010.
 Paper from the Chairman of Planning Committee MPC(10)P254 previously circulated was received and noted.
 There then followed a wide ranging debate on the merits of such a course of action.
- 10.254.01 Letter seeking clarification**
It was RESOLVED to respond to SCDC Head of Planning Services regarding their letter of 19th November, seeking clarification of the reasons for the objectors' views being rejected [letter to be drafted by Chairman of Planning Committee].
Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick **Seconded by:** Cllr Barrington.
- 10.254.02 Formal Complaint**
It was RESOLVED to make a formal complaint about the behaviour of Cllrs Smith and Jowers at the DevCon meetings on 14th October and 10th November [complaint to be drafted by the Chairman of Planning Committee].
Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick **Seconded by:** Cllr Barrington.
Voting:
 For: 6
 Against: 2
 Abstain: 1
- 10.255 TO CONSIDER THE LOCAL IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT'S COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW, THE *BIG SOCIETY* PROJECT AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S *NEW STRATEGIC DIRECTION***
 Paper from the Chairman of Planning Committee MPC(10)P255 previously circulated was received and noted.
 The following points were highlighted by the Chairman of Melton Parish Council Planning Committee:
 ➤ This was only a background paper for information
 ➤ There were currently no proposals on the table for parish councils to decide upon
 ➤ It will affect a large part of local government
 ➤ SALC Executive meet on Wednesday 15th December and will be addressed by CEO Suffolk County Council
 ➤ Concerns that staff recruited from Eastern Europe for Social Services will not be entitled to benefits should they lose their positions as a result of the cutbacks
 ➤ Concerns that services such as Libraries will lose their funding and parish councils will be asked to contribute towards the service provision – but unless provision is made within precept request then there will be no budget for such services
 The Chairman thanked all those who had attended meetings to hear about the possible impact of the various new strategies and to Cllr Butterwick for providing the briefing document.
- 10.256 TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT MPC SHOULD MAINTAIN ITS SUPPORT FOR THE SAFER CYCLE ROUTE AS CURRENTLY PROPOSED.**
 An update on the current situation had been given during the open forum session.
It was RESOLVED that reluctantly, due to the intransigence of the owner of Jenners Close; the insistence of SCC Engineers that only their contractors could undertake the

work and the huge increase in cost, Melton Parish Council should withdraw its support for the project in its proposed format.

Proposed by: Cllr Martin

Seconded by: Cllr Brockett.

Voting:

For: 7

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

10.257 TO CONSIDER THE OFFER FROM THE NEW OWNER OF THE HORSE & GROOM TO GIVE THE PUB SIGN TO THE VILLAGE

An offer had been made to Cllr Bond by the developer of the Horse and Groom to give the Pub Sign to the village.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the developer to thank him for his kind offer and to accept on behalf of the village. The Assistant Clerk would be asked to place the matter of what should be made of the sign on the agenda of the Recreation Committee but in the meanwhile the sign would be stored in the pavilion.

It was RESOLVED

Proposed by: Cllr Butterwick

Seconded by: Cllr Martin.

10.258 TO CONSIDER REQUESTING SCC HIGHWAYS TO EXTEND THE FOOTPATH BEING CONSTRUCTED AROUND THE HORSE & GROOM TO ENCOMPASS TOWER END HOUSE, ROSE COTTAGE, RED TOWERS AND GREYLANDS.

The Chairman of Planning Committee advised the meeting that as part of the planning consent a footpath was to be constructed at the front of the building on the corner with Yarmouth Road. The Developer had suggested that this might be extended further along Yarmouth Road.

Cllr Bond agreed to obtain the costs from SCC and liaise with Cllr Butterwick as it might be possible to use county council funds for such a project.

10.259 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

10.260 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 13th January 2011 in the Lindos Centre Main Hall commencing at 1900

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2145

Signed: _____

Date: _____