



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Melton Parish Council on Thursday 8th September 2011 commencing at 1900 in The Lindos Centre Saddlemakers Lane Melton IP12 1PP.

Present:

Cllr Mrs BK Abbott
Cllr Mr GK Butterwick
Cllr Mr AG Corston
Cllr Mrs JEJ Eckersley
Cllr Mrs EJJ Hilson
Cllr Mr MJ Kennedy

Cllr Miss KS Martin
Cllr Mr HM Needham
Cllr Mr AH Porter
Cllr Mr MW Sherwen
Cllr Mr A Thompson
Cllr Mr ML Webb

Absent:

Cllr Ms C Shepherd

In Attendance:

Cllr Mr J Bidwell
Cllr Mr MN Bond
Mr MJ Green

District Councillor [until 1930]
District and County Councillor [until 1930]
Clerk to Melton Parish Council

- 11.179 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSIDER CONSENTING TO ANY ABSENCE**
There were no apologies for absence.
- 11.180 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND ADDITIONS TO THE REGISTER**
There were no declarations of interest with regard to items on the agenda or additions to the register.
- 11.181 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE DECLARED A PREJUDICIAL INTEREST AT ITEM 11.180**
There were no representations from councillors as none had declared a prejudicial interest at item 11.180
- 11.182 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.
- 11.183 STANDING ORDER 8 - WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**
It was noted that there had been no written questions received.

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

11.184 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

11.184.01 To receive the Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

Paper MPC(11)P184.01 previously circulated was received and noted.

11.184.02 To Receive the County Councillors Report

Paper MPC(11)P184.02 previously circulated was received and noted.

- (a) CEO
Salary should read £160k not £130k

- (b) Gypsies
The meeting was advised that police cannot supervise the movement of travellers on public roads and they cannot remove them from private land without a Magistrates order. On council land an officer will be required to carry out a welfare assessment. A stop notice can be enforced to prevent unauthorised building on a site without planning permission. All the agencies in Suffolk were working closely together to ensure a coordinated approach to the issue of the travelling community.
A report of the SALC Meeting on 5th September 2011 regarding the issue of Dale Farm outlining the content of the presentation by the Gypsy and Travellers Liaison Group was tabled, received and noted.

11.184.03 To Receive the District Councillors Report

- (a) St Audry's House Nuisance
The owner was appealing the decision to dismiss the appeal to the High Court which will result in a likely delay of 6 months before knowing if the appeal will go to London.
- (b) St Audry's Bowls Club
It was reported that the condition of the green has deteriorated to a state where it is almost irrecoverable
- (c) St Audry's Church & Church Yard
It was reported that no condition had been included in the deconsecration document to allow for access and therefore there was no public right of access to the graves. It was suggested that Mr Hopkins be approached to ask about a memorial garden and or plaque – the Chairman to raise this with Melton Park Management Co Ltd as it was felt that they were in the best position to negotiate.
- (d) Friendship Boat – application for change of use
Consideration of application delayed to October DevCon meeting as boat was moored in Woodbridge not Melton.
- (e) Old Maltings Development
It was confirmed that storage on site was not allowed unless development imminent
- (f) Melton Rail Crossing
Therese Coffey MP minded to take the consideration of a new crossing further – Cllr Bidwell will advise council on progress when notified by TC

11.184.04 To Discuss Village Matters Raised by Members of the Public or Councillors
There were no other issues raised.

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

11.185 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11TH AUGUST 2011

It was **RESOLVED** that Minutes MPC(11)M08 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

Proposed by: Cllr Abbott **Seconded by:** Cllr Porter.

11.186 TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES

11.186.01 Planning and Transport Committee 22nd August 2011

Minutes PLA(11)M08 tabled were received and noted.

A report on the proposed street lighting proposals was table received and noted.

11.187 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

11.187.01 Burness Parish Room Management Committee

Cllr Needham reported that he had attended his first meeting of the Trustees and Management Committee. Sufficient sustainable income was being generated from lettings to maintain the building in good condition. A new Brownies Pack was about to start and internal decoration was complete. A budget had been agreed for external decoration.

- 11.187.02 Deben Estuary Partnership**
Nothing to report.
- 11.187.03 Melton Trust**
Nothing to report.
- 11.187.04 Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Tasking Group**
Nothing to report.
- 11.187.05 Suffolk Association of Local Councils**
Paper MPC(11)P187.05 previously circulated was received and noted.
Paper MPC(11)P187.05.02 was tabled received and noted.
Cllr Butterwick was congratulated on his re-election to the Executive Committee.
- 11.188 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**
- 11.188.01 Affordable Housing Working Group**
Paper MPC(11)P188.01 previously circulated was received and noted.
Cllr Needham reported that:
- (a) Productive meeting with Suffolk ACRE on 23rd August
 - (b) Three sites had been discussed but with the SCDC planning officer subsequently commenting on and discounting at least one site
 - (c) Exception site – cost of development considered too high for affordable housing
 - (d) Further meeting with Suffolk ACRE and Jeremy Page without SCDC Officers will be convened shortly by Cllr Needham to consider next steps
- 11.188.02 Communications Working Group**
Paper MPC(11)P188.02 previously circulated was received and noted.
Disappointment that the meeting scheduled for 8/9/2011 at 1800 had been cancelled by the St Andrews Communications Group at eleventh hour. Whilst a number of positive comments on the content and style of the Melton Messenger had been received concern exists over the informal feedback that was at odds with the notes of the meeting in June. Need for a plan 'B' and the potential impact on the parish council budget for 2012/13. A meeting to be scheduled with some urgency to consider the next steps..
- 11.188.03 Pavilion Working Group**
It was reported that the minor works contract had been awarded to SBPM and a works schedule had been requested. It was confirmed that the Play Space Fund Grant had been awarded, 50% had been received with the balance due on satisfactory completion. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Bond for his support in securing the grant.
- 11.188.04 Suffolk County Council New Strategic Direction Working Group**
It was reported that there was a public consultation on mobile library provision currently being undertaken at www.suffolk.gov.uk/sld
A decision on the proposals for the Records Office and Archiving and Archaeological Services which are to be outsourced will be taken on the 8th November by cabinet.
- 11.189 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY REPORTS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS**
There were no matters arising.
- 11.190 TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ORDER THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 4**
It was noted that there had been no resolutions or recommendations made.
- 11.191 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**
Paper MPC(11)P191 previously circulated was received and noted.

11.192 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT
 Paper MPC(11)P192 previously circulated was received and noted.
 The Chairman of Finance, Employment and Risk Management Committee noted that the variances had been explained in the report with the key elements being the underspend on elections in May, unbudgeted mobile phone expenditure as a result of the emergency plan resolution and the reduced income from the renegotiated football pitch lease.

11.193 TO REVIEW THE CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING ST AUDRYS CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND
 See item 11.184.03 (c)

11.194 TO CONFIRM AMENDMENT TO FIXED ASSET VALUATION ON ANNUAL RETURN
 It was noted that the annual return was submitted with the revised valuations of fixed assets following the insurance valuation in June 2010.
 It was also noted that the auditors were not prepared to accept this revised figure as accounting regulations have changed whereby the asset valuation should be the cost price less any disposals. Where a cost price is unknown then a proxy valuation [the last insurance valuation] is to be used. Consequently it had been necessary to amend the return by reverting back to the March 21st 2010 valuation and adding purchases and deducting disposals to arrive at a figure for 31st March 2011.

31/3/2010 Valuation [proxy cost]	£332,827
+ Laminator purchase at cost	£ 150
- Disposal of Motor Mower at proxy cost	£(886)
New valuation:	£332,091

It had been necessary to amend the page and return it to the auditors before 5th September to avoid additional costs.
 Copy of Revised Page 2 with the amendment confirmed by the chairman and RFO previously circulated was received and noted.
It was RESOLVED to confirm the amendment as above.
Proposed by: Cllr Abbott *Seconded by:* Cllr Porter.

11.195 TO AGREE CONTRIBUTION OF £500 TOWARDS THE COST OF SEEKING BARRISTER OPINION WITH REGARDS TO THE BENTWATERS PARK PLANNING APPLICATION.
 At the meeting of Full Council in August council was advised that local parish councils were working together to obtain Barristers opinion as to whether or not the proposed retrospective planning application for a change of use at Bentwaters Park was lawful. Melton Parish Council had been asked to join with other councils in contributing towards the fund to cover the cost of this legal advice.

11.195.01 Amended Resolution
 To agree in principle to a contribution of up to £500 from reserves to the cost of seeking Barrister opinion with regards to the Bentwaters Park Planning Application.
Proposed by: Cllr Porter *Seconded by:* Cllr Sherwen.

This revised resolution was passed unanimously.

The amendment having been passed the original proposal falls.

11.196 TO CONSIDER DRAFT REVISED CONSTITUTIONS FOR SUFFOLK ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS
 Copy of draft constitution previously circulated was received and noted.
 Concern was expressed over the reduction in the number of Board and Area meeting proposed by the revised constitution.
It was RESOLVED to agree to the draft constitution with the revision to the number to 4 per annum for each of the Board and Area meetings
Proposed by: Cllr Martin *Seconded by:* Cllr Corston.

11.197 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

11.198 TO AGREE WHICH ITEMS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE MELTON MESSENGER REPORT

- (a) Pavilion
- (b) Mobile library consultation
- (c) Street Lighting
- (d) SNT

11.199 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 13th October 2011 in the Lindos Centre commencing at 19:00

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2110

Signed: _____ Date: _____