



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Melton Parish Council on Thursday 12th January 2012 commencing at 1900 in The Lindos Centre Saddlemakers Lane Melton IP12 1PP.

Present:

Cllr Mrs BK Abbott [Chairman]
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 ML Webb

Absent:

Cllr Mr MW Sherwen
Cllr Mr A Thompson

In Attendance:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Cllr Mr J Bidwell | District Councillor [until 2010] |
| Cllr Mr MN Bond | District/County Councillor [until 2010] |
| Mr CW Taylor | |
| Mr JE Bale | [until 2010] |
| 4 Residents | BMX trail Objectors [until 2010] |
| Mr MJ Green | Clerk to Melton Parish Council |

The Chairman opened the meeting by offering the warm congratulations of the council to Diane Linsley, Assistant Clerk to Melton Parish Council, on passing the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

12.01 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSIDER CONSENTING TO ANY ABSENCE

12.01.01 Cllr Mr MW Sherwen – working

Council considered this apology and **it was RESOLVED** to receive the apology and consent to the absence.

Proposed by: Cllr Abbott **Seconded by:** Cllr Martin

12.01.02 Cllr Mr A Thompson – working

Council considered this apology and **it was RESOLVED** to receive the apology and consent to the absence.

Proposed by: Cllr Abbott **Seconded by:** Cllr Martin

12.02 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.

12.03 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE DECLARED A PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

There were no representations from councillors as none had declared a prejudicial interest.

12.04 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.

12.05 STANDING ORDER 8 - WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

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

12.06 CASUAL VACANCY

12.06.01 To Consider Co-option of One Councillor to fill vacancy

- (a) Mr Jeremy Bale 1 Bentham Lane Melton IP12 1FH Elector #16
Copy of letter of application and CV previously circulated to councillors
- (b) Mr Charles Taylor 1 Wilford Place Wilford Bridge Road Melton IP12 2PA Elector # 3037
Copy of letter of application and CV previously circulated to councillors.

Following consideration of the two applications by the council it **was RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Charles Taylor to fill the casual vacancy on Melton Parish Council

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

It was also RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Jeremy Bale as a non-councillor member of Melton Parish Council Planning and Transport Committee

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

It was further RESOLVED to investigate the means by which the number of councillors on Melton Parish Council can be increased thereby creating further vacancy/vacancies.

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

12.06.02 To Receive Co-opted Members Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Clerk received the members' declaration of acceptance of office from Mr Charles Taylor.

12.06.03 To determine date for Receipt of Co-opted Members' Register of Interest Form

It was RESOLVED that the date for the receipt of the Co-opted Members' Register of Interest Form should be 31 January 2012.

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

It was RESOLVED to lift standing orders.

12.07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

12.07.01 To receive the Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

Paper MPC(12)P07.01 previously circulated was received and noted.
Concern was expressed about the condition of the CEL site following the recent fire.
The Vice Chairman to raise the matter with the SNT and if they are unable to help the matter will be taken up with SCDC.

12.07.02 To Receive the County Councillors Report

Paper MPC(12)P07.02 previously circulated was received and noted.
The following matters were highlighted:

- (a) Borrowing by SCC – concern at the unsound policy of using the 'lighting scheme' funding and pay back period to finance revenue expenditure
- (b) Library Service – likely future will be in the hands of an Industrial/provincial Society – the mobile service will be retained but at a lower visit frequency that currently
- (c) Out of Hours Base at Wickham Market – to be closed but matter is to be referred to the SCC Health Scrutiny Committee
- (d) Speeding – Agencies combined to review the situation on Pytches Road where evidence of speeding not as bad as had been anticipated – reviewing cost implications of providing automated flashing speed signs
- (e) Station Road – council expressed their thanks to Cllr Bond for his efforts to find a resolution to the difficulties experienced by pedestrians walking outside St Andrew's Church on the 'painted' footpath

12.07.03 To Receive the District Councillors Report

The following items were reported by Cllr Bidwell

- (a) SCDC – councillors were fighting to keep council debt free with no borrowing
- (b) Grants Task Committee – funding available for community projects – details and application forms available from Karen Cook
- (c) BMX Trail – some residents had expressed concern to district councillors

12.07.04 To Discuss Village Matters Raised by Members of the Public or Councillors

- (a) BMX Trail

The following is a copy of the paper presented to council and read verbatim by Mrs Whittingham a resident of Leeks Hill which was received and noted by council.

'Quote from Melton parish Council website 'The Playing field in Melton Road is one of the proudest possessions of the village' – will that still be so?

Our comment - We consider that Melton Recreation ground and woodland is not suitable for the siting of a BMX Track.

Re: Statement taken from Council Justification – The proposed works would provide an accessible opportunity for a form of outdoor recreation for young people which is not currently available within the village.

Our question - How many young people are there in Melton village who might make use of the facility? What figures do you have? Even a guesstimate?

Our question - Will others be arriving from surrounding areas, if so why not improve the Ufford site?

Our statement - The planned site has been moved nearer to Melton Road residents and they haven't even been officially notified by the council. They would get the full force of the activities on the BMX track and any other youths who will inevitably congregate in the area, bringing with them drinking and drug related issues.

It was stated in the June edition of the EADP that the track is in keeping with present usage –

Our statement - We would like to state that it is out of keeping with the present usage – currently the pleasant sound of tennis balls being hit on the tennis court and weekly football matches during the winter months are already very much heard by all the residents of Leeks Hill as noise carries uphill - but there are very few matches compared with the use which the BMX track will get along with the noise associated with it.

Our Statement - We, in Leeks Hill have an ongoing problem of continual erosion of the banks and tree roots due to youngsters riding bikes up the banks and in and around the private woodland – this will become an extension of the BMX Track en route to and from the track.

Our question - How much would the Melton site cost the community annually? It was noticed that the locality budget for 2011/12 SCC local projects item £1,000 for insurance costs, signs, litter bins for the Martlesham track, would the Melton site create a similar upkeep cost? Should it not be maintained to a high standard, who would have to pay for the area be returned to its former flat grassed condition?

Our statement - The wild life in the copse adjacent to the new proposed site would suffer greatly, there are even Nightingales there among other species.

Our question - Have the underground springs which run under the playing field been tracked as they run from Leeks Hill through to the meadow and also across the playing field to come out near Springside opposite?

Our Statement - We all highly commend Just 42 for their well intentioned assistance to the local youngsters and we are sure that they wouldn't wish to cause any undue ill feeling by aggravating local residents and therefore possibly getting a bad press. We don't want to alienate them or their cause so could they ask themselves if they have really thought this through and to be fair to the many quietly living locals - could they please find a more isolated area in which to site the track?

Our statement - One wonders what Lord and Lady Burke would have thought of this, when they kindly donated the land and woods to the people of Melton back in 1952. They wouldn't have intended such a **nuisance factor** to be **delivered on the doorstep of the local residents**.

Our statement - There are many other people who wish to object to this proposal and their objections will be lodged in the formal way within the allotted time.

On behalf to the Leeks Hill, Melton Road and surrounding area residents we thank you for your time to take note of the above comments.'

It was resolved to reinstate standing orders.

12.08 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER 2011

It was RESOLVED that Minutes MPC(11)M12 previously circulated be received, noted and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

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

12.09 TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES AND STEERING/WORKING GROUPS

12.09.01 Committees

- (a) Finance, Employment and Risk Management Committee 12th December 2011
Minutes FRM(11)M05 previously circulated were received and noted.
- (b) Planning and Transport Committee 19th December 2011
It was noted that this meeting was cancelled due to the lack of substantive business and consideration of the single application made electronically by members of the committee.

12.09.02 Outside Bodies

- (a) Burness Parish Room Management Committee
Concern was expressed that the dates/agendas/papers of meeting were not being given to the Melton Parish Council representative. The Clerk to formally ask Management Committee for information.
- (b) Deben Estuary Partnership
Nothing to report.
- (c) Melton Trust
Nothing to report.
- (d) Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Tasking Group
The next meeting of the Community Panel is on Thursday 9th February 2012 that clashes with the meeting of full council.
Matters for consideration will include Speeding on Woods Lane/Bredfield Road and Burglaries on Leeks Hill. Further matters for consideration should be forwarded by councillors to the Vice Chairman to enable issues to be raised with SNT.
- (e) Suffolk Association of Local Councils
Cllr Butterwick had attended the Planning Working Group Meeting and they were investigating how planning is dealt with across the various district councils in Suffolk.

12.09.03 Steering/Working Groups

- (a) Affordable Housing Working Group
Land registry information had been obtained identifying the owner and value of the land in Saddlemakers Lane. Council to communicate with the owner to see if any opportunity exists for the land to be used for affordable housing.
The Chairman of the Working Group to pursue Land Registry for information pertaining to the other site in Melton at St Andrew's Place.
- (b) Communications Working Group
Working groups still considering the timeliness issues with Melton Messenger. A copy of the new Ufford Punch was available for councillors to peruse. Working Group also to

consider use of EADT/Free Newspapers as a means of communicating with residents.

- (c) Diamond Jubilee/2012 Olympics Steering Group
Successful Public Meeting had been held in St Andrew's Church Room on 10th January 2012. Very positive response from attendees and non-councillor chairman of the Steering Group had been appointed.
Burness Room/Playing Field being considered for activities as part of celebrations.
Permanent reminders/mementoes for young people also being considered.
MPC/Melton Primary School to work together on the celebrations.

- (d) Pavilion Working Group
It was noted that work is almost completed on pavilion with some minor works still outstanding.

- (e) Suffolk County Council New Strategic Direction Working Group
Paper MPC(12)P09.03 (e) tabled was received and noted.
Cllr Butterwick outlined the background to the consultation on the New Heritage organisation for Suffolk and agreed to respond to the consultation using the proposed response contained in the report.

12.10 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINED IN THE WEEKLY REPORTS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS
There were no matters arising.

- 12.11 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.

- 12.12 TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**
Paper MPC(12)P12 previously circulated was received and noted.

- 12.13 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**
Paper MPC(12)P13 previously circulated was received and noted.
At the request of the Chairman of the Council it was also noted for the records that the Budget of £67,331 for 2012/13 and the Precept of £64,000 for 2012/13 were both adopted by Full Council at the December meeting.

- 12.14 CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS**
There was no Chairman's urgent business.

- 12.15 ITEMS FOR MELTON MESSENGER**
The following items were identified as being suitable for the Melton Messenger report:
- Volunteers for Transport Working Group
 - 2012 Meeting
 - BMX Trails
 - Cllr Taylor - co-option to Melton Parish Council
 - Jeremy Bale - co-option to Planning and Transport Committee
 - Assistant Clerk' CiLCA

- 12.16 MELTON PARISH COUNCIL EMERGENCY MOBILE TELEPHONE ROTA - HANDOVER**
The monthly handover from Cllr Kennedy to Cllr Abbott was noted..

- 12.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Parish Council Meeting Thursday 9th February 2012 in the Lindos Centre.
Mr David Chenery [Asst East Area Highways Manager - SCC] will meet councillors and members of the public at 1830 prior to the meeting of full council to discuss the implications of the restructuring of SCC Highways Service implemented in September 2011.

The formal meeting of the full council will commence at 19:00.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100

Signed: _____ Date: _____
[Chairman]