



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

MPC(18)M02

Melton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Melton Parish Council held on Wednesday 14 March 2018 commencing at 19:30 at the Burness Parish Rooms, The Street, Melton IP12 1PW.

Present:

Cllr Mrs B Abbott Cllr Mr J E Bale Cllr Miss E A Barrington Cllr Mr N Brown Cllr Mr A G Corston Cllr Mrs C Gradwell	Cllr Mr M Holmes Cllr Miss K S Martin Cllr Mr A H Porter (Chairman) Cllr Mr C W Taylor Cllr Mr J West
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Absent:

Cllr Mr S Ellis Cllr Mrs E J G Hilson	Cllr Mr M L Webb
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In Attendance:

Mr W J Grosvenor Clerk to Melton Parish Council	One member of the public
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	PART ONE – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
18.18	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellis, Hilson and Webb. Apologies were also received from County Councillor Alexander Nicoll and District Councillor James Bidwell.
18.19	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
18.19.01	To receive Amendments to the Register There were no amendments to the Register.
18.19.02	To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were no declarations of Pecuniary Interest in respect of Items on the Agenda.
18.19.03	To receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were no declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in respect of Items on the Agenda.

18.19.04	<p>To Consider Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared</p> <p>It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensation for Pecuniary Interests declared.</p>
18.20	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</p>
18.20.01	<p>To receive the reports from County and District Councillors <i>To receive a report from District Councillor Jim Bidwell</i></p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Bidwell the Clerk read out his brief report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bidwell has made available £1k from the balance of his locality funding for Melton PC to purchase a bench in memory of those men and women from Melton who gave their lives in WWI. The bench will be engraved with a suitable inscription. • The merger between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Districts to become East Suffolk has been approved by the Secretary of State. £18m worth of savings have already been made by working together and at the same time halving the workforce. The new Council will come into being following the local elections in May 2019. • Suffolk Coastal has pegged the Council Tax increase to less than £5.00 in respect of its own requirement for Band D properties for the second year running. Increases required by County and the police are proportionately higher. • From March residents will be able to sign up online or via Customer Services (01394 383789) to the new Garden Waste collection scheme for an annual charge of £43.00. Larger waste collection bins are available and the first paid for collections will start from the beginning of May. • Work is under way on the Deben Leisure Centre in Woodbridge – due for completion by September 2018 – and the Leiston Leisure Centre will start to be redeveloped in the autumn. Additionally consultations are under way as to how best to offer leisure facilities in Felixstowe. • There has been a successful prosecution in respect of flytipping; an Ipswich resident allowed persons unknown to remove waste from her property which was then flytipped. Waste disposal is the responsibility of the householder. In 2017 Waveney / Suffolk Coastal officers were called to 1,118 incidents of flytipping. • The “Warm homes” scheme has supported hospital patients discharged from hospital. <p>Following discussion on Cllr Bidwell’s report the following issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are the savings being made given e.g. that £10k is being spent on a work of art for East Suffolk House? • Given the existing scale of flytipping (unsurprising because tips are closing and charges increasing) how is it proposed to monitor the impact of introducing charges for garden waste in terms of increased dumping? • Given that residents with small gardens are unlikely to fill a large brown bin between collections, could brown bin-sharing be promoted? • Finally Parish Councillors wanted to know how Suffolk Coastal is spending CIL monies and how it is proposed to account for them? <p>The Clerk will raise all these points with Cllr Bidwell.</p>

<p>18.20.02</p>	<p>To receive village matters raised by Members of the Public or Councillors</p> <p>The member of the public present indicated that he just wished to observe the meeting and had no specific questions to raise.</p> <p>The following matters were raised by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Corston observed that the pavement all along the north side of Woods Lane has been widened and the surface renewed. However the quality of the finish raised questions as to its likely durability. Where the carriageway was opened up it has been resurfaced but not anywhere else. • Cllr Porter reported his exchange of emails with County Councillor Nicoll re street light 517. Responsibility for rectification lies with UK Power Networks. • Cllr Abbott expressed concern re the unfilled gaps in the hedge between St Andrews Close and Riduna Park. The Clerk reported that he had just received a commitment by the Suffolk Coastal Arboriculturalist to put pressure on the developer to complete the landscaping, including at that point. It was suggested that the £1k locality funding kindly being provided by District Councillor Jane Day could be used for that purpose if necessary; however following discussion it was AGREED to put it towards the cost of the “Beacon of Light” project. • Concern was also expressed by Cllr Abbott at the lack of a grit bin outside Winifred Fison House. The issue to be followed up; also the resources to spread it in icy weather. • Also outside Winifred Fison House, the unresolved matter of informal parking on the verges was a continuing matter of concern. The Clerk explained that this was an ongoing project but that Suffolk Coastal DC Property team were not being responsive. He will chase again to try to get a sensible dialogue started • Cllr Bale referred to his recent query about the withdrawal of support funding for residents at Winifred Fison, which had been fully answered.
<p>18.21</p>	<p>FORTHCOMING VACANCY FOR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Following his move to Bramford, Cllr John West felt that as he is no longer involved in the local community he should resign now rather than leave it until the Statutory Annual Meeting of the Council in May. He therefore tendered his resignation with immediate effect. The Chairman and all Councillors present thanked Cllr West for all his work on behalf of the Council and community of Melton and wished him well for the future.</p> <p>Cllr Porter reminded all present that the resignation of John West meant that both the Vice Chairmanship of the Council and the Chairmanship of FERM Committee fall vacant, and he invited Councillors to consider offering themselves for these key positions over the coming weeks.</p> <p>The Clerk will also arrange to remove Cllr West as a cheque signatory for the Council’s account with Barclays and also as a signatory for the Council’s Ipswich Building Society account.</p> <p>A replacement will also need to be found to represent the Council on the Melton Trust.</p>
<p>18.22</p>	<p>TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR ELLIS TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES</p> <p>In view of the absence of Cllr Ellis, it was decided to defer consideration of this Item until the Statutory Annual meeting in May.</p>

	<p>expenditure within or outside of the budget in an emergency was increased from £1k to £2.5k. This was in response to the experience earlier that year when substantial emergency works were required to a bus shelter when the roof became dangerous. It was RESOLVED to confirm the current version of the Council's Financial Regulations, incorporating the change made to section 4.5 in November 2017.</p> <p>Proposed by: Cllr Martin Secoded by: Cllr Porter</p>
18.25.05	<p>To review the Council's Asset Register Papers MPC(18)25.05 and MPC(18)25.05a previously distributed were received. The acquisition of the defibrillator was NOTED. However the Saxon Way grit bin should remain on the Register; subject to that amendment the Register and the movements within 2017/18 were AGREED. In relation to grit bins it is proposed to purchase some more in the summer of 2018, and if any residents wish to have one they need to let the Parish Office know and supply the names / addresses of volunteers who will distribute the grit as required. This will be publicised in the <i>Melton Messenger</i>.</p>
18.25.06	<p>To receive a report on the £1k grant from Cllr Bidwell's Locality budget for a bench in memory of Melton residents who gave their lives in WWI and consider the wording of the dedication The Clerk reported an offer from Cllr Bidwell to give Melton PC a grant of £1k from his Locality budget to fund the purchase of a memorial bench. This kind offer was ACCEPTED with THANKS. Cllr Abbott and Cllr Taylor to agree the exact wording to be carved on the bench. A similar £1k grant was being offered by Cllr Day and it was AGREED to accept that with grateful thanks as well. It was further AGREED that this would be used to help fund the cost of the beacon to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI.</p>
18.25.07	<p>To receive and consider a report on the level of the Council's Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Paper MPC(18)25.07 previously distributed was received. The Council's existing insurance cover includes fidelity guarantee cover up to £150k. Given that the Council's cash assets exceed that amount, and will be further inflated by the payment of the first instalment of the 2018/19 precept in April, the report recommended that consideration should be given to increase the level of cover to £250k. That would cost roughly an additional £90.00 in premium up to the next renewal date. Whilst Members considered that the Council's very robust payment procedures make the risk of loss very remote, they nevertheless accepted that from an Audit perspective, a precautionary approach is desirable. Accordingly it was RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to arrange to increase the level of cover to £250k with immediate effect. Proposed by: Cllr Gradwell Secoded by: Cllr Martin</p>
18.25.08	<p>To consider a recommendation by FERM Committee in respect of a one-off donation to the new Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association The now outsourced Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association has applied to all local councils for a "single one-off donation of £50.00" to sustain the support of Neighbourhood Watch across the county. At its last meeting FERM Committee agreed to recommend payment of this sum. In discussion however, Councillors requested the Clerk to seek clarification on what the new organisation is doing, how it will apply the money and how it will be of benefit to Melton. Any response to be considered by FERM Committee who now have delegated authority to decide whether or not to make the payment.</p>

18.32	TO CONSIDER RISK ISSUES Paper MPC(18)32 previously distributed was received and NOTED . Further detailed discussion was remitted to FERM Committee.
18.33	REPORT ON HANDYPERSON ACTIVITIES Nothing specific to report. New protective clothing has been ordered for Phil and when the weather improves he will be treating the moss on the tennis court surfaces. Meanwhile he continues his routine duties of inspection and litter clearance.
18.34	COUNCILLOR TRAINING Nothing to report.
18.35	TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES
18.35.01	Burness Parish Rooms Management Committee Nothing to report.
18.35.02	Melton Trust Cllr West reported that the early months of the year were a quiet time for the Trust. He will be resigning and a new representative of MPC will need to be appointed.
18.35.03	East Suffolk Rail Partnership Paper PLA(18)24.04 previously distributed was received and NOTED .
18.35.04	Melton Primary School Cllr Martin reported that Headteacher Mark Girling will be leaving for a new post at the end of the summer term. A good response has been received in terms of applicants for the post, and recruitment of a replacement is under way. Funding from the Melton Trust has been received to support the development of underprivileged children and support also received from a local developer. Currently there are about 160 children on roll against capacity of 210.
18.35.05	Melton Messenger Deadline for copy is about 20 March. It was suggested that the contents of the MPC articles over the last 12 months might be used to inform the Chairman's Annual Report for 2018.
18.35.06	SNT Tasking Group Nothing to report. It was suggested by Cllr Taylor and AGREED that in future the title of this Item should be changed to <i>ASB Meeting Report</i> .
18.35.07	Sizewell C and EDF Community Forum Nothing to report.
18.35.08	Suffolk Association of Local Councils Cllr Porter reported that the next meeting is to be on 19 March. Both he and Cllr Gradwell will attend.
18.36	TO CONSIDER ITEMS FOR THE MELTON MESSENGER In addition to the deadline stated in Item 18.35.05 above, Cllr Porter said he would include something about the need to clear up after dogs.
18.37	CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request for a dog bin in Waterhead Lane will be referred to Recreation Committee. • An invitation to a roadshow on "Plastics know your place in the Community" taking place on Wednesday 28 March, 6pm at East Suffolk House was NOTED.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request for sponsorship from a local girl guide was NOTED. The Clerk will send a sympathetic response explaining that the Parish Council cannot give grants to individuals. • The next meeting of Budget Working Group will take place on 24 April at 2pm in the Parish Office.
	PART TWO – CONFIDENTIAL
	<p>Exempt / Confidential Item It was RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business on the grounds of its confidential nature.</p>
18.39	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The Statutory Annual Meeting of Melton Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 30 May 2018 at the Burness Parish Rooms, The Street, Melton IP12 1PW, commencing at 19:30. There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.50.</p>