

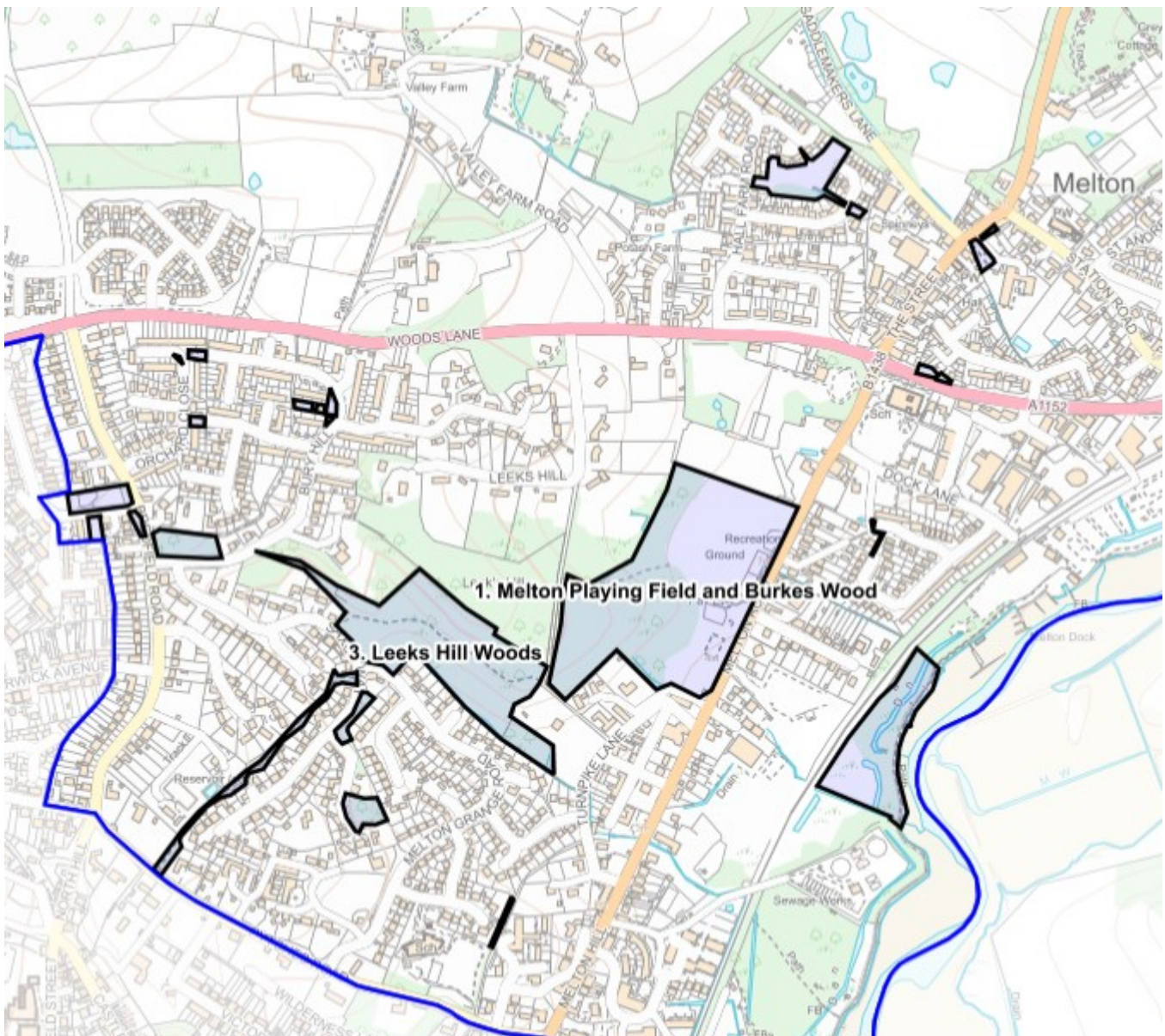


# MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

REC(21)21.01

## Land Divestment

The divestment of 21 parcels of land from ESC is near completion. The provisional map below shows all the land owned by Melton Parish Council once the land has been divested. The Appendix lists the full details.



## Maintenance

CGM are responsible for cutting the grass at Hall Farm Road Sports Ground, Hall Farm Close, Land North of Bury Hill and Beresford Drive (playground).

The Maintenance Officer will be responsible for cutting the grass at Winifred Fison, Riverview, Friars Court, Coppice Close (corner between Coppice Close and Saxon Way), Bury Hill (between 25&29 and 37&43, between 19&21 and 31&33, adjacent to 19).

Other areas that do not require regular maintenance are Coppice Close (between 1 & 3), Love Lane, the footpath behind Saxon Way and the area of riverbank.

### **Management Strategies**

Councillors are asked to consider what steps they wish to take once Melton Parish Council has taken ownership of these parcels of land in terms of their future management and development.

- Winifred Fison is being dealt with as an individual project by Full Council. The brief was agreed by the Interim Management Committee on 27 May 2020.
- Hall Farm Road Sports Ground – residents have made several suggestions for this area including the creation of a community garden, allotments and improving the play/sports provision. When the estate was built the land was dedicated to public open space which includes covenants restricting building and enclosing areas. With this covenant in place it will prevent the land from being used as allotments.
- Hall Farm Close – some residents are keen to protect this area as a wildlife haven. There are some bird boxes and there are resident breeding hedgehogs (see hoglet picture). A tree was felled before MPC took ownership and a homeowner adjacent to the plot is keen to reduce the height of some trees to improve the light to the area and their garden. However the Tree Safety Survey report does not identify any safety works required here and informal tree work by residents should not be encouraged.
- Bury Hill – suggestions have been made to plant further trees. This is also an area that was listed as an ESC conservation/no mow area.
- Small areas of grass – suggestions have been made to create wildflower areas with limited mowing.
- Beresford Drive play area – the most recent play equipment survey raised no major issues, but Councillors may wish to consult with residents regarding improving the play equipment provision. One of the verge areas was also listed as an ESC conservation area.
- Riverbank land – Councillors may wish to consult with an organisation such as Suffolk Wildlife Trust about managing this area. An adjacent landowner is interested in working with the Council to create a larger conservation area.

There have been offers from some residents to help maintain wildlife areas and community gardens.

### **Signage**

At the FERM meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (item 21.05.05) it was agreed that signage would be required at some sites. The signs will detail MPC being the owner together with contact details. It is also advisable to include reference to no fly tipping/dumping of garden refuse. There is evidence of garden waste dumping taking place at Coppice Close, Saxon Way and Burkes Wood.

### **Recommendations**

Councillors are asked to:

- Decide if they wish to retain the former East Suffolk conservation areas at Bury Hill and Beresford Drive/Bredfield Road.
- Decide if they wish to carry out a public consultation with residents of Hall Farm Road, Hall Farm Close, Manthorp Close and Churchman Close. The primary function of the open space must be for community use. The site is listed by East Suffolk on its schedule of public open spaces and this status must not be compromised. However, there is scope for additional uses on the edges of the site.
- Decide if they wish to consult with residents surrounding small grass areas to garner opinion on how they would like these areas to be maintained. From a public amenity perspective consideration should be given to regularly mowing grass strips that are adjacent to the highway or footway.
- Decide if they wish to consult with residents surrounding Beresford Drive play area.
- Decide how they wish to manage the area of riverbank land.
- Agree which parcels of land require signage and what details should be included and refer to Full Council for approval of budget



Pip Alder  
Asst Clerk and Management Officer  
March 2021



**Appendix - Land and Buildings owned by Melton Parish Council**

<b>No</b>	<b>Title and location</b>	<b>Maintained by</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Size</b>
1	Melton Playing Fields/Melton Recreation Ground/Burkes Wood, Melton Road, Melton IP12 1PD	CGM	Greenspace, woodland, playpark, recreation ground, tennis courts	6.78ha
2	Sports Ground, Hall Farm Road, Melton	CGM	Greenspace, trees, watercourse, recreation ground	0.3ha
3	Leeks Hill Wood, Saxon Way, Melton (adjacent to Burkes Wood)	N/A	Woodland and footpaths	3.3ha
4	Hall Farm Close, Melton	CGM	Trees/bushes and grassed area	0.003ha
5	Land at Winifred Fison House, The Street, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass and some trees	0.1ha
6	Land South of Beresford Drive, Melton	CGM	Grass	0.06ha
7	Land South of Beresford Drive on junction of Bredfield Road	CGM	Grass	0.04ha
8	Land north of Beresford Drive, Melton	CGM	Grass and playpark	0.26ha
9	Land between 1 and 3 Coppice Close	Maintenance Officer	Land with mature trees	0.1ha
10	Land on corner of Coppice close and Saxon Way, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Land with mature trees	0.1ha
11	Land to the rear of 28-66 Saxon Way, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Footpath with mature trees	0.3ha
12	2 small sections of Love Lane verge, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Trees and bushes	0.016ha
13	Land at end of Riverview, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass verges	0.0179ha

14	Riverbank land opposite Fayrefield Road, Melton IP12 1BJ	N/A	Bushes, trees and wetland area	1.7ha
15	Land adjacent to 5 Friars Court, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass	0.016
16	Land adjacent to 20 Friars Court, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass	0.003
17	Land to the North of Bury Hill, Melton	CGM	Grass with mature trees	0.3ha
18	Land adjacent to 31 Bury Hill, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass	0.04ha
19	Land adjacent to 19 Bury Hill, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass triangle	0.009ha
20	Land between 19-21 and 31-33 Bury Hill, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass	0.014ha
21	Land between 25-29 and 37-43 Bury Hill, Melton	Maintenance Officer	Grass with tree	0.03ha
22	Orchard Close	Maintenance Officer	Grass	
23	Freehold Unit 17 Riduna Park	N/A	Office building	N/A