



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

APM(23)M

Melton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Melton held on Wednesday 26 April 2023 commencing at 19:30 at The Melton Pavilion.

Cllr Alan Porter, the Chair of Melton Parish Council was in the Chair, and the meeting was attended by 30 Electors as well as 8 Parish Councillors.

The following were in attendance:

	P Alder, Clerk to Melton Parish Council F Waters, Asst Clerk to Melton Parish Council
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23.01	INTRODUCTION – CHAIR MELTON PARISH COUNCIL The Chair of Melton Parish Council, Cllr Alan Porter, warmly welcomed everyone to the annual parish meeting held for the first time at The Melton Pavilion
23.02	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from the following: County Councillor A Nicoll District Councillor R Smith-Lyte Headteacher, Melton Primary School Cllr Gradwell Cllr Biggle Cllr Brown Cllr Crawford Incoming Cllr Bann Andrew Corston
23.03	MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 27 April 2022 Copies of the minutes are available on the Parish Council website at: www.melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk
23.04	REPORT ON THE WORK OF MELTON PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 The Chair gave his Annual Report which can be found in full on the Parish Council website at: https://melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk Due to the forthcoming elections and being in pre-election purdah, the Parish Clerk announced the winners of the 2023 Melton Annual Award.

	<p>Traditionally only one award is presented each year, however this year was an exception. There were three winners of the Melton Award, Carol and John Duce and Martin Wilks.</p> <p>Thanks was expressed to Carol and John for all the hard work they both do for running Melton Old Church and keeping it going as a venue for everybody in Melton.</p> <p>Martin took over as the Parish Council's volunteer Tree Warden in 2021. In that time, together with his trusty Tree Crew, they have planted over 1,200 trees in the Parish. The Clerk expressed gratitude for all of Martin's hard work.</p> <p>The Clerk made a presentation of a framed certificate and gift voucher which were graciously received by the recipients.</p>
	<p>REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR In the absence of Cllr Nicoll, their report can be read on the Parish Council website.</p>
	<p>REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR In the absence of Cllr Smith-Lyte, their report can be read on the Parish Council website.</p>
23.05	REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS
23.05.01	<p>Report from the Melton Trust The report from the Chair of the Trust is available in full on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Cllr Martin (a trustee) presented the report and reiterated that the biggest issue is making people aware of the help the Trust can give.</p>
23.05.02	<p>Report from Melton Women's Institute</p> <p>Maggie Porter gave a verbal report on behalf of the Women's Institute. The WI has had another successful year and thanks was expressed to Colin at the Burness Parish Rooms for their continued support. Part of the garden has been adopted by the WI and a crab apple tree planted.</p> <p>Meetings attract a wide range of speakers including a recent SARS visit, where participants were extremely enthusiastic during the CPR training.</p> <p>Committee members performed a 20-minute pantomime based on Cinderella at Christmas.</p> <p>The WI have groups for walking, gardening, cinema and a photography group, the Happy Snappers. As well as contributing to local events, the WI lay a memorial wreath, donate to the food bank and attend the Melton Fete.</p>

23.05.03	<p>REPORT FROM HEADTEACHER, MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL In the absence of the Headteacher, their report can be read on the Parish Council website</p>
23.05.04	<p>Report on Melton Village Fete Cllr Darby presented the report from the Melton Fete, which is available on the Parish Council website.</p>
23.05.05	<p>Tree Warden's report The Tree Warden provided a verbal update on the past year.</p> <p>Due to the prolonged hot weather last summer, fewer trees have been planted this year. However Martin noted that the loss of trees was not as high as anticipated, thanks to the volunteer Tree Friends who were mobilised to water the saplings through the dry spell.</p> <p>Patching up has taken place at Hall Farm Road Jubilee Green, with thanks again to those who undertook the watering.</p> <p>A pair of Black Poplar, male and female, have been planted near the pond in Burkes Wood and are doing exceptionally well.</p> <p>Martin gave his thanks to Peter, who has started a tree nursery initiative. The saplings received are very small so they are being nurtured before planting.</p> <p>Thanks also to David and Carol Steptoe and Mike Pratt on the fantastic dead hedge, a real piece of legacy work. Martin has added Hazel and wild rose along the path side.</p> <p>Martin finished his report by stating what an enormous privilege it was to be the Tree Warden managing the woods.</p>
23.05.06	<p>Rev Paul Hamblin</p> <p>Rev Hamblin has been rector for 7 and a half years and it is a privilege to be at St Andrews. The church prides themselves and indeed strives to be inclusive.</p> <p>The Little Free Pantry, which was the first in the UK, has been running for 4 years and can be accessed by anyone, under the proviso 'Give what you can, take what you need'.</p> <p>Regular events happening at the Church include a bi-weekly lunch club on a Wednesday, a parent and toddler group on a Monday afternoon and Tea & Toast from 9am on a Tuesday morning.</p> <p>Congregation numbers have dropped due to varying reasons, however there is an open policy to take communion and the Church will welcome all, even if you don't believe in God.</p>
23.05.07	<p>THE WOODBRIDGE & MELTON SOCIETY PRESENTATION</p> <p>A short presentation was delivered by Garth Pollard and Pieter Shipster on The Woodbridge and Melton Society. Further information regarding the society can be found on their website.</p>

23.06	<p>Cllr Porter thanked everyone for attending and there being no further business, the meeting ended at 21.05.</p> <p>Light refreshments were served and electors had the opportunity to have individual discussions with Councillors.</p>