

Watch this space.....

What is in store for the future?
The Parish Council has set a budget this year for £12000.

This divides as follows;

£5500 Wages* and insurances for the Village Hall, Playing Field, Tennis Court, Garden, Car Park and Play Equipment, Financial Audit and Administration costs

£2200 Playing Field, Garden and Play Area grass and hedge cutting.

£1300 donation for upkeep of the Churchyard.

£150 for the emptying of three dog bins.

£400 already spent on Tennis Court maintenance.

£200 for Dog waste Bin purchase number 3.

£100 for the statutory Play Equipment annual inspection.

£100 set aside for future Car Park maintenance.

£300 for Play Equipment maintenance.

£1750 for Village Hall maintenance including the ongoing replacement of windows and doors.

* the clerk is the only employee of the Parish Council, the members are voluntary and receive no remuneration.

Litter pick

We will be holding a litter-pick on Saturday 22nd September 2007.

We will be meeting at the Village Hall at 10.30 am and possibly afterwards at the Village Inn.

For more information or to register your interest, please ring John on 01603 812472

For the Diary....

- 10th July** Primary School Induction day.
10th July Primary School Sports day.
22nd July Pre-school Nursery Family Barbeque in the afternoon
On the playing field.
23rd July Mobile Police Unit Village Inn
24th July Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
6th Aug Mothers Union Meeting 1.30pm Village Hall
13th Aug Meltonians Meeting Corporate Communion 10.30am Melton Vista
3rd Sept Mothers Union Coffee Morning 10am May-time
8th Sept Village Show 2.00pm Village Hall
11th Sept Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
22nd Sept Litter-Pick 10.30am Village Hall
27th Sept Meltonians Meeting 2.15pm Village Hall
1st Oct Mothers Union Meeting 1.30pm Village Hall
October Next Parish Council Newsletter



Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue no.1

June 2007

ELECTIONS 2007



This years elections for District and Parish Councils took place on 3rd May. Nominations for Little Melton Parish Council failed to exceed the seven places available and was therefore uncontested.

In fact only five nominations were received, all of which have now joined the council.

At the annual Parish Council Meeting on 9th May, one member whose nomination did not arrive with the Returning officer in time was co-opted and a member standing down has also offered their time to return to the council.

Your Parish Council Members are; Stewart Cable (Chair), Tony Berry (Vice Chair), Wilf Chamberlain, Duncan Frazer, John Heaser, co-opted members; Joan Wheatley and Graham Tomlin. The clerk is Richard Sinclair.

In the same elections our District Councillors Garry Wheatley (cons) and Christopher Kemp (cons) were returned for another term.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The affordable housing off Gibbs Close, to be named Homecroft, will be completed and handed over during August this year. There will be six rented properties and two for shared ownership sale. Priority will be given to those who have an existing connection with the village ie; work, family, current occupation in Little Melton etc. Anyone interested in the rented properties must register with South Norfolk District Council Housing Department 01508 533633 and those interested in the part ownership properties should call Orbit Housing Association on 08458 502 050



Parish Council contacts:

Clerk: Richard Sinclair

01603 811432

Chair: Stewart Cable

01603 812280

UPDATES INSIDE

**GAS SUPPLY FOR THE VILLAGE/ POST OFFICE/
TOAD WATCH REPORT/ PLANNING/ ROAD
SAFETY/ LITTER PICK/ PLUS MORE EVENTS**

PLANNING

Little Melton Parish Council is unusual in that our policy is for the Clerk to notify immediate neighbours when we receive a planning application. This is not a statutory requirement, but we feel it is necessary and have no plans to stop. Please remember, if you have any issues with a planning application, you must make your views known to the Planning Department at South Norfolk Council in writing. The Parish Council cannot act on your behalf, it can only support your concerns if it agrees. Remember the LDF? The maps with the huge swathes of Little Melton covered in houses? It has been delayed! Thanks partly to Norwich City Council's application for Unitary Status and 'one thing and another' the site specific decision will not be made until late 2008 with the Plan coming in to effect in 2011. We will let you know if the village has any sites allocated as soon as we know.

Have you heard about.....

The Meltonians are a group of senior citizens who meet at 2.15 pm on the 4th Thursday each month in the the Village Hall. They have different speakers each time, and end with a cup of tea, raffle and good old mardle. Four times a year, outings are organised and at Christmas there is a special lunch. The meetings are open to everyone and we would really like to see you there. *Harold Kerslake 01603 811228*

Little Melton Pre-School Nursery will be holding a mini Olympics for all children during July, to raise funds. They will also be holding a family barbeque on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd July. There will be lots of spaces available for children this September as many leave for primary school. *Tel 01603 812362*

All Saints Church are pressing on with fundraising for their extension to provide Kitchen, Meeting and Toilet facilities. A special thankyou to everyone who helped raise £1254 for Christian aid. The church is open on the first Saturday each month from 9.30 - 11.30 during the summer whilst working parties are busy.

12 villagers and several people from Hethersett helped around 2000 toads cross the road safely as the animals headed for their breeding ponds in March. Many Frogs, Great Crested Newts and Smooth Newts were also saved. Traffic levels through the village are now so great that these animals will not survive without our help. The new toad signs and some of the toads featured on Look East one evening! If you would like to help next year then please contact me. *John Heaser 01603 812472.*



The village History group no longer meets regularly but would welcome enquires from people tracing their forebears or the story of their houses. The village History book is still for sale at both the church and the Village Store. *Anne Carter 01603 810266*
Annetta Evans 01603 810007

The Little Melton Community Trust provides facilities for the village predominantly the management of the Village Hall. Recently surplus funds have helped with the Playground and the car park. Our biggest fund raiser is the Village Show, a fun occasion which brings the village together. This year it is on 8th September, please be there. Plans are under way to refit the kitchen during August The Bar will also be out of action but the remainder of the hall will still be available. For enquiries and bookings call *Jean Chamberlain 01603 812031*

Little Melton Mothers Union meet on the first Monday of each month at 1.30 pm in the Village Hall and welcome anyone who would like to learn about the work of this Christian fellowship. *Rosemary Manley*

POST OFFICE

The council has met with a representative of the Post Office and unfortunately, with the time elapsed and the recently announced cuts, we are unlikely to see a post office reinstated in Little Melton. Believe it or not, we currently have ten branches within 3 miles of our village, which does not give us much ammunition to gain a visiting post office either. We will continue to support any action which would help to get the service back into the village.

THE VILLAGE INN

Many of you felt very strongly about the Village Inn and put forward a long list of improvement wishes. We have met with the new landlord and are pleased to say that his ideals matched many of your views and, after the closure on 25th July and re-open late September, is sure that the Village Inn will open it's doors as more of a 'local' and hopefully become a community focal point as it should be. To aid this he would like anyone over 18 years of age to design the new Village Inn pub sign. You will not need to be an artist to win The chosen design will win a meal for two with champagne. All entries to be A4 and sent to; VILLAGE INN SIGN COMPETITION, PARK HOUSE, THE STREET, THORNHAM MAGNA, NEAR EYE, SUFFOLK, IP23 8HB By 29th July 2007, making sure your contact details are included.

PARISH PLAN update

POLICING

The Parish Council has approached the Police with a hope to get more visible Policing in the village. We are lucky that our reported crime figures are extremely low but this does not give us much of a lever to increase the level of visible policing. However, under future schemes, we have been promised there should be a more visible police presence in the village.

GAS SUPPLY

There is a complicated formula to calculate the required take-up level in order to get mains gas into the village. At least 98 homes would have to commit to paying for the receipt of mains gas. The current estimate is £5300 to install the main to each property. The cost of the meter and any work inside the property would be extra. If those who would like to go ahead, could write to the Parish Council by 1st August 2007, we can see if there is a serious level of support for the project.

ROAD SAFETY

The recently completed Little Melton School Transport Policy Document has added ammunition to our campaign for lower speed limits, speed restrictions and pavement improvements within the village. The Village is lucky to have not had a major or even fatal incident in recent years and the Parish Council is continually canvassing those who control and finance these issues. Many of you have asked for Speed Guns which can be used by members of the Public. The police are unsupportive in this as there will be more officers performing this task in future.

OTHER ISSUES

For the Parish Council, communication was an issue. We hope this newsletter and current work on a new web site will improve this. Many other events & groups are being looked into by the Parish Plan Steering Group so watch the notice boards and the next newsletter. Those of you who offered help in the questionnaire have not been forgotten. We will get to you as we work through the list. Thankyou

DOG WASTE BINS

Following the successful use of the first, we have recently completed the installation of our second dog waste bin. This has been sited outside the school as requested by the school and many School Lane residents as expressed in the Parish Plan. Funding has been allocated in this year's budget for another dog waste bin and we would like some suggestions (nice ones!) as to where this should be sited, either on School Lane or Great Melton Road. If you wouldn't mind it outside your house, please let us know.