

Down to Business.....

The PC has not received any objections to the removal of the phone box, so it is likely that the box will soon be removed. It is hoped to replace the Mill Road notice board, either at the current site or at the phone box site. A further set of doors has been renewed as part of the Village Hall maintenance programme.

The PC is keen to hear from anyone who is prepared to help with keeping the children's play area in good order, the equipment gets a good deal of use and regular maintenance is required. At present this is done by PC members on a voluntary basis.

It looks promising that we will be getting the Mill Road Footpath extended so that it continues to the corner of the Playing Field

The full minutes of the PC are available at www.little-melton.org.uk

Oil Ordering Time Again

The next deadline for getting your order in is 4th November.

The order forms are available from the Village Store, School Lane.

We regret that after 5 years of voluntary work we have had to introduce a charge of 25 pence per order to cover expenses for printing, photocopying and faxing or delivering the orders through to the fuel company. For further details ring John Sanders on 01603 810720 or John Copson on 01603 810142.

Litter Pick

Please come to the Village Hall at 11am on Sat 25th Oct and help us to remove litter from the village. Please wear stout boots, gloves and Hi viz jacket, we will provide pickers, bags and can lend Hi Viz waistcoats. We will meet afterwards for a drink at the Village Inn. More info from John - 812472

For the Diary....

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| 4th Oct | Harvest Supper
7.30 pm Village Hall |
| 7th Oct | Primary School Open Day
2 sessions 1.30 & 7.30 pm |
| 9th Oct | School Harvest Festival
9.30 am |
| 11th Oct | Wildlife Group
Fungus foray 2.00 pm |
| 21st Oct | Parish Council Meeting
7.30 pm Village Hall |
| 23rd Oct | Meltonians 'on the right track' railway nostalgia
2.15 pm Village Hall |
| 25th Oct | Litter Pick
11.00 am Village Hall |
| 4th Nov | Last ordering date for the Oil Economy Group |
| 27th Nov | Meltonians Twenty By-gones Quiz
2.15 pm Village Hall |
| 2nd Dec | Parish Council Meeting
7.30 pm Village Hall |
| 6th Dec | Wildlife Group
Visit to Strumpshaw & Buckenham RSPB reserves
8.00 am |
| 10th Dec | Primary School Play rehearsal 10.00 am |
| 22nd Dec | Salvation Army Band Concert
Little Melton All Saints Church 7.30 pm |
| Jan 2009 | Next Newsletter |



Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue no.6

October 2008

We could be getting new Schools, new Shops, new employment facilities, new roads.....and 7000 Houses!

Under proposals being considered by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership, to determine how the Government's instruction for Housing provision between now and 2026 is to work, options are being put forward for a new town between Little Melton, Hethersett and the A47 Norwich Southern Bypass. Currently the consultation is about the principles for deciding what and where the developments will be. The general public consultation will be next year, once the proposals have been decided.

This option is for an initial phase of at least 4000 houses, increasing to at least 7000 by 2026 along with facilities, a town centre and commercial areas.

All of you have already received information through your doors on this from the GNDP, There is a page on www.little-melton.org.uk that has more information, including links to sites that show the land offered for development and to sites where you can make your views known.

The land offered for consideration by the GNDP covers the area between the A11, the A47 and the B1108 filling the area entirely, engulfing Little Melton and Hethersett. The technical consultation (which included Parish Councils) has now ended and we have responded as a council but you should make yourselves aware of the devastating impact this could have for us all and make your feelings known. The Parish Council will keep you up-to-date with developments and actions we will be undertaking, but this will involve us all, not just the council.

Don't forget also that we are in the process of huge District and County Council reorganisation, reported in the newspaper and in the Norfolk County Council information booklets we all receive, which could also effect us immensely so please have your say on both of these issues - it's too late after they happen.

Parish Council contacts:

Clerk: Richard Sinclair 01603 811432 - clerk@little-melton.org.uk

Chair: John Heaser - chair@little-melton.org.uk

www.little-melton.org.uk The website continues to grow and there is now a virtual notice board - check it out!

From the Primary School;

The Autumn term is always a very busy one at school and this year is no exception. Topics this term include World War II and we would be extremely grateful to anyone in the community who might like to share their experiences or artefacts with the children.

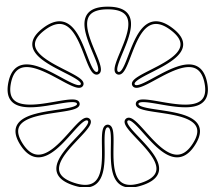
Our Harvest Festival assembly is on Thursday 9th October at 9.30am. Villagers are invited to the service where an officer from the Salvation Army will be present to accept donations of foodstuffs from the children. A cake sale and refreshments will follow.

The Eco club are planning to create a school garden, an outdoor classroom where the children can learn hands-on how plants and vegetables grow. We are looking for parents, members of the local community and local businesses to support us in sponsoring items on the site such as sheds, paint, water butts. We would be very grateful for support in making this vision a reality and anyone interested in sponsoring an item should contact the school. There's a long list!

And finally, villagers are invited to the dress rehearsal of our Christmas Play on Wednesday 10th December at 10am. We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Village Show 2008

The Village Hall committee would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made the effort to enter the village show this year. We had a fantastic turnout with 128 exhibitors showing over 600 entries! Despite the poor weather all summer, the hall was filled with vegetables and flower exhibits, along with cakes, bread, muffins and some amazing craft items. The junior sections were well supported and the quality of some of the photography entered was superb. It was nice to see so many people staying for a cup of tea (or a beer) and a cake or two! We hope to see you all again next year!



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Since the last newsletter there have been three reports of criminal activity in the village.

At the end of July, a window was forced at a property in Great Melton Road between the hours of 10.00 pm and 11.30 pm.

On Thursday the 7th of August, a ride-on lawnmower was stolen from a property in Rectory Lane between 6.30 am and 7.00 am.

On the 30th August between 11.30 pm and 12.30 am. A break-in took place on Mill Road. Entry was gained through a damaged window and although nothing was stolen, items were damaged.

Residents should be aware that thieves are always looking for an opportunity so take every precaution to protect your property. This will soon become even more important with the long dark nights to come.

PARISH news

CHURCH NEWS

The long awaited extension to provide kitchen facilities, lavatory and meeting area, storage and to improve disabled access has started. This is due to be completed by the end of March next year. We are grateful to all those who have donated money as always, costs rise! We therefore continue to ask for donations, perhaps to mark a special occasion or in memory of a relative or friend. Please make cheques payable to All Saints PCC.

We plan to have the Victorian Grotto at Colney Hall open for 'Santa's Grotto' on Saturday 6th December, thanks to Sharon and James Boddy. Lots of people enjoyed it last year, Santa is already getting the presents ready and there will be stalls and refreshments.

Are you planning to make a Christmas decoration, sculpture or picture to decorate the church this Christmas? The theme is to use recycled materials and artist Jessica Perry will be there on the 7th November to inspire us. There will be coffee morning at the church to see the results 10 am to 12 noon on Saturday 13th December. Cards with details of Christmas services will be circulated to every household. Please note that the Salvation Army Concert will be in Christmas week on Monday 22nd December at 7.30pm.

The Little Melton Pre-School Nursery

continues to go from strength to strength. It is more popular than ever, not only attracting children from our village and those close by but, from areas in Norwich and it's suburbs.

The staff always welcome visits from parents who would like to learn more, and who would like to find out when places are available for their children. We still have a few places available for this term and if you are interested please do not hesitate to contact us at the Village Hall. Sessions currently run every morning during term time.

BUS CHANGES.

Yet again there are changes to our bus service. Several daytime buses on the Konectbus 9 service now continue through to Norwich Bus Station instead of terminating at the Hospital.

These are the 09.31, 11.31, 13.31 & 15.31 from Little Melton Crossroads to Norwich and returning from Norwich Bus Station at 10.00 12.00 14.00 & 16.00

Hopefully these will benefit people and if well used, will remain.

Copies of the full timetable are available from the Clerk or go to www.konectbus.co.uk

Village Wildlife Group update

The group started in July and now has around 30 members who have met to record moths, listen to bats and visit gardens to see how provision can be made to encourage wildlife. A record of local amphibian numbers has been sent to the county registrar. Please see the back page for our meetings up to December. 2009 will include 2 talks (on Ashwellthorpe Wood and Moths), toad rescue during the spring migration, garden visits and a dawn chorus walk.

Please contact Peter on 814134 for more details or see our web page at www.little-melton.org.uk

Little Melton Mothers Union meet on the first Monday of each month at 1.30 pm in the Village Hall. This year we've welcomed two new members and have recently had a very successful coffee morning which raised £185 for our charities. We support our overseas charities and A.I.F.A. Which gives holidays for deprived children in this country. Our speakers are interesting and varied and we always welcome visitors.