

LITTLE MELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
at LITTLE MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE,
LITTLE MELTON on TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2014 at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT

John Heaser (Chair), Wendy Gilyead, Harold Kerslake, and John Symonds.
District Councillors Christopher Kemp and Garry Wheatley were also present as was County Councillor Judith Virgo.
One member of the public, namely Russell Cole, was also present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Tony Berry, Paul Canning and Jo Runeckles.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Clerk asked if any members wished to declare an interest in any item/items on the agenda.
Harold Kerslake declared an interest in 5.1.2. (2014/1521).

MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 October 2014 were – on a proposal by Wendy Gilyead, which was seconded by Harold Kerslake – accepted as a true record of the business conducted and therefore a copy was signed and dated by the Chair for retention in the Parish Council records.

PUBLIC, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR PARTICIPATION

District Councillor Garry Wheatley said that the sale of vehicles at Villa Farm (Bawburgh) was not covered by the existing planning permission.

Garry Wheatley added that development, to the north (Bawburgh) of the Watton Road - by John Innes – would include a 20,000 square foot building, a Visitors Centre and a boom/monitoring machine and that a meeting was being held on 26 November concerning these developments.

District Councillor Christopher Kemp, referring to the Cringleford Neighbourhood Development Plan reported that there was now lack of clarity as to whether the latest proposed development of 1450 new dwellings was in accordance with the local referendum.

Finally – in answer to a question on Highway maintenance by County Councillor Judith Virgo – John Heaser said that he and the Clerk were to meet Richard Deller, Norfolk County Council Highways (Ketteringham), on Wednesday 10 December at 10.00 am to look at the local highway defects, following the latest reporting, by the Parish Council, of these outstanding issues, some of which remained unresolved after a long period of time.

Under this item it was also noted that ducts etc. had just been provided (by BT) in a new cabinet near the crossroads to assist with improved broadband which it was understood would possibly become operative in the autumn of 2015.

PLANNING

RESULTS

(2014/2206) Mrs Susan Day – Land south/east of 22 Ringwood Close - Discharge of Condition 4 of planning consent 2014/1716 – details of interim storage, removal of frequency and disposal arrangements. Approval of details Approved 7.11.14.

(2014/1521) Mrs Margaret Waller (PCC) seeking permission for the fitting of exterior guard to protect stained glass window to Church of St Mary and All Saints. Approved with conditions 21.10.14.

OTHER

The Clerk confirmed that SNC had recently reported that – following its consultation on the alteration to the way that the District Council informed parish councils of the detail (plans/drawings) of planning applications – the overwhelming majority of the consultees had opted for Option C, that is that the plans/drawings would be sent at the much reduced size of either A3 or A4, whichever is most appropriate for the specific application being consulted on. This change would be effective w.e.f. 1 December 2014.

GNDP - HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED TO THE NORTH OF HETHERSETT LDF – SITES SUGGESTED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN LITTLE MELTON

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NORTH OF HETHERSETT

District Councillor Garry Wheatley said that there was, at the moment, nothing further to report – the implications, including a possible relief road for Little Melton, for the east part of the development between Hethersett and Little Melton remained with the Planning Inspector.

LDF SITES SUGGESTED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN LITTLE MELTON BY LANDOWNERS AND DEVELOPERS ETC.

Nothing further was reported under this item.

Following the conclusion of this item the County Councillor and District Councillors left the meeting at approximately 8.10 pm.

PARISH AMENITIES

CONTRACT WITH CGM

The Clerk confirmed that the existing 3 year contract – with CGM – expires on 12 March 2015.

With this in mind it was agreed that the Chair and the Clerk would meet, before the end of the year, and review the existing specification and amend as necessary.

Following this the amended/updated specification would then be used when the Parish Council – early in the New Year – sought competitive quotations for the new VPF maintenance contract effective for the season 2015 and beyond. It was also agreed that the Parish Council would once again consider the awarding of a 3 year (fixed price) contract.

DOG FOULING NOTICES ETC.

Following a number of emails, regarding the supply and erection of new signage, from Paul Canning it was noted that Paul had started erecting (sign near to village hall) the signage. It was understood that Paul would shortly be erecting the remaining new signage.

As John Symonds had encountered problems with some dog owners bagging up dog mess but then depositing this (incorrectly) in ordinary waste bins it was agreed that John would re-site one of the DWBs and hopefully overcome this problem.

BASKETBALL HOOP

John Symonds confirmed that he had recently purchased suitable wood to make and treat (weatherproof) a new basketball backboard and would arrange for this to be erected soon. The Parish Council was appreciative of the fact that John was only making a charge for the cost of materials.

In addition John Symonds mentioned that he would soon be attending to a leak that had occurred to the velux window in the gentleman's WC – the Chair stated that the PC would pay for a contractor if JS had any concerns about working from a ladder.

PLAY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE – ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

The receipt – on 22 October - of the Annual Inspection Report, from The Play Inspection Company, was confirmed. Overall this was a good report accepting that a few minor defects required attention.

It was appreciated that Paul Canning had already undertaken some remedial work to the play equipment and the Parish Council expressed thanks for this voluntary work done by Paul.

John Symonds said he would attend to few small items, including the replacement of the missing bolt at the top of one of the vertical half logs around one of the platforms to the main item of play equipment.

HOLE IN HEDGE

It was noted that the hole in the eastern boundary hedge – near the N/E corner of the play equipment area – had recently been filled, by Jean Chamberlain, with some prickly plants etc.

The Parish Council expressed thanks to Jean for this voluntary work.

SECTION 106 MONEY – RECEIPT/USE

Nothing further was reported under this item.

VILLAGE HALL RESPONSIBILITIES/DOORS ON NORTHERN ELEVATION OF VILLAGE HALL

It was confirmed, by the Clerk, that Yeoman Windows had, on 14 November, fitted a new thumb turn and outside plate to the external door on the north elevation.

The cost was £96.00 excluding VAT.

So hopefully security will have been improved with the removal of the external handle.

DEFIBRILLATOR

It was noted that Jo Runeckles was still pursuing the question of whether any maintenance was necessary. Wendy Gilyead mentioned that the school had begun to use the defibrillator this week but the ambulance had arrived soon after the code had been inserted, so nothing inside the defibrillator needed to be replaced.

HIGHWAYS

PROPOSED CYCLE PATH LINK FROM LITTLE MELTON TO HETHERSETT – UPDATE

Nothing further was reported under this item.

REPORTING OF MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The email of 11 November, from the Parish Council to Norfolk County Council (Richard Deller) reporting a number of defects, some long outstanding, – copied to County Councillor Judith Virgo – was confirmed. Subsequently Richard Deller had offered to meet representatives of the Parish Council, on site, and it had been agreed that the Chair and Clerk would meet Mr. Deller on Wednesday 10 December at 10.00 am.

HGVs/COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC TRAVELLING THROUGH THE VILLAGE

COMPLIMENTARY SAMS PROJECT – PILOT SCHEMES/SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

There was still a problem in that some very large lorries/container vehicles still came – incorrectly – through the village, and Harold Kerslake – who had witnessed large lorries/vehicles driving along Green Lane - said he would pass the details he had of these onto John Heaser, who said he would pass them to the village PCSO – with whom he had already been in contact about this matter.

PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT (MILL ROAD) – CONSULTATION

Following the issuing and display of the NCC Order, and the date for the receipt of objections and representations (to the County Council) of 4th November having passed, the Parish Council is now awaiting the outcome of the consultation.

MAINTENANCE OF NORTH/SOUTH SECTION OF MILL ROAD RUNNING ALONGSIDE VPF

No further information had been received, since the last PCM, and bearing in mind the potential timescale involved it was agreed that this item would be deleted, for the foreseeable future, from Parish Council meeting agendas.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS – VAS2 UPDATE

It was confirmed that the VAS had, at last, recently been (slightly) and correctly re-located, and it is operating.

OVERGROWN HEDGING

John Heaser said he would draft a suitable letter which could be delivered with the January edition of the PC Newsletter and added that he had spoken to Chris Doggett about the roadside boundary hedging to the allotments.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO REDUCE SPEED

It was confirmed that the Parish Council had received, on 3 November, an email from local MP, Richard Bacon, regarding his campaign to give town and parish councils greater power over speed limits.

Under Richard Bacon's proposal, parish councils would have the right to request that a speed limit on a named road within their parish boundaries to be reduced by 10 mph and that there be a presumption in favour of granting the request unless there were justifiable objections on safety grounds.

The Parish Council agreed to support Richard Bacon's, campaign in principle, and would be happy for the name of Little Melton Parish Council to be added to a public list of supporters for the proposed "Community Right to Reduce Speed". The Clerk was instructed to reply accordingly and add that the Parish Council had requested a 20 mph speed limit on Mill Road and School Lane on a number of occasions but have been told, by Norfolk Council, that the lack of accidents did not justify the lower speed limit.

ANGLIAN WATER INSTALLATION OF NEW WATER MAIN

It was noted that work had commenced on the installation of a new water main from Bawburgh/Little Melton to Hethersett water tower and that work was scheduled to complete in the Spring – probably April.

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk of the Council's schedule of correspondence, as at 19 November, as given to all Parish Councillors, was confirmed, as was receipt of a few items since the issuing of the agenda.

DISTRICT, COUNCIL AND REGIONAL DOCUMENTS

There was no correspondence discussed under this item.

FINANCIAL

INVOICES

On a proposal by Wendy Gilyead, which was seconded by Harold Kerslake, the following invoices were authorised for payment:-

CGM (Norwich) Ltd. – application of herbicide to football pitch etc. 29/9/14 (101340)	£468.00
Mr R Sinclair – refund official tel: 811432 and B/B 14/10-13/11/14 (101345)	£ 22.54
Abate Ltd. – Pest (moles) control 17/10/14-16/1/15 (101341)	£118.80
Little Melton Primary School – hire of school hall 15/7, 2/9, 14/10 & 25/11/14 (101342)	£ 50.00
The Play Inspection Company Ltd. – young children’s play equip. inspection Oct 2014 (101343)	£ 71.94
CGM (Norwich) Ltd. – VPF maintenance October 2014 (101344)	£221.80
Mr R Sinclair – refund official tel: 811432 and B/B 14/11-13/12/14 (101345)	£ 23.72
Little Melton Parochial Church Council – 2 nd 50% annual grant-churchyard maint. (101346)	£725.00
K J Symonds – purchase of ply board for basketball backboard (101347)	£ 32.00
Yeoman Windows & Conservatories – s. & install push plate & thumb turn to VH door (101348)	£115.20

RECEIPT

One receipt was reported that of £41.50 for the hire of the VPF football on 28/9 (U19s) £25.00 and also on 28/9 (U15s) £16.50.

INTERNAL VERIFICATION

It was noted that the next IV – for the 3 month period 1/9 – 30/11/14 – will be reported, it is anticipated, at the next PCM on 13 January 2015.

PARISH PRECEPT 2015/2016

Initial discussion/consideration was given to the forthcoming 2015/2016 Parish Precept bid to SNC, and it was appreciated that this needed to be received, by the District Council, by 23 January.

Potential increases (from the current year’s parish precept) included VPF maintenance (new contract), insurance, dog bin emptying charge and Clerk’s salary.

It was noted that – if necessary – the Parish Council could bid for up to an increase of 2% without being required to have a referendum.

It was agreed that the final decision would be made at the Parish Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 13 January, which would enable the bid to be submitted to SNC, as required, by 23 January.

HETHERSETT & MELTONS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Harold Kerslake confirmed that he would shortly be claiming a refund for the annual fee for being the Little Melton representative on the Association.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 13 January 2015 beginning at 7.30pm in Little Melton Primary School.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Chair.....

Date.....