

Down to business.....

Since the last newsletter, the Council have continued with the usual tasks involved in council business.

We have sought quotations for the maintenance of the playing field and have placed the contract for this year with the same operator as last year.

You may have read in the local press about the planning application to build the 'South Norfolk Eco House' in our village, at the end cul-de-sac section of Mill Road near the Village Hall. Having considered all the information and receiving a very good presentation by the applicant, the Council felt that it could not support the application. The principles are highly commendable, but these did not outweigh the potential increase in traffic due to the probable interest in the project and the precedent being set allowing development outside the boundary of the development area.

A recent working party attending to the play equipment has highlighted the need for some attention to the surfacing of the main play equipment. This is likely to be a very expensive project and no allowance has been made in this year's budget for that kind of work. The situation is not dire at the moment and the surface is still safe but we will be investigating possible solutions over the next few months.

LITTER PICK a very big thankyou to everyone who turned up on Saturday 29th March and helped with the second litter-pick. Look out for the forthcoming newsletter for the date of the next one.

If you are in a voluntary organisation which works within the village and would like to put something in this newsletter please let us know. We can only include what we are informed of. This newsletter is for the whole village - please let's use it.

We publish quarterly January, April, July and October - send your information to the address below, or 8 Ringwood Close, or by e-mail to chair@little-melton.org.uk or clerk@little-melton.org.uk

Guarantees of inclusion cannot be made as space may be an issue and our deadline is 3 weeks before each of the months above.

For the Diary....

- 5th Apr** Churchyard working party
9:30 am
- 8th Apr** Parish Council Meeting
7:30 pm Village Hall
- 24th Apr** Meltonians, 2:15pm
Village Hall
- 6th May** Oil Economy Group last
ordering date.
- 13th May** Annual Parish Council
Meeting
7:30 pm Village Hall
- 17th May** Little Melton School
May Fair
- 22nd May** Meltonians, Annual Party
2:15pm Village Hall
- 26th May** Meltonians, 2:15pm
Village Hall
- 17th Jun** Parish Council Meeting
7:30 pm Village Hall

July 2008 Next Newsletter



Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue no.4

April 2008

BOTTLE BANK IS BACK

With thanks to the Village Inn for offering the space, the village glass recycling facility should soon be back. The 'bell' type collection bins will be positioned behind the pub, on the car-park, along with a clothes and textile bank. We hope these will be well used by the village.

HOMEWATCH ALERT

On the 8th February between 0630 and 2020, a bungalow on Mill Road was broken into. The property was locked and secured and a planned delivery was made mid morning but when the occupier arrived home it was discovered that the property had been ransacked. Every drawer and cupboard had been emptied but nothing appeared to have been stolen. Entry was gained by forcing a window at the rear. Also recently a vehicle parked in Gibbs Close had diesel siphoned from the fuel tank.

Earlier, on the 28th January, an enclosed compound was broken into on the Watton Road and serious damage was caused to plant and machinery, costing many thousands of pounds. The village would now appear to be on the criminal's radar so be vigilant and take extra precautions regarding your property.

A very special Thankyou

Another year of parish business has drawn to a close and yet again the Parish Council must give a heart felt thankyou to all those people who give up their free time to work in the various village groups. Without those people to help all of us in one way or another, this community would be a sad place to live. We hope you will join us in being extremely grateful.

Situations Vacant

Two posts are up for grabs if anyone is interested. We need a Local Community Emergency Coordinator and a representative on the Hethersett and Meltons Road Safety Committee

Neither post requires too much time and effort and if you are interested in representing your community please contact the Clerk of the Parish Council for more information

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Norfolk Police tell us that every neighbourhood across the county now has its own dedicated, accessible and locally-based policing team. These teams may seem pointless after reading the Homewatch Alert on the front page!

Statistically crime has reduced in Norfolk by over 10 percent in the past year and our share of reported crimes amounts to a tiny fraction of crime still taking place.

It is so easy for us to blame the lack of Police for the crime - surely we must blame the criminals first!

From anti-social behavior and littering to speeding motorists and fly tipping, communities and their Safer Neighbourhood Teams are joining together to find long-term solutions to the issues that matter most to us.

Instead of it being 'someone else's problem' we need to work as a community with these teams if there is to be a successful challenge to crime.

Safer Neighbourhoods is about communities working together to find local solutions to local quality of life issues.

As residents or businesses you too can help make a difference. If you feel you would like to put something back into your community contact our Safer Neighbourhood Team - the Hethersett & Mulbarton SNT, led by Sergeant Chris Cleidon, who is supported by PC Glenn Hambling along with PCSO Darrin Store, PCSO Tim Philpott, PCSO Kham Alothman and PCSO Charlotte Mason.

The team is based at Wymondham Police Station and can be contacted either by phone: **0845 4564567**

or e-mail
snthethersettmulbarton@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

PARISH *news*

Little Melton Parochial Charity

The Trustees of this fund met recently to review the current finances and ways in which it is able to, and has, given financial help to the Parish.

At the end of each financial year (December), surplus funds can be used to finance village schemes or organisations which are part of and benefit the community, such as Church, School, Pre-school Nursery and the village facilities. Also, ongoing funds are available to give assistance to individual parishioners. In the past, help has been given with; fuel; lighting; water; repairs; school transport; outings; pre-school and nursery fees; medical needs; emergency rescue equipment such as 'Lifeline'; higher education; gap years and similar youth enterprises.

If you or you know of someone in the village, or some organisation within the village, that is in need or would benefit from financial help please contact one of the trustees:

Jean Chamberlain 812031

Normal Duffield 810517

John McDonald 810321

Chris Doggett 812146

Revd. Di Lammas 810273

A very special thank-you to the **Little Melton Village Hall Committee** whose generosity has meant that the Millennium garden fencing has now been replaced. The new galvanised metal fencing between the Village Hall and the Tennis Court matching that already in place around the play equipment could not have been done without their significant donation.

CHURCH FACILITIES

The new facilities for the church, reported in the previous newsletter, are another step closer to completion. All the finalities regarding planning and permissions from various consultative bodies have now been resolved. This gives the green light for tenders to be sought and subject to the prices received being hopefully within fund limits, the go-ahead should be given for the work to start this spring/summer.

We would like to ask.....

.... for parishioners to have consideration for pedestrians and not park their cars blocking the footpaths. We appreciate that in some places it is better to get vehicles as far off the road as possible but please ensure there is sufficient space for pedestrians, especially the elderly or those with pushchairs or wheelchairs.

Blocking the footpath completely constitutes blocking of the 'highway' and is of course illegal.

Please think and park considerately.

Parish Council contacts:

Clerk: Richard Sinclair

01603 811432

Chair: Stewart Cable

01603 812280