

## Down to Business.....

### Buses

Recently, Konect changed the No 9 back to a 2 hourly service and the 09:31 bus to 09:21. So in order to use a bus pass to Norwich the first available bus is 11:21 with the last return from the bus station at 2pm (although the No.9 does run later from the N&NH). On the 09:21, Konectbus, at their discretion, allow bus pass users to pay a child's fare to the hospital and from there you can use your bus pass. However Norfolk County Council will allow the use of bus passes before 09:30 at the discretion of the bus company and reimburse them. To ensure a viable profitable service Konectbus need more Little Melton residents to use the service. So if you consider yourself disadvantaged since the removal of the 09:31 and you would like to use your pass on the 09:21 please let the Clerk know. If we can show a projected increase in passengers it may convince Konectbus to offer a "discretionary entitlement" to use your pass before 09:30 giving more shopping time in the city.

### Changes on the Parish Council

Chris Starr has taken on new responsibilities at the Bowles Club and has had to resign his position on the PC. Many thanks to Chris for looking after the Parish Council finances and for organizing the litter picks. Chis will now join the band of people who assist the Parish Council on an informal basis – we always welcome offers of help! The vacancy was advertised on the notice boards and we are pleased to announce that Kevin Ward will join the Parish Council at the meeting in May.

### Other

The grit bin at the junction of Braymeadow Lane was stolen. A new one has been purchased and will be deployed when we can get Highways to fill it. Please take used inkjet cartridges to the school as they can sell them to raise funds. You can get financial help with energy saving home improvements via the Green Deal – see [www.gov.uk/green-deal-energy-saving-measures](http://www.gov.uk/green-deal-energy-saving-measures)

Newsletter published by - Little Melton Parish Council.  
Habitat, 16 Braymeadow Lane, Little Melton, Norwich, Norfolk

## For the Diary....

- 8th Apr** Mothers Union Meeting at Great Melton Church
- 25th Apr** Meltonians 2.15pm Village Hall
- 6th May** Car Boot Sale 9.00am Colney Hall
- 7th May** Last ordering day for Oil Economy Group
- 7th May** Annual Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm at the School
- 11th May** School Fair 12 noon
- 22nd May** Sports - come and try Hethersett Memorial Playing Field 6pm
- 23rd May** Meltonians Annual Party 2.15pm at the Village Hall
- 11th Jun** Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm at the School
- 15th Jun** Quiz Evening 7.30pm at the School
- Jul 2013** *Next Newsletter*

## Litter Pick

The Saturday when the clocks change is the day when volunteers give the village a spring and autumn tidy up – unfortunately the weather has not co operated recently and this year it snowed! Nonetheless, nine volunteers managed to get out at some point over the weekend and picked up many bags of bottles, cans and food packaging – the worst areas being the roads into the village. Many thanks to the volunteers and we look forward to seeing some new helpers when we do the pick in October.

Little Melton



# Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue no.24

April 2013

## Housing Developments in Little Melton

Planning applications have been submitted for a total of 68 houses on sites at Gibbs Close, Ringwood Close and Mill Road. These applications all fall outside the current development boundary and are justified on the grounds that there is a shortage of houses to be built over the next 5 years. Whilst this remains the case, developments are permitted unless there is an overriding reason why they should not proceed. Hethersett Parish Council recently sought to have an application for 1200 house rejected, largely on the grounds that it is outside the current development boundary and that the GNDP consultation process that started about 5 years ago is still not complete. However the Hethersett application was granted for all 1200 houses and there is a real danger that this will massively increase traffic through our village. Little Melton Parish Council does not believe that it is possible to totally reject all development and has focussed on the inadequacy of the road system in Little Melton and the drainage problems that affect Mill Rd and has worked to get the allocation for Little Melton reduced successively from 100 to 50 and in the last week South Norfolk Council has reduced the Local Plan target to 20 - to be built at the end of Ringwood Close. The details of this and the Parish Council response to the three local applications are at [www.little-melton.org](http://www.little-melton.org). South Norfolk Council is now seeking views on this and there is a link on the Parish Council website to South Norfolk Council. However the Local Plan is not yet adopted policy and the three outstanding applications are likely to be determined before the Local Plan is ratified. Some of the problems that affect Mill Rd and its junctions could also be fixed in the future, in which case the target may be raised again.

*Continued on page 2*

**Don't forget, there's more information, updated regularly on  
[www.little-melton.org.uk](http://www.little-melton.org.uk)**

# Housing Developments in Little Melton

*Continued from front page.....*

Prior to the most recent change of position by South Norfolk Council, the Parish Council had suggested that 10 houses at each of the Gibbs Close and Ringwood Close sites would be preferable as that splits the traffic burden between two junctions. There have been less objections to the Gibbs Close site than to the other two and the main problems with traffic on Mill Rd apply to all three of the sites. Having reduced the target from 100 to 20, it is unlikely that any further reduction can be achieved, also we must recognize that some people would like to see some new houses made available that are suitable for young families and for the elderly. Please let the Parish Council know your thoughts by mid-April as the Gibbs Close application may be determined on the 24<sup>th</sup> April. All three applications are outline at this stage and once it is known which applications will proceed there will be further opportunities to influence the development.

All this places a severe burden on the seven voluntary members of the Parish Council. We are facing a decade of development in and around the village and we will need to update the 2006 Parish Plan. We need your help if we are to get the best deal for Little Melton! Please get in touch if you can help by reading planning documents, attending meetings and writing responses etc. One good side effect of the development plans is that it has focused attention on the long standing drainage problems that afflict Mill Road and the Parish Council is using this to press for a resolution.

## **NESTS WANTED FOR CANARIES.....**

**Norwich City Football Club Academy are looking for Host Family accommodation for Academy players.**

**For more information please contact John Vincent, Head of Education and Welfare,**

**Direct dial: 01603 810760 Ext: 243 , Mobile: 07584134316 or Email: John.Vincent@ncfc-canaries.co.uk**

## **Friends of Little Melton Church**

The Friends Car Boot sale will take place on Monday 6th May, watch out for more information in your copy of the Good News Magazine. We are planning another Church & Community Fete on Saturday 1st June from 2 till 4pm This will mark the 60th anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. This is possible by the kindness of Jan and Peter Kitchener for letting us all into their garden. Thanks to our fundraising evening on the 16th March, we shall be able to provide a free bouncy castle and some other treats for the children.

### **Parish Council contacts:**

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

**Chair: John Heaser 01603 812472 chair@little-melton.org.uk**

# PARISH news

## **Little Melton Pre-School Nursery**

The children have enjoyed their Easter events at the nursery, we had some great decorated eggs! We are looking forward to all the good things to come in the summer term which will include our summer outing. The garden area is such a bonus at this time of year, and has been a great help with our nature theme for the past weeks. The committee is busy planning more fundraising events including a quiz evening open to all on 15th June at the Village Hall, 7.30pm to 11pm - look out for the posters etc. This will be our 3rd quiz night, it's such a fun evening and we are always so pleased with how many people from the village and surrounding areas come along. No auction this time but we will have a raffle and tombola.

We still have some places available for September 2013 and bookings are being taken now. If you are interested in your child joining our parent-led nursery do come along for a visit, there is no need to pre-arrange this simply pop in when we are open - every weekday morning during term time 9.15 to 12.15. We are a very popular nursery and places do get taken up quite quickly, the earlier you book a place the more chance you have of getting the sessions you are particularly interested in. For much more information visit our website - [www.littlemeltonpreschoolnursery.co.uk](http://www.littlemeltonpreschoolnursery.co.uk)

## **SHORT MAT BOWLS**

Tuesday afternoon bowls - 2.30 to 4.30 - will continue at the Village Hall during the Summer. Thursday evenings will stop when competition from outside bowls kicks in - probably mid April. We have three mats now, so people will have more bowling for their bucks - the chat will undoubtedly continue undiminished. As always, the emphasis is on social enjoyment rather than supreme skill, though our players are becoming skilful as well now. Cost is still £2.50 per session, including refreshments, loan bowls are available without charge, and all are welcome, regardless of current ability. Come and have a go.

## **Sporting Activities**

Hethersett and Meltons Sports Association are holding a come and try sports evening on the Memorial Playing Field from 6 until 9 pm on May 22nd. Featured sports will include - Cycle speedway, Athletics, Football, Cricket, Rounders, Archery, Athletics, Petanque. The Association would also like to start a Tennis club in Little Melton - please let the Clerk know if you are interested.

The Community Trust has some funds that could be used to provide some items of outdoor gym equipment on the Playing field - please let the Clerk know if you think this is a good idea and what equipment you would like to use.