

Little Melton



Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue No 40

April 2017

Parish Meeting and Governance Review

The role of all Parish Councils in South Norfolk is being reviewed and there is a strong emphasis on saving costs. Our Parish Meeting in March was well attended and there was a clear majority in favour of retaining our independence and control of our own budget. Fortunately two people volunteered to fill the long standing vacancies on the PC and they will offer themselves for co option at the PC meeting on May 8th.

Since Richard Sinclair retired as Clerk in December we have been using a locum clerk (Carole Jowett) for those matters that have to be dealt with by a clerk and will continue to discuss with Hethersett how we can share clerical costs in future. The bulk of the clerk's duties are currently being done by the Chair (with some clerical assistance) as Mrs Jowett is only being paid a minimal retainer. There is an ongoing government requirement to publish more PC information online and there are plans in place to migrate the website to a CMS system in order to facilitate this. In the meantime, the full accounts are online and parishioners are encouraged to read them. **There are links on the website homepage to matters discussed in this newsletter and further announcements will be made via the Facebook group which now has 160 members and is well used—see the website for how to join.**

The Governance review provides an opportunity to review Parish boundaries and it was agreed at the Parish Meeting to suggest simplifications of our boundaries with Hethersett and Bawburgh—the details of our response will be on the website.

Affordable Housing at the new developments

Saffron will be letting 2 *1 bed flats, a 2 bed bungalow, 2 * 2 bed houses and a 3 bed house at Ringwood from the end of May, phone 0808 168 2222 to register. Saffron will also have 3 * 1 bed, 3 * 2 bed and 1 * 3 bed bungalows at The Limes by late summer. More info on PC website.

Developer contributions

The new play equipment was made available at the end of March and has proved to be very popular though there are still some installation issues (mainly as a result of the unusually dry weather) to be resolved. The equipment will be paid for by statutory contributions, from the Ringwood and Mill Rd developers, that are specifically for play areas. The PC expects to receive a further £11,600 which has more flexible spending criteria but has to be spent within 5 years for the benefit of the community. Please let us know your suggestions—Traffic Calming and automated detection of infringements of the weight limit zones are possible uses.

County Council Elections on May 4th—Judith Virgo is not standing for re-election and I will take this opportunity to press the candidates on how they will help us to minimize traffic problems in the village as the CC is responsible for Highways matters. Please raise your concerns with the candidates. We thank Judith for her work on our behalf.

Litter Pick - Seven people removed 8 sacks of litter from around the village in March. Please come and help at our next pick on October 28th or feel free to borrow the equipment any time you would like to remove some litter!

Road Closure—Great Melton Rd will be closed just west from the crossroads between 8th to 19th May, for water mains works.



Little Melton Pre-School Nursery

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 for this year - look out for the posters etc. We are always so pleased with how many people from the village and surrounding areas come along to events that are open to all.

We still have some places available for September 2017 and bookings are being taken now. We are currently full for the summer term. If you are interested in your child joining our nursery do contact the nursery to arrange a visit, either via our website or on the telephone when we are open during term time. 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

Little Melton Mothers' Union

On **April 24th** we join with Hethersett Mothers' Union in St Remigius Church Hall at 1:30 p.m. and the speaker will be Esther Bortz on Relationships Education in Schools.

In May there will be another change from the usual date as we avoid the Bank Holiday and meet on **Monday May 8th** at 1:30p.m. in Little Melton Village Hall when the speaker will be Beverley Cooper and the subject, "In the Footsteps of our Fathers."

Our June meeting will be on **Monday June 5th** in Little Melton Village Hall at 1:30 p.m. when we will be entertained by Bishop Peter Fox who besides being the former bishop of Papua New Guinea is a member of the Magic Circle. It promises to be a very amusing meeting.

In July we have our outing for afternoon tea at Margot's. Lets hope the weather is as lovely as last year. **All are very welcome to attend our meetings.**

Village Show - the Village Show will be held on Saturday Sept 9th and there will be classes for garden produce and for arts and crafts. Last year's programme can be seen on the website so you know what things to start planning now!

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LITTLE MELTON

The church summer fete will be held on Saturday 1st July. This year it will be held at the church to celebrate the completion of the tower repairs. Besides the usual activities there will be a paper aeroplane competition and hopefully, weather permitting, a launching of them from the top of the newly repaired tower.

In addition to this there will be a special service on Sunday 2nd July when the tower will be re-dedicated. In celebration of this we would like to fill the church with flowers. An invitation is open to all individuals or groups in the village to share in providing a flower arrangement for a window or pedestal in our lovely medieval church. For further details please contact Lavinia Ganley (810149) or Liz Tomlin (812209) .

Nick Ganley has taken over the duties of the treasurer for the moment following the departure of Chris Starr at the end of February.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of the local church and its members are selected at an Annual General Meeting which this year will be on Thursday 27th of April at 7pm in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

Christian Aid Week is from the 14th to the 20th of May. Christian Aid was set up to relieve suffering and build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home. We will be delivering envelopes in Little Melton during this time.

The churchyard has looked very good this spring, resplendent with displays of snowdrops and primroses but could we just remind people to take their litter, including plastic bottles with them when they leave. The churchyard regulations are displayed in the porch and must be followed at all times. The Church is open every day from 10.00am – 3.00pm for quiet contemplation and prayer. Nick and Graham

The **OIL ECONOMY GROUP** places a bulk order every 3 months and gets the best price. The next ordering date is **2 May** —order forms are 25p and available from the shop.

LITTLE MELTON PAROCHIAL CHARITY exists to help any Little Melton resident who is in need of financial assistance. Help given in the past includes chiropodists' fees, children's school bus fares, fuel costs, essential house repairs, medical charges. All enquiries are treated with utmost confidentiality, just call—Jean Chamberlain 812031, John McDonald 810321 or Chris Doggett 812146.

Hethersett Hub Café for people with Dementia, their families, friends and carers on the third Tuesday of the month from 10 am—12 noon at Hethersett Methodist Church Hall. Call Stephen 07808329102 for more information. For transport call Richard 01603 814343.

Events

Apr 24th	Mothers' Union , St Remigius Church Hall 13.30
Apr 27th	Church PCC AGM , 19:00
May 2nd	Oil Economy last order day, forms from the Shop
May 8th	Mothers' Union , Village Hall 13:30
May 8th	Parish Council AGM , Village Hall 19.30
May 13th	School Fair , 11:00—15:00
May 17th	Mobile Library
June 5th	Mothers' Union , Village Hall 13:30
June 14th	Mobile Library
July 1st	Church Fete
July 12th	Mobile Library
July 17th	Parish Council , Village Hall 19:30
Sept 9th	Village Show , Village Hall, 14:00
Oct 28th	Litter Pick , Village Shop 09:30

Mobile Library times

09:35	Near to 93 School Lane
10:00	Shop
10:20	Braymeadow Lane
10:45	Crossways
11:30	Ringwood Close
15:00	School

The **Book Group** meets about every 6 weeks. For further details please ring Joan Wheatley on 01603 812668.

VILLAGE HALL Helen Symonds (01603 810671) manages bookings for the Village Hall. Full details of regular events are on www.little-melton.org.uk (see Village Facilities) and there is an email address for bookings there.

- * **Short Mat Bowls** Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm and Thursdays 8-10pm. £2.50 per session. All you need is a pair of very flat shoes to avoid wear and tear on the carpets.
- * **Mothers' Union** 1st Monday of the month, 1.30pm. Please contact Branch Leader Allie McClean 01603 946656 or littlemeltonmothersunion@gmail.com
- * **Meltonians** - usually meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2.15pm for a very entertaining talk by a speaker followed by refreshments and a mardle. Ring John Turner 01603 811750 to learn more.
- * **Powerhoop** classes at the hall 6.30 pm and 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings. 45 minutes workout with a weighted hoop (so easy to keep up). 15 minutes hooping and movement and many other muscle, strength and cardio routines with the hoop.
- * **Fitcamp Challenge** is 4 weeks of interval and circuit training, in a fun, supportive environment. The classes are designed to improve fitness and health through community motivation, laughter and nutritional education. All abilities welcome!

This newsletter is published by **Little Melton Parish Council**. Please contact chair@little-melton.org.uk, if you have questions or items to be published in the July 2017 edition.

Other PC contacts and information are at
www.little-melton.org.uk