

LITTLE MELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
at LITTLE MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE,
LITTLE MELTON on TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2015 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

John Heaser (Chair), Tony Berry, Paul Canning, Russell Cole, Harold Kerslake and John Symonds. District Councillor Christopher Kemp was also present as was County Councillor Judith Virgo. PCSOs Darren Sore and Virginie Tribut from the Hethersett and Mulbarton Safer Neighbourhood Team were also present.

PCSO

PCSO Darren Sore, introduced PCSO Virginie Tribut, who was welcomed to the meeting and she informed all that she was the new PCSO for the Hethersett & Mulbarton Safer Neighbourhood Team, as she had recently transferred from another Safer Neighbourhood Team. PCSO Virginie Tribut reported 3 local crimes during the period 13 January – 9 February 2015. The Chair reported that there was a necessity for more/better signage to direct lorry traffic away from travelling through Little Melton and this concern was noted by Virginie Tribut, although it was appreciated that such action was the responsibility of the highway authorities. Concluding PCSOs Virginie Tribut and Darren Sore were thanked for their attendance and then left the meeting.

APOLOGIES/RESIGNATION

The recent resignation of Wendy Gilyead was confirmed. As the vacancy created had occurred within six months of the holding of the (4 yearly) parish council elections it was noted that it was not possible to fill the vacancy with a by-election. In consequence the Clerk confirmed that he would be advertising the vacancy on the local noticeboards etc. The Clerk confirmed the recent receipt of an email, from SNC, which explained the process and required action, in respect of the printing and submission of nomination forms (to SNC) and emphasised that this action was necessary from 24 March until 9 April 2015. The Clerk also emphasised that he could not deliver these to SNC as the responsibility for getting completed nomination forms to the District Council, on time, was that of the applicant – personally.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Clerk asked if any members wished to declare an interest in any item/items on the agenda but no declarations were registered.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 January 2015 were – on a proposal by Tony Berry - which was seconded by Paul Canning – 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

There was no discussion under this item.

PLANNING

PARISH COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

2014/2431 – Peter Graves (Developing Solutions Ltd.) – formerly in the name of Grady - seeking approval of Reserved Matters on land south of Ringwood Close for 20 residential units etc.

The Parish Council had responded to SNC on 23 December and it was noted that, as yet, these proposals had yet to be determined by the LPA.

2014/2650 – Mr B Kemp – seeking approval of Variation of Condition 6 of Planning Permission 2014/0368 to include car sales within permitted uses – Villa Farm, Bawburgh.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council had responded to SNC on 26 January expressing objection to this latest proposal.

PLANNING APPLICATION RECEIVED

2014/2590 – John Innes Centre seeking approval for field trials building and specialist crop-scanning and measuring equipment etc. on land south of Bawburgh Road, Bawburgh.

It was confirmed that Little Melton Parish Council had responded to SNC that it had no objection to the proposals, although it had recommended that the (proposed) Fields Trial Station building should be slightly relocated.

Following this District Councillor Christopher Kemp and County Councillor Judith Virgo were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting at 8.05 pm.

2015/0122 – CTL and Vodafone seeking approval for the installation of 17.5 metre high monopole supporting 3 antennas, the installation of 4 radio equipment cabinets and development works ancillary thereto at NCFC Colney Training Centre.

It was agreed that the Parish Council response to SNC would be no comments to this proposal. Finally it was appreciated that a Planning Application seeking approval of the details/reserved matters – in respect of the proposed development (20 new houses) on Land South/East of The Gardens, Mill Road, would shortly be received.

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 Christopher Kemp reported that the Inspector was currently considering this proposal and that a final decision was anticipated in the Autumn.

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

Nothing further – other than what was on the agenda elsewhere - was reported under this item.

PARISH AMENITIES

CONTRACT WITH CGM

With the existing 3 year contract with CGM expiring on 12 March 2015, the Clerk said that he had sought competitive quotations from seven contractors and received three replies.

The three quotations (all net cost) received were as follows:-

The Garden Guardian - £1,787.

Norse - £2,280.30.

CGM - £1,478.60.

It was noted that the CGM quote was the lowest cost and approximately £300 below the next lowest bid. Furthermore CGM was offering a 3 year contract at the same price – with the price only rising annually in line with inflation.

As the Parish Councillors were reasonably satisfied with the service provided by CGM over the past 3 years it was agreed, on a proposal by Paul Canning which was seconded by Russell Cole, that the quote submitted by CGM should be accepted and that the Parish Council would accept the offer of a 3 year contract.

The Clerk was therefore instructed to notify CGM accordingly.

Secondly the Clerk had also sought quotations – in the event of bad weather in the winter period – for snow clearance of the Village Hall car park but had little success with only one contractor quoting (approximately £70 per hour) and other contractors saying it would be difficult to guarantee that they would be able get to the site – depending on the road conditions – and at the stipulated time. In view of these difficulties it was agreed not to undertake further enquiries at this time.

POSSIBLE CHANGE TO FOOTBALL PITCH 2015/2016

The Clerk referred to the recent enquiry from HAFC (Mel Perkins) enquiring about the possibility of reducing the pitch to youth pitch size – this would mean the slight narrowing of the pitch (but no reduction in length) and the potential switching of goals with a (youth) set from Hethersett.

After some discussion the Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should respond that the Parish Council had no objection, in principle, to HAFC making the pitch suitable for youth matches, on the understanding that the Little Melton adult sized goals remained the property of Little Melton Parish Council.

In addition the Clerk would mention that there is the possibility – subject to financial constraints – that the Parish Council would be able to fund some pitch improvements, from the pitch hire revenue and ask for suggestions.

PLAY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE – 2014 ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTION

John Symonds reported that he had recently replaced the defective timber slats to the seat in the young children's play area. John Symonds was then formally thanked for all his work in the play equipment area.

John Symonds also said that he now had a new basketball backboard ready to be fitted and had made some enquiries about a replacement support post but was unsure how to proceed.

It was generally thought that a circular post would be best but as to whether a timber or metal post was

preferable was to be investigated

In consequence John Symonds and Paul Canning would make more enquiries, including costs and delivery charges, and report back to the PC.

SECTION 106 MONEY – RECEIPT/USE

Nothing further was reported under this item.

DEFIBRILLATOR

It was noted that Jo Runeckles was still pursuing whether any maintenance was necessary.

HIGHWAYS

PROPOSED CYCLE PATH LINK FROM LITTLE MELTON TO HETHERSETT – UPDATE

John Heaser referred to his email of 23 January to Mr Brogdale, at Norfolk County Council, which noted that work was soon to start on the Hethersett Lane cycle path but expressed concern that plans had not been presented to the NRP Liaison Committee.

Subsequently John Heaser – after meeting Mr Brogdale on the early evening of 16 February had sent a further email to Mr Brogdale saying that (a) it is hoped that cyclists will be able to ‘short cut’ through the John Innes site as soon as Hethersett Lane is (temporarily) closed to traffic – otherwise they will have a massive diversion, and (b) with Phase 1 of the NRP to Hethersett cycle path going ahead it would be good to see an outline plan for the whole route – and making the point that people will only cycle if the whole journey is safe.

REPORTING OF MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Since the 10 December site meeting with Richard Dellar, NCC, nothing further was reported under this item.

HGVs/COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC TRAVELLING THROUGH THE VILLAGE

Russell Cole said that he had been told that a number of UK Mail vans continue to speed through the village and the Chair said that he had a contact at the ‘Little Melton’ Business Park, so this would be drawn to their attention.

PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT (MILL ROAD) – CONSULTATION

Following the Parish Council’s response email of 28 November to Richard Bacon MP, supporting his proposal, the Parish Council was now awaiting the outcome of the consultation.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

The road closures on Mill Road from 16/2 – 20/2/15 and on Great Melton Road from 23/2 – 27/2/15 were noted.

OVERGROWN HEDGING

Nothing further was reported under this item.

ANGLIAN WATER INSTALLATION OF NEW WATER MAIN

It was noted that work was continuing 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 – anticipated in April.

B1108 WATTON ROAD/HETHERSETT LANE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS

It was noted that Little Melton Parish Council had yet to hear officially of these proposed works, which it was understood would last for approximately for 4 months.

The only notification of these improvements had been received via Mrs Martin of Colney Parish in connection with the cycle path provision.

John Heaser said he was shortly to attend a meeting in Colney and would then request the County Council officer that Little Melton Parish Council be officially notified.

CLERK’S CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk of the Council’s schedule of correspondence as at 4 February, 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 Harold Kerlake, which was seconded by Russell Cole, the following invoices were authorised for payment:-

Canning Electrical Ltd. – production and supply of signs for VPF/Play Areas (101354)	£149.00
Mr R Sinclair – refund official telephone 811432 & B/B 14/1-13/2/15 (101355)	£ 26.06
Abate Limited – Pest (moles) control services 3 months commencing 17/1 (101356)	£118.80

Mr K J Symonds – refund nuts, bolts & washes for seats in play area (101357)

£ 8.28

RECEIPT

One receipt was reported –from HAFC – for £60.00 for the hire of the VPF football during December.

INTERNAL VERIFICATION

Nothing was reported under this item.

PAROCHIAL CHARITY

It was noted that the two existing Parish Council nominated trustees (Chris Doggett and Sue Day) had stated they were willing to continue in office for another term of office – this would be for a further 4 years – for Sue Day from 8/2/15, and for Chris Doggett from 31/7/15.

As there were no other nominations the Clerk was requested to confirm these further terms of office.

HETHERSETT & MELTONS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Harold Kerlake reported that the Association continued to thrive with many sports included in the Association, and noted that it was hoped to start a Dementia Group in the near future.

He added that some funding was obtained from SNC.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 31 March 2015 beginning at 7.30 pm in Little Melton Primary School.

DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk confirmed the date of the Annual Parish Meeting for 2015 was 10 March – this would be held in the local school commencing at 7.30 pm.

The Clerk confirmed that he would be shortly sending out invitations to all local organisations requesting the submission of their annual reports.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chair.....

Date.....