

LITTLE MELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
at LITTLE MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE,
LITTLE MELTON on TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2015 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

John Heaser (Chair), Tony Berry, Russell Cole, Harold Kerslake and John Symonds.
District Councillors Christopher Kemp and Garry Wheatley were also present as was County Councillor Judith Virgo.

In addition one member of the public – namely Tony Hedges - was present and, this became two from approximately 8.05pm, when Chris Doggett entered the meeting.

APOLOGY

An apology for absence was received from Paul Canning.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Clerk asked if any members wished to declare an interest in any item/items on the agenda.

Tony Berry and John Symonds declared that they had an interest in item 5.1.2. of the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 February 2015 were – on a proposal by Harold Kerslake - which was seconded by John Symonds – 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 – apart from items on the agenda.

PLANNING

PARISH COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION REQUIRED

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.

Following the Parish Council response to SNC that it had no comments to this proposal an amended application had been submitted (notification received 26 March) and, following discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objection, and the Clerk was therefore instructed to respond to SNC that it had no views or comments on the amendment.

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, as far the Parish Council was aware, 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.

It was noted that the business of selling and servicing of cars was continuing – despite the lack of planning approval.

District Councillor Garry Wheatley reported that SNC had granted an extension of the planning application until 29 April.

It was also noted that that the earth banks (bunds) inside the site had recently come down.

2015/0253 – Abel Developments Reserved Matters application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, following approval (30/4/14) under Outline Application (2013/0086) for residential development (20 houses) including access on land south/east of The Gardens, Mill Road.

The notification of this Reserved Matters application had been received by the Parish Council, on 11 February, and the Parish Council had responded to Helen Bowman, Planning Officer, SNC on 5 March, explaining in detail the serious concerns of the PC, especially in relation to drainage.

The Chair had had considerable discussion, emails and consultation in respect of the details of the Reserved Matters proposals especially with Helen Bowman, Shirley Bishop, SNC Flooding Officer, and Chris Doggett, as the implications were complex and could have serious consequences.

John Heaser was sure that hardly any water flowed down the ditch/pipe in Great Melton Road but

Shirley Bishop was not convinced that this was the case.

The latest revision includes the provision of a reed bed within the community amenity area but the implications for the Parish Council to adopt the reed bed were thought to be difficult to determine and consequently it was questionable whether it would be sensible for the Parish Council to take responsibility for such an area, even accepting that a commuted sum would be made available.

District Councillor Garry Wheatley said that a letter, from SNC, should be received by the PC very shortly, and this would emphasise that a number of matters were still under discussion.

Chris Doggett's view (representing the Trustees of the Allotments) was that the proposed new drainage pipe, which would run south/east from the development site, should not enter the allotments land and should be routed directly into the ditch/pipes draining down Great Melton Road.

Concluding it was agreed that Chris Doggett, would contact Helen Bowman and Shirley Bishop shortly with a view to setting up a meeting with the Chair of the Parish Council also present to discuss and hopefully find a constructive way forward to resolve the drainage implications.

PLANNING APPLICATION RESULT

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.

It was reported that this proposal had been refused, by the SNC Development Management Committee on 6 March.

THE CLOSE

District Councillor Garry Wheatley reported that a SNC Compliance Officer and a Senior Planner had met last week on site as there were unresolved issues concerning access for emergency vehicles etc. Finally it was mentioned that the receipt of a planning application, submitted by Mr & Mrs Cable, for a rear S/S extension at 8 Ringwood Close, was anticipated soon.

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 some local modifications to this proposal, which the Examiner had raised at an earlier date.

John Heaser expressed concern that he understood that the same level of housing development was now being considered on a significantly smaller site area, i.e. the density would be greater, and that this also meant the omission of the proposed new access road across Burnthouse Lane to Colney Lane (Hethersett).

A final decision was still 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.

At this point in the proceedings the District Councillors and the County Councillor were thanked for their Attendance and left the meeting at approximately 8.35 pm.

Chris Doggett and Tony Hedges then left the meeting at 8.50 pm.

PARISH AMENITIES

CONTRACT WITH CGM

The Clerk confirmed that the new 3 year contract had commenced satisfactorily.

Currently the Parish Council was awaiting, from CGM, a response to the email of enquiry concerning the proposal to level/fill the slight dip across the lower penalty area of the football pitch.

POSSIBLE CHANGE TO FOOTBALL PITCH 2015/2016

The Clerk confirmed the email to Hethersett Athletic FC stating that the PC were happy – subject to a few conditions – for the local football pitch to be reduced to youth size.

Hethersett Athletic had responded that they would take the proposal to their committee and report back in due course.

VILLAGE HALL

John Symonds reported that the work to the vent pipes, and sleeves, in one of the changing room was a bigger job than he had anticipated. However John said that he was still able to carry out the remedial/repair action, and was therefore given authority to proceed with this work a.s.a.p.

PLAY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE – 2014 ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTION

John Symonds said that once the new wooden support pole had been delivered he would fit the new basketball backboard to it and then undertake (with local assistance) the replacement of the old B/B goal and the erection of the new.

The anticipated cost of the new provision was £90.00 for the 4m timber post plus a delivery charge of £30.00 and the Parish Council unanimously agreed that these costs were acceptable and asked the Clerk to confirm the order.

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

It was noted that the latest information was that there would be dedicated cycle provision for approximately 200 metres in a southerly direction from the B1108 (included in the Hethersett Lane/B1108) junction improvement works beginning in April) but that the date for further provision southwards towards Hethersett was unknown.

REPORTING OF MAINTENANCE MATTERS

It was confirmed that the reporting of a number of potholes, around the village, had been delayed pending completion of the AW/Balfour Beatty new water main project from Bawburgh/Little Melton to Hethersett Water Tower. Completion of this project is anticipated soon, after which the Parish Council will seek remedial action from NCC.

The Clerk added that 16-18 potholes had recently been filled along Rectory Lane – between the Great Melton Road junction and the Mill Road junction.

It is suspected that Balfour Beatty may have carried out this work.

HGVs/COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC TRAVELLING THROUGH THE VILLAGE

It was noted that this is sometimes occurring and that once the B1108/Hethersett Lane junction improvement works commence in April, then such vehicles will be passing through the village for a number of months.

PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT (MILL ROAD) – CONSULTATION

The recent introduction of the new speed limit signage along Mill Road was noted.

Some concern (John Symonds) was expressed at the varying speed limits over relatively short distances.

JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS – B1108/HETHERSETT LANE

It was reported that the closure of this junction would now take place a little later – probably from May for approximately five months. The likelihood was that significantly more vehicular traffic would travel through the village during this period.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

The road closure along the Little Melton Road on 1st April was confirmed.

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.

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk of the Council's schedule of correspondence as at 26 March, 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 Tony Berry, which was seconded by John Symonds, the following invoices were authorised for payment:-

Mr R Sinclair – refund official telephone 811432 & B/B, 14/2-13/3/15 (101360)	£ 23.81
Mr R Sinclair – Clerk's salary 1/1-31/3/15, including 'one off' £2.08. (101361)	£1,411.14

Little Melton Primary School – hire school hall, PCMs 13/1, 10/2, 10/3 & 31/3/15 (101358)	£ 50.00
Mr R Sinclair – refund official telephone & B/B 14/3-13/4/15 (1013620)	£ 19.77
Norfolk ALCs - Annual Subscription 2015/2016 (101363)	£ 168.51
Little Melton Village Shop – Printing PC Newsletter, 425 copies, April edition (101364)	£ 21.25
SNC – Dog Waste Bins emptying charges 2014/2015 (101365)	£ 294.24
Glasdon UK Ltd – Supply of 4,000 Dog Waste Bags (electronic payment)	£ 132.00
HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax on Clerk’s salary 1/1-31/3/15 (101359)	£ 352.69

RECEIPTS

Two receipts were reported – both from HAFC – and both amounting to £41.50 for the hire of the VPF football pitch - during January and February 2015.

INTERNAL VERIFICATION

Nothing was reported under this item.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT

The Clerk drew attention to the updated Risk Assessment, as drafted by himself and, on a proposal by Harold Kerlake, which was seconded by Tony Berry, the new Risk Assessment was approved by the Parish Council.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF ASSETS REGISTER

The Clerk drew attention to the updated Assets Register, as prepared by himself and, on a proposal by Harold Kerlake, which was seconded by Tony Berry, the new Assets Register – amounting to £770,917 in total – was approved by the Parish Council.

HETHERSETT & MELTONS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Nothing further was reported under this item.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 12 May 2015 beginning at 7.30 pm in Little Melton Primary School. It was emphasised that this would be the Annual Parish Council meeting, at which the Chair and Vice-Chair would be elected for the ensuing year.

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

Chair.....

Date.....