

Down to Business.....

Playground Equipment

The playground equipment is ageing and needs regular maintenance. Please report any defects that you spot to the Clerk so that they can be quickly dealt with. The PC has purchased more rubber mats to replace the most worn mats and will be holding a working party to fit them and do a tidy up - please contact the clerk if you can help.

Telephone Box

The box is being removed as it has only been used on average seven times a year. A few years ago BT put a notice in the box asking if anyone objected to the removal and no one replied. A villager has offered to provide a seat with a memorial plaque that could be used by people waiting for the bus. The PC is proposing to relocate the nearby notice board that is currently half in a hedge.

GNDP

As many will be aware - with the change in Government - the RSS is to be scrapped and local planning authorities will be free to set their own policies and priorities for development. So whether there is a need for the GNDP and whether it needs to work to a JCS is now doubtful. Once the new local planning regime is more fully known things will presumably become much clearer. With regard to Little Melton in particular it would not be unexpected if some development was still put forward for our village for the period up to 2026.

Travellers

The Parish Council has received numerous complaints about obstruction to right of way (north/east end of old part of School Lane) but would like to hear from others so that they can be forwarded to Norfolk County Council. Travellers are being tolerated till end of school term and Norfolk County Council does not regard it as a long term site but has no alternative available.

Parish Council contacts:

Clerk: Richard Sinclair 01603 811432

- clerk@little-melton.org.uk

Chair: John Heaser -

chair@little-melton.org.uk

For the Diary....

10th July *Wildlife Group - Moth trap inspection at 64 School Lane. 8.00pm*

17th Jul *Freinds of the Church Anglian Singers Concert*

20th Jul *Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm*

22nd Jul *Meltonians Village Hall 2.15pm*

3rd Aug *Wildlife Group - Bat Walk. Meet outside the King's Head at Bawburgh. 8.45pm*

3rd Aug *Last day for Oil Economy Group ordering*

7th Aug *Wildlife Group - Moth trap inspection at 64 School Lane 8.00am*

7th Sep *Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm*

17th Sep *Wildlife Group - Small mammal identification workshop at 64 School Lane. 7.00pm*

Oct 2010 *Next Newsletter*

Just a reminder about Hedges and Trees.

It's that time of year where our hedges and trees are growing at full strength. Please check yours and make sure they do not cause pedestrians a nuisance by overhanging the pathways. It's not good to force walkers into the road especially if they have pushchairs or wheelchairs.



Little Melton Parish Council newsletter

Issue no.13

July 2010

In the last two weeks there have been 12 shed/outbuilding break-ins recorded in the South Norfolk area.

To protect your shed from being targeted Norfolk Constabulary offers the following advice:

- ☐ Do not neglect the hinge either side and use security screws or bolts through their fixings.
- ☐ Fit good quality mortice locks or padlocks 1/3 up and 1/3 down on the door to reduce the leverage available.
- ☐ Secure the windows with a weld mesh or a crime shield product secured from the inside.
- ☐ Fit a security light to deter potential thieves.
- ☐ Use padlocks and chains to secure high value items including power tools, lawnmowers and cycles to an anchor.
- ☐ Overtly security mark your property with your house number and postcode.

Shed alarms are being sold by the Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) who cover the South Norfolk area, including Loddon, Cringleford, Hethersett, Mulbarton and Thurlton areas, which have all been affected by this crime in past weeks.

Insp James Brown, who leads the policing teams said: "I hope that once shed owners have these alarms in place, and by taking on board extra added crime prevention advice being offered by SNTs in the area we will be able to work to prevent thieves operating in the area. We would also like to encourage people to mark their property in a permanent way and their belongings, either by engraving or using UV marker pens as this makes any stolen property worthless because it becomes easily identifiable and so difficult to sell on. By actively marking property it can discourage would-be criminals and help improve security generally in the community." While the teams are proactively visiting any victims of crime and neighbouring properties, they are also encouraging any other shed owners who would like to benefit from these alarms to contact them. Members of the team are also available to offer crime prevention advice or guidance on any other matters of concern. Those interested in crime prevention advice or in buying an alarm for their shed are asked to contact their Safer Neighbourhood Team. All teams can be contacted by calling 0845 456 4567 or by visiting their web-page at www.safernorfolk.co.uk

Don't forget, there's more information, updated regularly on www.little-melton.org.uk

Friends of Little Melton Church

We thank everyone who opened their gardens and hosted various attractions, and all those 'meanderers' who supported the Meandering Fete. It was a beautiful day and £678.76 was banked for Church funds.

On the 17th July we are looking forward to a concert by the Anglian Singers so why not join us for a glass of wine and some nibbles. There will be no tickets for this event, everyone is welcome and we will be asking for a retiring collection to cover expenses.

Christian Aid collections roughly amounted to £900, which with Gift Aid boosts to £1050. Thanks to everyone who donated despite these difficult financial times.

Proposed Development to the north of Hethersett

With regard to the suggested very large development proposals - put forward by Ptarmigan Land - there is, as has been reported in the local press, a campaign led by the organisers of "Hands Off Hethersett", who are opposed to such a high level of development. Hethersett Parish Council and some villagers actively campaigned in 2009 and got GNDP plans for 7500 houses reduced to 1000. Following our article in the last newsletter we only received nine responses. Whilst no one was keen for any development, all but one was keen for the Parish Council to engage with the developers in order to get the best outcome for Little Melton. The main 'wants' are paths, traffic calming and diversion and bus improvements. Further news and decisions on such proposed development is awaited.

Generate your own electricity and save money

The recently announced government feed in tariffs make the installation of Photo Voltaic solar panels financially attractive - there is a link on www.little-melton.org.uk to the government announcement. If panels are installed on nearby houses at the same time then there is the potential to save on installation costs. Please contact John Heaser on 812472 if you are interested.

Wildlife Group

Recent events have been well attended and have included - an illustrated talk, a dawn chorus walk, a visit to Ashwellthorpe Woods and Moth trapping. Please see the calendar for coming events. Members recently looked at how habitats could be provided and improved in several gardens and at the churchyard. There is some information on providing habitats for amphibians and birds on the Wildlife Group page at www.little-melton.org.uk. If anyone in the village would like advice on how they can make their garden more supportive for wildlife then please contact Peter on 814134. .

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

PARISH news

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Chris Starr has taken over from Ron Websdale as Homewatch Coordinator. We are most grateful to Ron for his time over the years helping to make Little Melton the safe community that it is.

A new service is being introduced, called Police Direct, which send emails, SMS or voice messages direct to people when there is a local incident to be aware of. Flyers will be distributed soon but there is a sign up link from the Homewatch page at www.little-melton.org.uk (see Village Organisations section). Alerts will also be posted on the village notice boards.

Chris Starr can be contacted at homewatch@little-melton.org.uk or on 01603 819006.

Oil Economy Group

We still continue to grow putting through 150 orders last February, our highest numbers ever.

If you are moving house, would you please leave an order form for the new owners. Thank you

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. John Sanders on 810720 or John Copson on 810142

Primary School update

Little Melton Primary School would like to thank all of our friends from the village who attended our May Fair and helped us to raise £4300 - our biggest total to date. Every year the total seems to increase, thank you all very much for your support. The children have voted for a Tyre Park to be installed on the playing field with some of the proceeds of the Fair. Also a thank you to anyone who has brought in the various vouchers (Tesco, Sainsbury's etc) as we cannot always thank individuals for these. The children are looking forward to their school trip, this year the lower school will visit Norwich Cathedral and Castle to compliment their topic work which has been looking at the local area. The Upper school will visit Strangers Hall to learn all about The Tudors which will be the focus of our topic work in September.

This year our first Year 6 class since becoming a Primary School (again) will leave to move on to pastures new. We will miss them and hope they remember us with a smile. I'm sure our final assembly will be very emotional.

School closes for the summer break on July 23rd and the children return again on Monday 6th September.