

MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Melton Constable Parish Council meeting held on 15th September 2021 at 7.30pm at the Country Club.

Present: **D Carter (Chairman)**
 S Unsworth
 A Crawford
 S Meacock
 J Cox
 T Jarman
 M Hayes Clerk
 0 members of the public

3440 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A Brown & Cllr S Aquarone. Apologies accepted.

3441 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th August 2021

PROPOSED (JC) SECONDED (AC) and agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting of 10th August 2021 as a true and accurate record.

3442 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Meacock, Crawford & Unsworth (Allotments) The Clerk granted dispensations to speak & vote.

3443 To Ratify the appointment of the new Clerk

PROPOSED (AC) SECONDED (DC) Unanimously approved to appoint Maxine Hayes as the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

3444 To consider matters arising, not covered on the agenda

Memorial Bench – It was reported that the bench would be delivered next week and would be stored until it could be installed.

Cars behind old telephone exchange – It was agreed to chase the enforcement officer.

Thanks were expressed to Colin Veary for clearing the pathways and undergrowth near the play area entrance

3445 County & District Councillor's reports

Councillor Brown sent a report for the meeting which had been circulated.

3446 To adjourn the meeting to allow for public participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

3447 To receive members' reports

Churchyard – All looking fine.

Southside – Cllr Cox emailed a list of abandoned cars. In order to progress a search and report the vehicles it required completing a V88 form at a cost of £2.50 per vehicle to establish ownership. Agreed to a cost of £10 to progress this issue.

Bus shelter – all looks good. Cllr Jarman offered to clean up this area and it was agreed to get the hedge near the 30mph village sign cut back.

Play area – nothing to report.

Recreation Ground – Looking ok.

Northside – It was agreed to ask Paffron & Scott and The Big Prawn to remove their A boards from the grass verges at the entrance to the village.

15 September 2021

3448 Allotments

Chicken Count: It was reported that many of the chickens had been removed and numbers were being reduced. Numbers would be reviewed again in 2 months.

New tenants: It was reported that plot 27 had been let and there was a prospective new tenant for plot 45 if the shed was removed. It was agreed to write to the former tenant requesting all the contents were removed from the shed and suggesting that as it is in bad condition they dismantle it.

New Allotment Contract: Approved with the following amendment – Paragraph 5B
To read: Should an existing tenant move outside of the above designated area they would be entitled to retain the plot providing it is kept cultivated and in good order. If this is not the case then they will be given 3 months to remove all crops and property from the plot, after which time the Council will take possession of the plot and any crops left thereon.

It was agreed the Clerk would circulate the amended version of the contract for approval.

Email from North Norfolk District Council Environmental Health Department regarding Complaints about cockerel noise

Noted.

Collection of allotment rents: This would take place on 6th October in the Country Club from 7pm.

3449 To update on the renovation of the land adjacent to the Millennium Gardens

Councillor Carter had circulated details of possible costings for the development of the area. There were still some queries over the ownership of the land and it was agreed to research this further. Councillor Carter would be drafting wording for grant applications. Councillor Carter had several mature apple trees that might be able to be moved and donated to the gardens.

It was agreed to set up a sub group including residents to work on this project and report back to the Parish Council.

3450 Date and Frequency of Parish Council meetings

PROPOSED (DC) SECONDED (SM) and unanimously approved to change the frequency of Parish Council meetings to bi- monthly meetings January, March, May, July, September and November on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

3451 To consider co-option for vacancy

There were no applicants.

3452 To consider planning applications

None.

3453 To approve the Financial Statements

The financial statements were distributed to Cllrs prior to the meeting and approved.

PROPOSED (SU) SECONDED (DC) that the payments listed were approved.

Payments

PROPOSED (SU) SECONDED(DC) Unanimously approved.

K Cotgrove – September salary & expenses £350.95

HMRC – September tax £22.60

P Minns – August grass cutting £360.00

P Collins – August grass cutting £220.00

Westcotec – monthly lighting maintenance £13.25

E.on – July electricity direct debit £30.90

K Cotgrove – website renewal £124.21

S Drewell – vermin removal £150.00

No Butts Bin Co – bench £582.00

To note receipts

Allotment rent & deposit £35.00

15 September 2021

Donation – memorial bench £485.00

Discussion took place over the continuing costs of removing the vermin from the allotments. Although lots of rats had been removed there were still several nests in the area of plots 5,6,23,24 & 25. It was agreed that removing the compost piles located near these allotments which had evidence several rat nests would help and the Clerk was asked to check who might be able to remove and dispose of the contaminated soil.

It was agreed to continue with the vermin removal until the problem had been resolved and then in the future plot holders would be responsible for removal of vermin on their own plots as per the allotment contract. It was agreed to review this at the next meeting.

3454 Correspondence

Payphone – The Clerk reported that North Norfolk District Council had supported the Parish Councils objection to having the payphone removed.

Basketball Hoop- The clerk reported that the anonymous donator of the hoop had asked for detail of the preferred height and delivery address. It was agreed to approve 3.05 meters and delivery to Cllr. Meacock who would store the hoop until installed.

Poppy Wreath – PROPOSED(SU) SECONDED(SM) and approved to make a donation Of £75 to the Royal British Legion.

3455 Items for the next agenda

Report on vermin allotments

Renovation of land adj Millennium Gardens – Report back, ratify Parish Council contribution.

3456 To agree the date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.30pm Country Club.

8.30pm Meeting Closed

Signed Chair

Dated