

8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk to the Council: Kirsty Cotgrove, Bodgers Field, Norwich Road, Briston, NR24 2BB**  
**01263 587755 / 07754 885750** **clerkmeltonpc@gmail.com**

**MINUTES** of the Melton Constable Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 7.30pm via Zoom (online).

Present: S Unsworth D Carter  
S Meacock A Crawford  
John Cox E Smith  
K Cotgrove (Clerk) A Brown (District Councillor)  
1 member of the public

3325 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were noted for Steffan Aquarone (County Councillor).

3326 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Crawford SECONDED by Cllr Smith it was AGREED to accept the minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> November as a true and accurate record.

3327 Declarations of Interest

None.

3328 Matters Arising from Last Minutes, not covered on the agenda

3316. There has still been no response from the Agent. The Clerk will continue to chase.

3329 County & District Councillor reports

County Cllr Aquarone emailed a report prior to the meeting. He also reported that the sale of Holt Hall has been reference to the Scrutiny Committee, with a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.

District Councillor Brown emailed a brief report to the Clerk prior to the meeting. He expressed disappointment at the delay of enforcement action for the car storage until February, and will chase Enforcement in the new year if the vehicles have not been moved. Water flowing from the Spinney was discussed at length. The Clerk has reported the matter to Planning Enforcement who have passed it to Highways, as they feel it is not their department. It was noted that the potential issues of building over a spring should have been identified and dealt with at planning level, before permission was given. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Planning and Highways Enforcement with the Parish Council's concerns and a request that the developer add further drainage, and copy in District Cllr Brown. Cllr Smith asked if District Cllr Smith could let the Clerk know the Fakenham and Cromer Covid testing locations, so a notice can be put on the noticeboard.

*District Cllr Brown left the meeting at 7:53pm.*

3330 To adjourn the meeting for public participation

None.

3331 Members' Reports

Churchyard: Looking lovely.

Southside: There is an intermittent factory noise at night. Cllr Cox is attempting to track down the source. Cllr Cox carried out a road survey in 2015, and hopes to do another in the spring.

Bus shelter: A very kind anonymous person has been keeping the bus shelter looking lovely, and has added Christmas decorations. The Clerk will thank them in the next newsletter.

Play area: The play area has reopened. Someone has removed a plant from the pot next to the bench, and has panted it into the ground.

Recreation Ground: All good.

Northside: The streetlight between Burgh Beck Road continues to flicker. The Clerk will contact Westcotec again to chase.

Allotments: The Clerk has arranged some Avian Flu posters, and will put them on the boards at the allotments. There is only one non-payer, who the Clerk has been attempting to contact. There is a small waiting list, and only half a plot available.

3332 To update on the renovation of allotment plot one

The contractor has started work, and has uncovered a lot of rubbish. The Clerk will see if NNDC can collect, otherwise will obtain quotes to remove it. The contractor will need to use a digger to remove the deep-rooted brambles. He has asked Cllr Unsworth what the plan are for the land, so he can assist with the preparation. It was agreed that, for the time being, the ground will be leveled, and the trees kept.

3333 Planning

None.

3334. To agree grass cutting quotes for 2021-22

The Clerk has received renewal quotes from the existing contractors. It was agreed that the quality of the work is excellent, and their costs are reasonable. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Crawford, SECONDED by Cllr Smith it was AGREED to accept the quotations.

3335. To update on the Country Club

Cllr Meacock gave the history of this year regarding the Country Club, beginning with the sale of the land the Club owned. The Country Club hope to reopen on 16<sup>th</sup>, restrictions depending. There have been suggestions that the Parish Council could become more involved in the Club, as Briston have with the Pavilion, but Councillors feel this is not possible until the governance has been arranged and finalised. It was noted that the governance and relationship between Briston Parish Council and the Higginbottom Trust (who manage the Pavilion) are not comparable. Should the Parish Council get involved with the Country Club, then costs involved would have to be funded via the precept, which is not ideal. Cllr Crawford thanked Cllr Meacock for all he does to assist the Country Club.

3336. Finances

(i) Financial Statement - On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Meacock, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, the monthly statement and budget update was approved

(ii) Payments - On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Meacock, it was AGREED to approve the following payments:

E.on	Electricity direct debit	£30.90
NNDC	Waste bin emptying 2020-21	£886.08
Community Heartbeat Trust	Electrodes	£45.60
K Cotgrove	November salary, Inc. HMRC	£312.00
Westcotec	Monthly lighting maintenance	£13.25
K Cotgrove	Expenses	£37.71
	TOTAL	£1325.54

(iii) To approve the 2020-21 budget:

It was noted that the costs for the allotments far exceed the income, so a review is required. Following discussion and amendments, on a PROPOSAL by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, the 2021-22 budget was duly APPROVED.

(iv) To approve the 2021-22 precept:

8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Smith, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, precept of £14,510 (5% increase) was APPROVED.

3337 Correspondence.

(i) Briston Parish Council Traffic Review. – Councillors noted that Briston Parish Council would like a permanent 20mph speed limit outside the school. Councillors expressed concern that once people leave a 20mph zone, they could speed up to over 30mph. It was agreed that the 20mph would need to cover the whole of the B1354 through Briston and Melton Constable. It was noted that the new houses will add to congestion around the school.

3338 Items for January agenda

Allotment rent review, possibly broadband, frequency of meetings.

3339 Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 7:30pm, via Zoom

Meeting Closed

Clerk ..... Chair ..... Dated .....