

11<sup>th</sup> September 2018

MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: K Cotgrove**  
**Bodgers Field**  
**Norwich Road**  
**Briston**  
**Melton Constable**  
**NR24 2BB**

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**MINUTES** of the Melton Constable Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
7.30pm at the Country Club.

Present: J Hayes (Chair)  
S Unsworth  
S Meacock  
A Crawford  
J Cox  
E Smith  
K Cotgrove Clerk  
District Cllr P Butikofer  
County Cllr S Aquarone  
1 member of the public

2924 Apologies for Absence

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Crawford SECONDED by Cllr Unsworth it was AGREED to Accept apologies for Cllr Tosney.

2925 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Unsworth SECONDED by Cllr Meacock it was AGREED to accept the minutes of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> August as a true and accurate record.

2926 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cox (Felbeck Trust initiative).

2927 Matters Arising from Last Minutes

2910. The rope has been replaced on the play equipment.

2928 County & District Councillor reports

County Cllr Aquarone reported that a consultation will take place regarding adult social care, and he will try to assist people who need help with submissions. Proposed cuts to mobile libraries will be discussed at the October meeting. The Police and Crime Commissioner is attempting to take control of the running of the fire service. Norfolk County Council oppose this, as they feel it will have a material impact on public safety.

District Cllr Butikofer reported that a cabinet meeting took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> September where future planning provision was discussed. A recommendation was reviewed and agreed to reintroduce the Community Infrastructure Levy. A capital budget has been agreed of £600,000 for improvements to public conveniences at a number of locations in North Norfolk. A legal council has been appointed to assist with the ongoing windfarm applications. Greenbuild was a huge success. Cllr Cox asked if money could be spent on drinking fountains in North Norfolk whilst money is being spent on public conveniences, as it would help to reduce plastic usage. District Cllr Butikofer will investigate further.

2929 To consider proposed speed reduction measures

County Cllr Aquarone reported that he had been approached by a number of Parishioners concerned at the speeding through the village. The speed limit cannot be reduced, and it

would be unlikely that a reduction would have any effect. County Cllr Aquarone has met with a Highways engineer who has recommended village gates and the removal of the rumble strips, which are becoming dangerous and are no longer recommended for use. The gates will be situated between where the rumble strips are, and the 30mph signs, the Fakenham side of the Holt Road junction. It was agreed that the gates would be a good idea, and that Parishioners should have an input in the design. County Cllr Aquarone will contact the people who responded to his previous speed reduction survey for their input in design. A copy of the consultation will also go in the noticeboard. The survey results will be discussed in the October meeting.

*County Cllr Aquarone left the meeting at 8pm*

2930 To adjourn the meeting for public participation

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

William Heal was in attendance and gave an update of the timetable for the Remembrance Sunday commemorations. He asked for suggestions for who could light the beacon, and suggested that it should be someone who had a relation who was in the First World War. It was agreed that Mr. Heal could arrange someone to do this.

The Parishioner left the meeting at 8:07pm, and the meeting was reconvened.

2931 Members' Reports

Churchyard: Cllr Smith reported that the grass was not cut.

Bus shelter: All fine.

Southside: The grass on Grove Road has not been cut. Melbobby has again sprayed the land on Grove Road. It was agreed to write to them again to express regret that they have sprayed, and to ask them to desist as it affects wildlife, including insects on the bat run. A property on Briston Road is again accumulating rubbish. The Clerk will write to the owners to ask them to remove.

Play area: The rope has been replaced and the grass was cut. Correspondence has been received from the Melton Mews management team who have complained about grass cuttings from the play area being left on the shingle drive.

Recreation Ground: The grass has been cut very well, and the Rec is looking good. The bench has still not been repaired, and the fixings have been broken. The Clerk has requested repairs by the handyman.

Northside: There is still rubbish at the rear of a property on Burgh Beck Road.

Allotments: A complaint was made about a tenant burning non-organic material on a plot. Cllrs Unsworth and Hayes went to look and a letter was sent to the Tenant, who has responded. Another letter was sent to tenants who appear not to be cultivating their plot, only using it to garage vehicles. No response has been received. There are currently 1.5 vacant plots. Renewal evening is 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Street lighting: Cllr Cox has been in contact with Westcotec, who will look at the lights when they are nearby.

2932 To update on negotiations regarding an allotment lease and consideration of the implications for both outstanding grant applications and grant monies already agreed or received

Sport England gave a deadline for a lease of 30<sup>th</sup> September. The agents of the landlord were advised via email, but have not acknowledged or responded to the email. Cllr Hayes PROPOSED letters be sent to grant providers just before the deadline to inform them of the situation and to state that should the situation change in the future, the Parish Council will reapply for funding. All AGREED.

2933 To agree a license arrangement with the Felbeck Trust to create a nature reserve on allotments unsuitable for cultivation

A meeting was held with some members of the Parish Council, which unfortunately Trevor from the Felbeck Trust was unable to attend. It was agreed that the Parish Council would need a lease or letter or permission from the landlord before committing to a medium / long term agreement with the Felbeck Trust. Cllrs Smith and Cox have been working on a letter to send to the Landlord's Agents to request permission.

*Cllr Cox left the meeting at 8:40pm*

Cllr Hayes reported that some of the allotment land being discussed is currently leased to Cllr Cox. The Parish Council will need to approach him separately to negotiate.

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Hayes SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, it was AGREED that the Clerk will write to the Agents of the Landlords for permission.

*Cllr Cox returned to the meeting at 8:43pm.*

2934 To update on grass cutting

Despite a number of requests via telephone or email, no one has contacted the Clerk to discuss ongoing issues with grass cutting. She has requested a list of areas they have cut, And the dates involved. As the payment is via a monthly standing order, on a PROPOSAL by Cllr Hayes, SSECONDED by Cllr Crawford, it was AGREED the Clerk should stop the standing order after the October payment, and ask CGM for a schedule of work carried out. She is continuing to request quotes for a replacement contractor.

2935 To note the proposed preliminary Grove Road site survey on behalf of Victory Housing and to consider in principle a response should that housing association seek planning permission for the site

The survey has started and Cllr Cox has spoken to an engineer working on site. They are testing at the same sites as 2004 and 2017, but deeper. They have had a good look at the former gas works site, and the engineer felt that work could be done at a cost. Who commissioned the survey is unknown. A planning application is likely to be lodged by Victory Housing at some stage.

2936 Planning applications

PF/18/1546. The Spinney, 1 Grove Road, Melton Constable. The erection of 4 no. 2 storey semi detached dwellings. It was noted that this application is on the bat corridor which was identified in a survey carried out in July. It was agreed that these properties are very small, and the large number of properties on this small plot of land is overdevelopment. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Smith, SECONDED by Cllr Meacock, it was AGREED that the Parish Council should object to this application. District Cllr Butikofer noted this, and will work with the Parish Council.

*District Cllr Butikofer left the meeting at 9:05pm*

2937 Finances

(i) On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Cox, SECONDED by Cllr Unsworth, the monthly statement and budget was approved

(ii) On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Unsworth SECONDED by Cllr Meacock it was AGREED to approve the following payments:

|        |            |                              |         |
|--------|------------|------------------------------|---------|
| 102007 | K Cotgrove | Salary and website renewal   | £271.61 |
| SO     | CGM        | Grounds maintenance – August | £138.49 |
| 102008 | CAN        | Membership renewal           | £20.00  |
| 102009 | HMRC       | Clerk's tax                  | £22.60  |
| 102010 | MCCC       | Hall hire Apr – Jul          | £114.00 |
| 102011 | Westcotec  | Monthly lighting maintenance | £13.25  |
| 102012 | Playscape  | Play equipment repair        | £360.00 |
|        |            |                              | TOTAL   |
|        |            |                              | £939.95 |

(iii) The following receipts were noted:

11<sup>th</sup> September 2018

|                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Allotment rents – plots 3 & 4         | £24.00  |
| E of E Co-Op – community token scheme | £300.00 |

2938 Correspondence

(i) Parish Rangers: Blocked drains were identified. The Clerk will report, and ask for road signs to be cleaned and signs obscured by undergrowth to be cleared. She will also ask if rubbish can be cleared.

2939 Items for August agenda

Felbeck Trust lease, village gates.

2940 Date and time of next meeting

It was agreed that the date and time of the next Parish Council meeting would be Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7.30pm.

9:10 pm: Meeting Closed

Clerk .....

Chair .....

Dated .....