

# Melbourne Parish Council

Mrs J Storer, Clerk to the Parish Council, 2 Mansfields Croft, Etwall, Derbyshire DE65 6NJ  
Email: Melbourneclerk@aol.com

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Melbourne Parish Council held at 7.30pm Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 at the Shone Lounge Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, Melbourne

**Councillors Present:** Cllr Earp (Chair), Butler, Carpenter, Carroll, Collyer, Hicklin, Jackson, Minifie, Parker, Sharp, Smith, Stockill, Willmore

**In Attendance:** Mrs J Storer (Clerk). Cllr Mrs Chilton, 1 member of the press, Cllr Hewlett, Cllr Harrison, 6 Parishioners, PC Vicky Ball (to 7.59pm)

**Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hudson (study leave) and Cllr Howard.

**692. Declaration of Interests:** Declarations were received and accepted from Cllr Earp and Cllr Butler in connection with planning application 9 2014 0417. Cllr Wilmorein connection with planning application 9 2013 0369.

**693. To grant any dispensation resulting from declarations of interest:** No dispensations were necessary.

**694. Variation of Order of business:** There were no variations to the order of business.

### **695. Public speaking:**

(a) Michael Hardwood (Chelgate Ltd) was unable to attend the meeting to present information on a forthcoming planning application; instead his written statement that had been sent to the Clerk, was read in full to the meeting by the Chairman.

(b) A resident reported that youths are gathering on Station Road and Trent Lane and added that anti social behavior may be occurring.

(c) Mr King (Chair of the Save Melbourne Toilets) addressed the meeting to explain the establishment of this new community group and of its aims. The Group has received pledges of financial support from residents of Melbourne. The Group had submitted a register of interest in the purchase of the toilets; but this has been rejected by SDDC as the group does not have charitable status. Mr King added that he has examples of other non-charitable groups in other areas which have been successful in obtaining ownership of assets registered as Assets of Community Interest. He concluded by pledging the group's support to the Parish Council. Cllr Harrison read out a prepared speech that he will submit to the Village Voice regarding the public toilets.

A short debate between Cllr Harrison and Mr King took place. Mr King left the meeting. Cllr Carroll in response to Cllr Harrison's statement commented that there has never been an agreement only a suggestion that the public toilets are relocated to the Assembly Rooms and it was because of this lack of a firm agreement that the Parish Council went onto register the public toilets as an Asset of Community Interest. Cllr Harrison replied that he was informed by SDDC officers that an agreement had been reached with MARS and that it was hoped that the disabled toilets would be open 24 hours; 7 days a week. Cllr Carpenter replied to this as he is a member of the MARS Board and stated that plans were provided for the MARS Board to consider but that no firm offer was made. He was prepared to check the previous Board minutes to obtain confirmation of this fact.

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(d) A resident introduced himself as a member of the Woodlands Action Group (WAG) and requested that application 9 2014 0417 is considered seriously and he urged the Parish Council to object the application. The resident was informed that comments could be made now about the application, but no comment could be made by the public during the Parish Council's consideration of the application.

## **696. Police**

PC Ball provided an update on activities reported on Trent Lane and of the actions taken by the police. A consequence was that an uninsured moped has been seized.

Following reports of possible criminal activity in the car park, PC Ball replied that there are no children gathering in the carpark but if any are noticed that this is reported.

There have been successful arrests of 2 suspects, which have cleared over 30 reported incidents of crime.

7.55 PC Ball left the meeting.

## **697. District and County Councillors**

### County Council

Cllr Chilton is supporting a meeting in the autumn with the Education Officer and the Education for Melbourne Group; when it is hoped to have some information about secondary education for Melbourne and of a new primary school classroom.

Another street light consultation will take place. If bulbs in the street lights go out; only those lights in key locations will be replaced; the others will be replaced on a rolling basis, although no time limit on the rolling basis was known. Cllr Chilton urged that any defective street lights are still reported.

The mobile library consultation moves to the second phase and assurances were provided by Cllr Chilton that there are no current proposals to close Melbourne Library; the consultation is only considering mobile libraries.

The landowner with PFP 6 across it has been served with a notice due to the path being obstructed by crops.

Cllr Chilton is looking into the access along Derby Road for disabled scooters and she is working with Western Power about the placing of one of their substations at the junction of George Street and Quick Close.

### District Council

Cllr Hewlett reported that SDDC has a new Chairman and the cost of the position have been reduced by a variety of means. The savings are expected to be in excess of £40,000.

Unemployment levels in all areas of SDDC are below the national average.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014 SDDC is expected to approve the draft Local Plan submission. Both Cllr Hewlett and Cllr Harrison are opposing the planning application 9 2014 0417 and are working with W.A.G in this purpose.

It was reported that no other village in South Derbyshire receives a grant towards any Christmas event and a request was made to remember that Swadlincote's event is for the whole district not just Swadlincote.

When the District Council decided to reduce the number of recycling centres, all recycling centres at Schools were closed and additional wheelie bins were offered to the schools free of charge. Melbourne Primary School has some bins but should additional ones be required, Cllr Hewlett needs to be contacted. It was reported that Budgens were unhappy about hosting any recycling points and SDDC has a preference to have recycling provisions on its own land; thus the recycling bins at the car park will remain.

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## **698. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **699. To receive reports from Committees**

### Highways Committee, meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Cllr Jackson reported that some of the hanging baskets are in the wrong place.

### Facilities Committee meeting 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Cllr Jackson reported that he has met with Mr Younger and requested 2 quotes for differing methods of covering the French drain at Lothain Gardens.

Cllr Collyer reported that there is confusion over the ownership of ten square yards of land at Jawbone Lane. This will be brought to the next Facilities Committee.

## **700. To determine if any matters are to be taken with the Public excluded**

There were no additional matters to be taken in the exempt section of the meeting.

## **701. Chair's Announcements**

The Chair reported that she attended the opening of the Garden at the Reservoir.

## **702. To receive the Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report was previously circulated and agreed. No matters were raised.

## **703. Reports from representatives on outside organisations**

Senior Citizens Centre – the AGM was held in May, with the Committee being returned on block. There are no further details as to whether the Centre is to close, but a meeting is to be held with Lord Ralph Kerr later in June.

Infant School Governors – Cllr Smith had nothing to report.

Safer Neighbourhood – no report, but Mr McArdle will be in attendance at that meeting and is prepared to answer questions about the Public Toilets.

Education for Melbourne – no report

Festival – no report

Sporting Partnership – Cllr Jackson continues to circulate the minutes of the MSP meetings and informed that the drainage works continue and the works generally are proceeding well.

Athenaeum – no report

Promote Melbourne – Cllr Willmore was unable to attend the recent meeting and raised matters relating to the Christmas event later in the meeting.

Assembly Rooms – Cllr Carpenter reported that the Heritage Lottery bid is progressing. It is scheduled that an application will be submitted at the end of the year.

Donington Park Liaison Committee – No report

## **704. Correspondence**

1. DALC – Various Circulars

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2. North West Leicestershire DC – Draft Rival Markets Policy  
(Deadline 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014)  
Comments sent back – that Melbourne out of the area.
3. SDDC – Information for the Area meeting and Safer Neighbourhood meeting
4. Cllr Chilton – notification of applications for funding towards street lighting at DCC
5. Claire Hickie – Request to erect a wooden cross where the Christmas Tree stands for Easter 2015  
RESOLVED: permission to erect a cross was denied; no religious artefacts are to be displayed on areas under the Parish Council's control.
6. Mr B Thomas – Request for the phone box to be renovated and relocated
7. Kings Newton Bowls Club – Letter of thanks for the removal of the bus shelter
8. Mr R Docherty – Proposed development in Melbourne
9. Mr B Hardy – Objection to planning application 9 2014 0417
10. Mr & Mrs Hagues – Objection to planning application 9 2014 0417
11. Jessica Long – Draft objection to the Packhorse Lane development
12. Mr C King – email supporting planning application 9 2014 0417
13. DCC – Dropped kerb at School entrance – will try to install one but maybe some time due to heavy work load

## 705. Finance

a) RESOLVED the accounts for payment as circulated were approved and payments were authorised.

b) Budget appraisal/risk assessment

Currently there are no amendments to the risk assessment.

c) Section 137 – request for funding by First Responder Group

At the last meeting the Clerk was requested to obtain further information from the Group as to its service to Melbourne. The Clerk reported on the reply; the Group is newly established and has no statistics, but it did provide assurances that Melbourne would be an area that the Group would cover.

RESOLVED: not to provide any funding as the Group does not serve Melbourne either solely or mainly.

d) The Clerk reported that she had received a telephone call from the Secretary of MSP, requesting information as to when £5000 from the precept will be provided to the MSP.

Cllr Collyer provided background on the agreed funding arrangements for MSP. He informed that the Parish Council voted to increase the precept by £5000 as a contribution towards the running costs of the Sports Centre when it is open. Cllr Collyer will locate the minutes and the Clerk will then write to the MSP confirming the Parish Council's view that the funds will be provided when the Sports Centre is open.

## 706. Consideration of Planning Applications

92014 0369 – the conversion and part rebuild of former agricultural store to a holiday let at land SK3725 8464, Cockshut Lane, Melbourne

*Cllr Willmore declared a prejudicial interest as this application is submitted by a relative and he left the meeting whilst the application was considered*

NO OBJECTIONS

*Cllr Willmore returned*

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9 2014 0384 – the felling of Cupressus Lawsonian tree at 8 High Street, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0407 – the conversion of barns into 3 residential units and erection of garage block with storage above at Barns Farm, Wards Lane, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0392 – prior approval of proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (use class C3) at Riding Bank, Cockshut Lane, Melbourne

OBJECTIONS – this is a progressive development; the third in the location and is outside the area of normal development. Cllrs expressed a desire for advice from the Planning Dept about the general rules relating to this type of application.

9 2014 0422 – the erection of a ground mounted array of 40 x 250KW solar PV panels on land to the rear of Hemsley Barn, Shepherds Lane, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0417 – The erection of 68 dwelling with access off land at SK3826 4705, Kings Newton Lane, Melbourne

*Cllr Butler declared an interest as the application has been submitted by a relative*

*Cllr Earp declared an interest as she has a close connection to the applicant. Both left the meeting at 8:44pm whilst the application was considered.*

Cllr Parker took the Chair for the discussion and consideration of the planning application

Cllrs considered as with other applications; that there are too many applications for housing being submitted, and the Parish facilities will possibly be overstretched. A debate took place as to the possible benefits that the application could bring.

OBJECTIONS that the application, if granted, would overstretch the facilities of the Parish.

8:50 Cllr Earp and Cllr Butler returned to the meeting. Cllr Earp resumed the Chair.

9 2014 1010 – Change of use of first and second floor office into a single flat at 30A Market Place, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0460 – Revised retrospective application for the erection for the erection of a side extension, roof over garage, dormer improvements and part loft conversion at 30 Victoria Street, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

Proposal for a rail freight interchange and warehousing and highway works on land in the vicinity of Junction 24 of the M1 to the north of EM Airport and to the south of Lockington and Hemington and to the east of Castle Donington: Pre-application consultation pursuant to S42 of Planning Act 2008 and notice pursuant to Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009

*Closing date 21<sup>st</sup> June 2014*

*Further information at [www.eastmidlandsgateway.co.uk](http://www.eastmidlandsgateway.co.uk)*

NO OBJECTIONS – providing this improves the access on the A50 with the M1. It was considered to be the best hope to obtain the necessary improvements in the local infrastructure and hopefully to alleviate the problem of traffic over Swarkestone Bridge.

## **707. Councillor Training**

The Clerk made enquiries as to whether Cllrs required any training; general or specific.

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Cllr Carroll suggested training on planning. Cllr Earp requested Chairman training and Cllr Stockill requested general training. Cllrs rejected the Clerk's suggestion of bespoke training for the Parish Council and instead courses offered by DALC when they arise will be considered.

## **708. Amendment to the CCTV Policy**

In light of the recent clarification from SDDC that the CCTV system can be used to bring private prosecutions for dog fouling; it is RESOLVED that access to view the CCTV system is amended to include the Clerk, the Police and Cllr Minifie.

## **709. To consider the future of the telephone kiosk**

Mr Thomas has contacted the Parish Council as he is keen to renovate and relocate the kiosk currently at Kings Newton. Cllr Carroll suggested that the kiosk can be used to house the defibrillator.

RESOLVED: to establish a Working Party to consider feasible options relating to the use, upgrade and location of the kiosk. The Clerk reminded the Council that working parties have no powers and only recommendations can be made.

RESOLVED membership of the working party is :-

Cllr Earp, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Carpenter, Cllr Stockill and Mr B Thomas

Cllr Earp will arrange a date for the first meeting

## **710. The future of the Christmas Shopping/Lights event**

A meeting relating to the future of the Christmas shopping event was held on 19<sup>th</sup> May with the Parish Council, local shop keepers and interested persons. Whilst the attendance was considered to be poor, it was agreed that there was a general willingness for the event to continue.

Cllr Willmore recapped on the history of the event, which originally had nothing to do with the Parish Council; the Parish Council only became involved to provide the insurance cover. The event has waned a little recently and he proposed to have an event similar to that held at Ashbourne and to hold the event closer to Christmas.

RESOLVED: to establish a working party, this will include Cllrs and members of the public to make suggestions.

The members are Cllr Willmore, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Butler, Cllr Collyer, Cllr Parker, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Earp, Clare Bampton and any Melbourne business owner who wishes to be involved.

The working party will hold its first meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June, at MARS at 7.30pm.

The Clerk reminded the meeting again that working parties do not have any powers and only recommendations can be made to the Council. The Clerk also requested that some recommendations are made quickly as some actions, such as obtaining road closure notices need to be undertaken over the summer.

The remit of the working party is to propose

- The date of the event
- The content and format of the event

## **711. Public Toilets update**

Cllrs Collyer and Jackson attended a meeting on Bank Holiday Monday and Cllr Jackson attended a further meeting last night, about saving the public toilets in Melbourne.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's expression of interest in acquiring the public toilets has been acknowledged by SDDC and was the only legitimate expression of interest received.

SDDC now requires the Parish Council to provide heads of terms, an offer price and confirmation that it will cover the reasonable costs of the District Council.

Cllr Collyer suggested that a meeting is held with SDDC to ascertain the way forward.

The Chairman suspended standing orders to allow comment from the floor

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Cllr Harrison agreed that a meeting with SDDC was a good idea to see if an agreement can be reached over the toilets.

The Chairman returned to standing orders.

RESOLVED the Clerk was instructed to arrange a meeting with SDDC, the Facility Committee members and the Chairman. **(Action: Clerk)**

## 712. For information only

i) Cllr Minifie requested permission for the Festival to establish a children's trail in the Lothian Gardens. Permission was granted.

ii) Cllr Hicklin reported that the verge on Cockshut Lane is overgrown. **(Action: Clerk)**

iii) Cllr Hicklin also reported that the path between Selina Street and Cockshut Lane is also overgrown. This is thought to be the responsibility of the Allotment Society. The Clerk was requested to ask the Allotment Society to cut the hedge. **(Action: Clerk)**

iv) Cllr Carroll reported that the Friends of Melbourne Churches have made an application for a brown road sign that provides directions to the Church.

## 713. Date of committee meetings

Burial Committee	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm	Assembly Rooms
Facilities Committee	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm	Assembly Rooms
Highways Committee	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 8.00pm	Assembly Rooms
Personnel Committee	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 8.30pm	Assembly Rooms

## 691. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 at 7.30pm in the Shone Lounge. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.45pm and moved to the Confidential section of the meeting.

## CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

The minutes of the confidential section held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were agreed and signed by the Chairman

### Closure of Lothian Gardens and the public toilets

RESOLVED: that Mr A Bexon should be asked to close the facilities. Cllr Jackson will liaise with Mr Bexon as to a start date. **(Cllr Jackson)**

### Quote for tree felling – Packhorse Road Cemetery

The beech tree at the Cemetery requires felling as it is suffering from the same disease as the one in the Old Burial Ground. A quote of £780.00 for its felling has been received and was APPROVED.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.00pm.