

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 1st April 2014 at the Shone Lounge Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, Melbourne

Councillors Present: Cllr J Carroll (Chair), Butler, Collyer, Earp, Hicklin, Howard (to 8.50pm), Hudson, Jackson, Minifie, Parker, Sharp, Smith, Stockill,

In Attendance: Mrs J Storer (Clerk). Cllr Mrs Chilton (to 8.50pm), 1 member of the press, Cllr Hewlett, Cllr Harrison, 3 Parishioners, PC Ball (to 7.35 pm).

647. Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Wilmore and Cllr Carpenter.

648. Declaration of Interests: Declarations were received and accepted from Cllr Butler in connection with planning application 9 2014 0216 and from Cllr Earp in connection with the planning appeal 9 2013 0922. Cllr Jackson declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to advertising of Parish Council matters as he part owner of the Village Voice.

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

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

651. Police matters:

PC Ball reported on the increase in number of incidents of criminal damage in the car park at the rear of The Lamb; these follow on from the incident at Harpers on Saturday evening. The police are aware of underage drinking and as a consequence will be undertaking additional police patrols. The police have also reported the matter to the Licencing Authority. The CCTV has not yet been checked as the incident is under the domain of the Swadlincote police.

There have been increased incidents of bike thefts and advice was provided on how to increase security of high value bikes.

Cllr Hicklin enquired about the response times when calls are made to the police. PC Ball informed that this is dependent upon the type of call, and whether there is a police presence at Melbourne, adding that Swadlincote Station covers Melbourne and if the police attend from Swadlincote on a 999 call, it is a 15minute run.

Cllr Stockill enquired if there had been any test purchases for underage drinkers. PC Ball informed that the local pubs do not serve underage drinkers but the police will be speaking to off licence sellers.

Cllr Smith reported that his fence had been cut. PC Ball reported that the matter is on the system but this appears to be an isolated incident.

7.35pm PC Ball left the meeting.

652. Public speaking:

Mr R Docherty introduced himself and informed that his is a resident from The Woodlands and was attending the meeting as a representative of the Woodlands Action Group. This Group is opposed to the proposed housing development by Persimmon. Mr Docherty enquired if the proposed development was within Melbourne or in Kings Newton and asked if the Group can rely on the support of the Parish Council to oppose the application. Cllr Carroll replied that there is no definitive answer as to the location of the proposed development; Cllr Jackson added that it is a question of where the access is which will determine whether it is either Melbourne or Kings Newton. Regarding the second matter, Mr Docherty was informed that the Parish Council cannot provide any support; the planning application will be considered when it arrives and concerns of

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Residents will be given serious consideration. Cllr Carroll enquired what correspondence, if anything, had been received by the residents of The Woodlands about this proposal. Mr Docherty advised that all had received a letter, but it had been difficult to ascertain what the impact was. Mr Docherty was thanked.

653. District and County Councillors

County Council

Cllr Chilton had pursued the request for dog fouling stenciling to be placed on pavements. In order to pursue this request, the Parish Council will have to make an application to the Environmental Health Officer at SDDC, who in turn will make the request to DCC. The Clerk will make this request to SDDC. **(Action: Clerk)**.

Ashby Road will be closed for works between 14 – 18 April.

The bollard around the Cross at Kings Newton has not been repaired. Cllr Chilton advised it was for the Highways Dept to repair. The Clerk will report the matter to DCC. **(Action: Clerk)**

Cllr Chilton explained how the new caseworker system is operating at DCC and that DCC is clearing the back log of urgent highway repairs.

She attended a meeting on Digital Derbyshire and reported that DCC is on target for the broadband installation across the County. The Government has provided an additional £2.9m which is hoped to be matched funded.

Cllr Jackson asked if the scheme for community buying of gas and electricity organised by DCC, will be repeated this year. Cllr Chilton could offer no guarantees that it would be.

District Council

Cllr Hewlett reported that the footpath between Earp Way and Station Road has been completed. The Fourth South Derbyshire Day at DCFC is to be held on 12th April. Anyone with a South Derbyshire postcode can get a ticket at a reduced rate.

He has made enquiries about the legal position of the use of the CCTV to prosecute any inconsiderate dog owner who fails to clear up after their dog. He has been advised that the situation at Melbourne means that the CCTV can be used to bring prosecutions, but urged that this should be obtained in writing before any action to prosecute is taken. **(Action: Clerk)**.

SDDC has responded to the Airport Consultation on Sustainability.

The recycling facilities in the District have been reviewed and assessed. The 83 recycling sites have been reduced to 10; the centres at the School and at Budgens will be removed. Cllr Minnie thought that the school received some income from the recycling bins and requested that this is checked before the bins are removed. Cllr Earp enquired if the number of the recycling bins in the car park at the back of The Lamb can be reduced in order to free up some additional parking space. Cllr Hewlett agreed to make enquiries.

The meeting paused briefly whilst the Chair received a cheque for £1000 from Cllr Chilton's Grant Fund. The money is to go towards a plaque to commemorate WW1 and to part fund a defibrillator

654. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held 4th March 2014

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held 4th March 2014 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

655. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 4th March 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 4th March 2014 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

656. To receive reports from Committees

Highways Committee, meeting of 4th March 2014

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The Minutes had been previously circulated and no matters were raised.

657. 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.

658. Chair's Announcements

The Chair reported on her attendance at the Airport Presentation.

Cllr Carroll and Cllr Collyer have been invited by Davidson's to meet the Housing Minister and received vouchers for champagne breakfast at the Bay Tree in recognition of their efforts in the Davidson's promotional video.

The Melbourne Footpath Group reported that its recent assessment for Walkers are Welcome Town status scored 94 out of a possible 100. Congratulations were extended to the Group.

The jitty from Doves Garage to Quick Close is known as Perkins Well path. This path has no legal status, so it has been suggested by the Rights of Way Officer that an application is made by the Footpaths Group to have it designated as a legal public footpath. Cllr Earp sought clarification as to status of twitchells/jitties and footpaths. The status was unknown and Cllr Carroll will make enquiries with the Melbourne Footpath Group. **(Action: Cllr Carroll).**

659. To receive the Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was previously circulated and agreed.

The Clerk provided the quote for new netting on the play equipment at Lothian Gardens; a cost of £1775.42. Attempts to obtain an alternative quote had failed as no guarantees could be offered that the netting would fit. **RESOLVED: to accept the quote. (Action: Clerk).**

The Clerk reported that she had been informed the previous day, of the successful application for grant funding from the Download Festival organisers; an amount of £1000 has been awarded. **RESOLVED: to allocate the fund equally between new Christmas lights and repairs to the play equipment at Lothian Gardens.**

A gap in a hedgerow between the fields between The Woodlands and Main Street was reported; although it was not thought to be a recent event, it appears that it is used as an access point. A brief discussion took place to try to ascertain if the creation of any access was an illegal act. No conclusion was reached and the Clerk was requested to report the matter to the Planning Dept. **(Action: Clerk).**

The Clerk reported that SDDC has agreed to remove the wooden bus shelter on Packhorse Road to prevent anti social behavior.

660. Reports from representatives on outside organisations

Senior Citizens Centre – no report

Infant School Governors – no report.

Safer Neighbourhood – no report

Education for Melbourne – no report.

Festival – no report

Sporting Partnership – no report

Athenaeum – no report

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Promote Melbourne – Cllr Hicklin reported that the three remaining Committee members held an informal meeting on 31st March 2014 and agreed that if someone will take on organising the stalls, the event will take place at the end of the year; if no one comes forward, the event will fold. A request was made to Cllr Hewlett for information as to how much SDDC funds the Swadlincote Christmas switch on and whether more funding could be provided by SDDC to Melbourne's event.

Assembly Rooms – no report

EMA Liaison Committee – no report

Donington Park Liaison Committee – Cllr Parker reported there is a meeting on 2nd April.

661. Correspondence

1. DALC – Various Circulars
2. DCC – Street lighting at Night
3. SDDC – Notification of intention to target flytippers
4. EMA – Newsletter
5. Mr M Cooke – Land adjacent to Queensway and Beech Avenue
6. MSP – Plans for the MSP
7. Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2014

662. 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.

The Clerk explained the implications of the repeal of S150 and actions the Parish Council would have to take if it decided to amend the requirement for a minimum of two signatures on cheques. RESOLVED: to retain the requirement of a minimum of two signatures on cheques. No further action is required.

663. Consideration of Derbyshire County Council's proposal for Street light at night

The information has been circulated to every Parish Councillor and to the police.

RESOLVED: the matter will be considered by the Highways Committee.

664. To consider the Local Draft Plan

There are no further observations to make and no comments will be made.

665. To discuss the Parish Council advertising policy

Councillors were reminded that the item was raised as lately there had been more advertising and associated costs, than had been anticipated. For the Council to achieve Quality Status, a quarterly report is necessary. However, it is not sufficient for the report to be placed on the website as it is deemed not to reach all residents; the article in the Village Voice is the preferred option for reaching all residents. RESOLVED: to continue to insert quarterly reports in the Village Voice.

8:50 Cllr Howard and Cllr Chilton left the meeting.

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The Clerk reported that following the last meeting, she had reviewed the Standing Orders and informed that advertising and the use of Social Media was not included in the Council's Standing Orders. RESOLVED: the Clerk will prepare a Communications Policy for consideration at the next meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**

666. To consider the proposal of Adoption of the Grenadier Guards

Cllr Stockill explained the background to the proposal.

Discussions were held as to whether this was something that the Parish Council should do, or whether it was more appropriate for the British Legion to pursue. Some Councillors expressed a wish not to offend any relatives or friends of other Regiments that the Parish Council does not adopt. RESOLVED for further information to be obtained in relation to the benefits of adoption for both parties **(Action: Cllr Stockill)**

667. Consideration of Planning Applications

9 2013 0922 - Proposed Development: Outline application (all matters reserved) for residential development on land at SK3926 Main Street, Kings Newton, Derby

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/F1040/A/14/2214209

Appeal Starting Date: 03/03/2014

9 2014 0170 – The erection of an extension at 23 The Woodlands, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0205 – The creation of a loft conversion with the insertion of 2 velux roof lights at 29 Blanchcroft, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0255 – Construction pitched roof over flat roof garage, study and porch at 5 Dunningcliffe Lane, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0235 – The erection of a detached dwelling and garage on land adjacent at 32 Ashby Road, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0216 – The erection of one dwelling on land at Lambert House, Ashby Road, Melbourne
Cllr Butler left the meeting when this application was considered

NO OBJECTIONS

Cllr Butler returned to the meeting

9 2014 0268 – The change of use from (Class A2 Financial Services to Class A4), a micropub at 8 High Street, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2014 0279 – The erection of a double car port and store at the Old Barn, Trent Lane, Kings Newton

NO OBJECTIONS

668. For information only

i) Cllr Minifie reported that the footings for a new classroom at the Junior School are underway.

ii) Cllr Smith reported that the Cockshut Lane nameplate is knocked down. **(Action: Clerk)**

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iii) Cllr Hudson reported that the lengthsman regularly finds pink and blue plastic cups but their source is unknown. Cllr Butler will check if any are disappearing from the Athenaeum **Cllr Butler**).

iv) Cllr Jackson sought and received Council's permission for posters advertising the forthcoming talk by Ben Hamilton Bailey, to be erected. A formal invite to the talk will be sent to the Planning Dept and the Highways Dept (**Action: Clerk**). Cllrs Earp and Carroll will meet with Ben Hamilton Bailey on the morning of 17th April and walk around the village. (**Action: Cllr Carroll & Cllr Earp**).

v) Cllr Hicklin informed that at the top of the school drive, there is only one dropped kerb, making disabled access difficult. This will be reported to the Highways Dept (**Action: Clerk**)

vi) Cllr Hicklin made a request for the 20 minute parking in the Market Place to be extended and considered this was necessary following the decision of the Natwest Bank to reduce its opening hours. The consequences of the Bank's decision could be an increase in queuing times in the Bank and the need for a longer parking time would become necessary. It was agreed that the Parish Council does not have any authority to alter the waiting times but instead the matter will be discussed at the meeting with Ben Hamilton Bailey.

vii) Cllr Earp reported that the street light on Cockshut Lane is still leaning and does not work. This will be reported to the Highways Dept (**Action: Clerk**)

669. Date of committee meetings

Burial Committee	Monday 7 th April at 2.30pm	Cemetery
Facilities Committee	Monday 7 th April at 7.30pm	Lothian Gardens
HR & Finance Committee	Monday 7 th April at 8.00pm	Assembly Rooms
Highways Committee	Monday 7 th April at 8.30pm	Assembly Rooms

670. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 6th May 2014 at 7.30pm in the Shone Lounge. His meeting will follow the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.40pm and moved to the Confidential section of the meeting.

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

The minutes of the confidential section held 4th March 2014 were agreed and signed by the Chairman

Cllr Hicklin read a letter which sought clarification about ownership of a burial plot. The history was confusing but it was agreed that sight needs to be had of the Burial Certificate to ascertain what is said on it about ownership.

Burial Fees

RESOLVED: to increase the burial fees by 3% with effect from 1st April 2014.

Following on from the last meeting, the Clerk had obtained from SDDC; its policy on levying burial fees to non residents. The conditions were read to the meeting. Cllrs considered that this policy was relevant to Melbourne.

RESOLVED:

1. The term "triple fees" will be replaced by "non residents".
2. That the normal requirement for residency is that the deceased lived in Melbourne for the twelve months prior to interment.
3. That former residents of Melbourne who had moved to residential or nursing homes outside Melbourne should still be treated as residents in agreeing the fee charged.
4. That any person who has lived within Melbourne continuously for at least 15 years during their life, should be charged the normal interment fee in recognition of their connections with Melbourne.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:56pm.