

Melbourne Parish Council

Mrs J Storer - Parish Clerk, 2 Mansfields Croft, Etwall, Derbyshire DE65 6NJ



Highway Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Highways Committee held at 8.30pm Monday 13th January 2014 at the Shone Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, Melbourne

Present – Cllr Smith (Chairman), Sharp, Stockill,
In attendance: Clerk

86. Apologies: apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Carroll, Earp, Parker
87. Minutes of the previous Highways Committee meeting held 9th December 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a true record subject to the inclusion of Cllr Smith's apologies.
88. The Clerk had the Christmas lights checked on 20th December and they were left working but reports received at the last Parish Council meeting indicated that the lights on the Main tree plus one string of lights had been on an intermittent basis. The Clerk reported that Robert Holman has checked the lights when they were dismantled. He has reported that 28 are defective which are to be replaced free of charge by Jeani Electrics. This number is significantly less than in previous years but some of these bulbs were found to have water inside. In addition, when the main tree lights were viewed, it was found that some of the outer plastic had been worn away and revealed some bare wires. Both the water content and the worn insulation are thought to have accounted for the intermittent nature of the lights. The Clerk has proposed that the electric circuit is checked in the summer and that a manual is drafted to ensure that more people are aware of how the lights work. RESOLVED the lighting circuit will be checked in the summer and a manual will be compiled before quotes for the Christmas lights are sought.
89. The Clerk has sent out the tenders for the mowing contract to 9 organisations with a deadline for the end of January. All tenders will be considered by the next Highways Committee.
90. Lime tree and Beech Tree at the Old Burial Ground –This matter is being dealt with by the Burials Committee.
91. At the Parish Council meeting held 7th January 2104, Cllr Carroll reported that all information relating to the imposition of TPOs on 2 trees at Jubilee Close has been passed to the residents for them to pursue the matter.
92. One way system – No further action will be taken on this matter until a meeting has been held with the Traffic consultant.
93. The Clerk sent an email as instructed to Sgt Todd about the apparent lack of promised police support and communication. Sgt Todd replied immediately advising that a PCSO was in attendance on the evening but acknowledged that there had been a lack of communication; he has taken this comment on board. The Committee expressed the opinion that on the evening, the stalls appeared to be too far apart, possibly resulting in some visitors to the event, missing some of the attractions.

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94. Fire Station – Cllr Stockill reported that there are still no minutes from the meeting held on 12th December 2013. There is to be a meeting with the Chief Fire Officer prior to the meeting with the Fire Authority on 13th February 2014, Cllr Stockill, Sharon Bush and Andrew Astle (firefighter) will be in attendance.

Outstanding Actions

95. Washpit – overgrown trees – Previously, DCC has informed that it has submitted an order for a small branch to be cut back and for the property services dept to cut the basal growth. No work has yet been carried out on this tree despite advising DCC of the lack of visibility at the junction.
96. The light at the end of the twitchel between Derby Road and Packhorse Road which is blocked by an overhanging tree has been reported but no action has yet been taken. The letter has been acknowledged but due to the Christmas period, nothing further has occurred. The matter has also been reported by Cllr Stockill along with a defective street light on Derby Road.
97. A report made at the Parish Council meeting on 3rd December, about Japanese Knotweed was referred to this committee for action to be taken. Cllr Stockill reported that Japanese Knotweed was in situ. At the start of the month, the Clerk took a contractor along Lilypool to obtain a quote, but the weed could not be seen.
98. The two potholes on Victoria Street have been reported to DCC. The letter has been acknowledged but due to the Christmas period, nothing further has occurred.
99. The matter of a leaning telegraph pole was reported to DCC prior to Christmas. The letter has been acknowledged but due to the Christmas period, nothing further has occurred. Subsequently at the last Parish Council meeting, it was reported that it is a lamp post and not a telegraph pole that is leaning. The Clerk will write again. **(Action: Clerk)**
100. The section of pavement outside the Indian Restaurant continues to pool in wet weather. The matter has been reported and a letter has acknowledged receipt of the complaint; nothing further has occurred. Cllr Stockill will provide photographic evidence. **(Action: Cllr Stockill)**
101. Cllr Stockill reported that Thomas Cooke Close continues to be very dark. An application to DCC for street lighting has been refused; an application is to be made to the Safer Neighbourhood Board for funding towards the installation of lighting. **(Action: Clerk)**
102. A request for lighting in the jitty between Cockshut Lane and George Street has been refused; an application is to be made to the Safer Neighbourhood Board for the lighting to be installed.

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103. A conifer blocking a street light at Church Mews/Victoria Mews has been reported but no action has been taken. Cllr Mrs Chilton is also attempting to resolve this problem.
104. SDDC has advised that the repair of the bench at Jubilee Close is to be undertaken by the developers of the estate (Wimpey). The Clerk will follow the matter up with SDDC. **(Action: Clerk)**
105. DCC has confirmed that an order has been raised to trim the trees to specified height on Robinson Hill. No time scale has been offered as to when the work will be carried out.
106. DCC in their letter of 26.09.13, has noted the problem on the footway at Woodhouses and has submitted for works to be done to raise the length of the kerb and footway. This is to be included in the future footway budget.
107. The poor condition of the road surface at Nettlefold Crescent was reported to Cllr Chilton but no update has yet been received. No update has been received from Cllr Chilton.
108. The complaint about the broken and loose kerb stones and brick steps at Potter Street were reported at the Parish Council meeting held on 7th January 2014 as being resolved. However, these stones have become broken again. **(Action: Clerk)**. It was considered that if the directional sign at the top of Potter Street which directs traffic down to the Industrial Estate could be removed, and instead repositioned to take the traffic down Chapel Street, this may prevent the repetitive problem of the broken kerbstones.

Date of next meeting: to be advised at the Parish Council meeting on 10th February 2014.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Highways Committee - Cllr W Earp – Chairman