

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 3rd December 2013 at the Shone Lounge Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, Melbourne

562. Councillors Present: Cllr J Carroll (Chair), Butler, Carpenter, Collyer, Earp, Hicklin, Howard, Hudson, Jackson, Minifie, Parker, Sharp, Smith, Stockill, Wilmore

In Attendance: Mrs J Storer (Clerk). Cllr Mrs Chilton, 1 member of the press, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Hewlett

563. Apologies: No apologies were received and accepted.

564. Declaration of Interests: Cllr Earp declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 9 2013 0922, being an applicant. It had been agreed that this application would be considered at the Planning Committee meeting.

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

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

566. Public speaking: No members of the public were present.

567. Police matters: No police were in attendance and no report had been provided.

568. District and County Councillors

County Council

Cllr Mrs Chilton expressed concern about the future of the mobile library service as a four option paper will go out for consultation in two stages; starting in January, with a follow up in the summer before the results are brought back to the Cabinet in the autumn.

Cllr Mrs Chilton has received a standard reply from the Chief Fire Officer and had heard separately that the consultation will be changing.

She added that she had received an email this evening informing that County Cllrs will have a named case worker/officer to streamline the complaints and comments from constituents. At present it is unknown whether this route will also have to be taken by Parish Councils.

Cllr Parker sought further clarification on the proposals for the mobile library service. Cllr Mrs Chilton briefly outlined the four options and urged all to register their objections to any withdrawal of library services.

District Council

Cllr Hewlett commented that he had been impressed by the response of the Melbourne Community and the Parish Council to the Fire Service consultation. He added that the matter has been raised in Parliament by Mrs Heather Wheeler MP

7:40pm Cllr Wilmore arrived

SDDC has considered the Fire Service proposal and has unanimously rejected the proposal for the closure of the Melbourne Station, in addition it has urged for a fundamental review to be carried out by the Fire Authority.

The Chellaston Field planning application has been approved, with a condition being imposed for a new secondary school to be agreed before the first houses are built.

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SDDC has listed the public toilets and the Lothian Gardens under the Localism Act, as a Community Asset.

The Chair extended thanks to SDDC for supporting the cause against the closure of Melbourne Fire Station.

569. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held 5th November 2013.

The Minutes of the meeting held 5th November 2013 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

570. To approve the Minutes of the Committees

Recreation Committee, meeting of 11th November 2013 – approved

No matters were raised from the minutes of the Facilities Committee.

Highways Committee, meeting of 11th November 2013 – approved

Cllr Earp took the meeting through the minutes.

The main issue was the proposal from the Highways Committee that the proposed One Way system is not pursued. She explained how the Highways Committee had reached the proposal now before the Council. Cllr Jackson stated that it was a pity that the scheme should not be pursued but he would accept the views of the Committee. Cllr Minifie added that a letter from Mrs Kerr has recently been circulated to all Cllrs about traffic problems within the centre of Melbourne and in light of this support offered by Mrs Kerr, requested that the one way proposal is given further consideration.

Cllr Parker raised the possibility of a pedestrianised area as an alternative to the one way system. It was acknowledged that the suggestion of pedestrianisation was not an easy solution as so many other alternative routes feed off any pedestrian area.

RESOLVED: not to pursue the one way system.

571. The co-option of Councillors to Committees

a) RESOLVED: the co-option of Cllr Sharp to the Highways Committee

b) RESOLVED: the co-option of Cllr Collyer to the Facilities Committee

572. To determine if any matters are to be taken with the Public excluded

There was one item on the agenda that is to be taken with the public excluded.

573. Chair's Announcements

The Chair reported on the attendance at the rededication of the Danny Blinco memorial which was very impressive.

The Remembrance Day Service was well organised and well attended. Thanks were extended to the Royal British Legion for organising the event.

The Fire Station meeting held 28th November was also well attended with mostly those in attendance, being a different set of people to that who had attended the previous meeting. A draft submission has been circulated to all Cllrs. An additional risk was identified; that of a possible chlorine leak at the reservoir. This will be included in the response. Any other comments are to be with the Clerk by 9th December, with a copy going to the Chair. Cllr Carroll added that the Chair of the Fire Authority has now visited the Melbourne Station, and it is hoped this visit will be beneficial.

The Board of MARS has made a request of the Parish Council's safe to be relocated. Cllrs Parker and Smith informed that the safe will be relocated to the Cemetery chapel the following morning. Finally an invitation has been received to attend the Calke Abbey Tenants and Neighbours evening on 12th December. Cllrs Hudson and Smith will attend.

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574. To receive the Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report had been previously circulated. The report was accepted.

575. To accept the revised Standing Orders

The Clerk had previously circulated to all Cllrs; the amended Standing Orders from DALC. It was proposed and agreed that the limit set for tendering was to be lowered from £60,000 to £20,000. The amendment was accepted.

RESOLVED: to accept the circulated Standing Orders subject to the amendment above.

The Clerk will produce a folder which will include the new Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Committee Standing Orders and membership. **(Action: Clerk)**

576. Reports from representatives on outside organisations

Senior Citizens Centre – Cllr Sharp reported that the Christmas Party will be held on 16th December.

Infant School Governors – Cllr Smith reported that there was nothing to report.

Safer Neighbourhood – Cllr Hudson reported that the Draft Local Plan was discussed at the Area Meeting and sought clarification from Cllr Harrison about future building proposals for Melbourne.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders to allow Cllr Harrison to address the meeting.

Cllr Harrison reported that nothing has been formally agreed re the Local Plan as there is an objection by Derby City Council to one of proposals and if this objection is sustained, the consequences are that housing can be allocated anywhere in the District, including Melbourne. Cllr Harrison continued by stating that in the second phase of the Local Plan, there is no identifiable housing for the Melbourne area. He reiterated the problems of not having a Local Plan in place and because of this, the officers at the District Council have been urged to submit the Local Plan proposal without delay.

The Chair returned to Standing Orders.

Education for Melbourne – Cllr Minifie reported that she was pleased to learn of the planning condition relating to the Chellaston Field application and added that the County Council has accepted that there is a need for one, if not two, secondary schools in the area.

Festival – Cllr Carroll had nothing further to report other than the Annual Festival Art sale was successful.

Sporting Partnership – Cllr Jackson has circulated the minutes and reports of the last MSP meeting. Building work should be underway before Christmas 2014. The selection process for a preferred architect has been followed and an architect identified; this preference is to be clarified and the appointment made formal at the next MSP meeting, being held on 4th December 2013.

Athenaeum – Cllr Butler has spoken with Mark Dale and reported that the café has opened and is going well. The clientele base is being built up slowly to avoid a repetition of problems the previous cafe experienced. Cllr Butler will attend the next management meeting on 28th January 2014.

Promote Melbourne – Cllr Hicklin reported that everything is in place for the event on Friday night. Lord Ralph will be carrying out the official switching on of the lights.

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Assembly Rooms – Cllr Carpenter reported that the Assembly Rooms are booked for the majority of weekends throughout 2014. A lot of new signage has been erected and will continue to be erected, with one in particular being erected at the front of the building, to disguise the school sign.

Cllr Hicklin reported that there have been a lot of comments made about the quantity of work which has been carried out within the building and made a request for a display board to be erected to demonstrate the amount of improvements that have taken place. Cllr Carpenter agreed to take the suggestion back to the MARS Board.

EMA Liaison Committee – Cllr Collyer reported that he has attended an Airport Security meeting and whilst the official representative of the EMA Liaison Committee was a DALC nominee; he was content to liaise with the airport.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders

Cllr Harrison made an offer, which was accepted, to provide reports of the Independent Airport Committee, of which he is a member.

The Chair returned to Standing Orders.

Donington Park Liaison Committee – Cllr Parker reported that there is nothing to report.

577. Correspondence

1. DALC – Various Circulars
2. Mr A Heafield – Adoption of the Grenadier Guards for Melbourne
Cllr Carpenter reported that the Parish has had a long association with the Grenadier Guards. RESOLVED to pursue this suggestion.
3. Melbourne Civic Society – various items
 - Condition of bin
 - Condition of public footpaths
 - Offer to maintain public footpaths
 - Support for the retention of the Fire StationRESOLVED to consider the offer of maintenance of the public footpaths made on behalf of the Footpaths Group, once identification of whom is responsible for the various paths has been made.
4. DCC – Responses to items raised at Highways Committees
The Clerk informed that any request for lighting is being refused by the County Council as there is no funding for any additional street lighting. It was proposed and agreed, following clarification from Cllr Harrison, that an application for additional street lighting for Loake Court will be made to the Safer Neighbourhood Forum.
5. National Trust – Invite to tenants and neighbours for pre Christmas drink
6. SDDC – Invite to book summer 2014 play provision
7. SDDC – Information on the Christmas Tree recycling scheme
8. Griselda Kerr- Copy of letter sent to Mr F McArdle (SDDC) in support of the retention of the public toilets
9. SDDC – Notification of the listing as a Community Asset for the public toilets and the Lothian Gardens
10. Alan Staley – Request for permission to carry out drainage replacement on land siting the Cenotaph = permission was granted
11. Heather Wheeler MP – Newsletter

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578. Finance

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

b) RESOLVED to make a donation to the Royal British Legion of £25.00 towards the cost of the Remembrance Wreath.

c) The Clerk has obtained two quotes for the removal of the Beech tree at the Old Burial Ground and one Beech tree at the Cemetery. Both of the trees are affected by a fungus which attacks the roots, the results of which could make the tree unstable. Confirmation has been received from a number of independent sources that both trees have this fungal growth. The quotes were provided to the meeting.

RESOLVED: to accept the cheaper of the quotes. Planning permission is required for the removal of the Beech tree in the Old Burial Ground as it is within the Conservation Area. The Clerk has discussed the possible application with the Tree Officer at SDDC, who has no objection to the removal of the tree, but would make the recommendation that a native tree is planted as a replacement. The Clerk was requested to make the planning application. **(Action: Clerk)**.

The Clerk added that the Tree Officer had also made a recommendation that the trees and shrubs within the Old Burial Ground would benefit from a programme of general/routine maintenance. It was further agreed that the Clerk should make an approach to the Church, explaining the situation and the limited sources available to the Parish Council and seek a contribution towards the cost of the removal of the Beech tree in the Old Burial Ground. **(Action: Clerk)**

The Clerk was granted authority to act outside of the Parish Council meeting if there transpired that action was required to remove the trees quickly for health and safety purposes.

d) Budget appraisal/risk assessment

Currently there are no amendments to the risk assessment.

e) Budget for 2014/2015

The first draft of the budget had been previously circulated to all Cllrs. Cllr Jackson made a request that some provision is included in the 2014/15 budget for the removal and relocation of the telephone kiosk in Kings Newton.

RESOLVED the budget will be considered by each Committee and representations and comments brought to the Finance Committee for review. The Finance Committee will meet prior to Christmas and make a recommendation to the full Parish Council meeting in January 2014.

579. Consideration of Planning Applications

(a) 9 2013 0899 – The erection of extensions at 7Alma Street, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS

(b) 9 2013 0922 - outline application (all matters reserved) for residential development on land at SK3926, Main Street, Kings Newton
This application will be considered at the Planning Committee

(c) 9 2013 0926 - The felling of a horse chestnut at land at SK3825 5292 off Penn Lane, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS

(d) 9 2013 0845 – The variation of condition 1 of planning permission 9/2009/0828 for minor amendments to the layout to plots 61-68 and 82-116 on land at SK3925 0864, Station

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Road, Melbourne NO OBJECTIONS

- (e) 9 2013 0844 –The variation of condition 6 of planning permission 9/2008/0811 for minor amendments to the layout to plots 117-130 on land at SK3925 0864, Station Road, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (f) 9 2013 0937 – The variation of condition 6 of planning permission 9/2008/0811/RSD for minor amendment to plot 130 layout on land at SK3925 0864, Station Road, Melbourne
This application will be considered at the Planning Committee
- (g) 9 2013 0822 – The conversion of former hotel into 3 apartments including alterations to Windows and installation of dormer window at rear at 222 Station Road, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (h) 9 2013 0909 – The erection of an extension including loft/cellar conversion and a detached Garage at 2 George Street, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (i) 9 2013 0837 – The creation of a raised platform for front and side of the property and alterations to the driveway at 3 Bishop Court Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (j) 9 2013 0952 – The siting of five holiday chalets at Springwood Fisheries, Ashby Road, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (k) 9 2013 0925 – the pruning of trees covered by SDDC TPO 138 at 32 Penn Lane, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS
- (l) 9 2013 0956 – the erection of extensions and alterations at Hightrees, Robinsons Hill, Melbourne
NO OBJECTIONS

580. For information only

Cllr Butler has received notification from a Parishioner, of Japanese Knotweed being sighted on the ally way between Castle Street and Castle Lane. The matter was deferred to the Highways Committee meeting, to allow time for Cllrs to visit the site and ascertain if the weed is encroaching from a neighbouring property.

Cllr Hicklin reported that the kerbstones at the top of Potter Street are in a poor condition. Cllr Mrs Chilton agreed to pursue this matter with DCC.

Cllr Hicklin made a request for a letter to be sent to the organisers of the Download Festival, to seek a donation. The Clerk will send a letter requesting funding for a specific project. **(Action: Clerk)**

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Cllr Carpenter made an enquiry about the future of the tennis courts. Cllr Jackson agreed to discuss this matter in the confidential section of the meeting.

Cllr Sharp enquired whether a defibrillator was to be installed in Melbourne; she had received an offer of funding towards such a piece of equipment. It was explained that the Facilities Committee had discussed this matter and concluded that it had been difficult to find a suitable location which would benefit the majority of persons within the Parish, and thus the matter had not progressed.

RESOLVED: to take the matter back to the Facilities Committee for review.

581. Dr Freeman Award

Nominations for the award are to be received by the end of January, so consideration and voting can take place at the February Parish Council meeting. A further request was made for ideas as to who could present this year's award.

582. Date of committee meetings

Burial Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 9th December at 7.00pm

Facilities Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 9th December at 7.30pm.

Planning Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 11th November at 8.15pm.

Highways Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 11th November at 8.30pm.

Finance Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm.

583. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 7th January 2014 at 7.30pm in the Shone Lounge.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9:27pm and moved to the Confidential section of the meeting.

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

584 To receive an update on the public toilets

The notes of the meeting held with SDDC on 18th November 2013 were accepted, subject to the inclusion of Philip Heath as being in attendance.

The Chair reiterated that the matter is still confidential and commercially sensitive.

Both the public toilets and Lothian Gardens are now listed as Community Assets under the Localism Act and clarification was given as to the process that has to be followed if the assets are to be disposed of.

It was concluded that there is little further action that the Parish Council can take at present, but will now have to wait for any decision by SDDC as to whether it will dispose of the toilets. The Community Listing status means that the Parish Council will be informed of any decision to sell; this was welcomed.

Cllr Jackson reported he had received a telephone call about the future of the tennis courts. There is still some debate within the Tennis Club as to actually own them. This is for the Tennis Club to resolve but the telephone conversation continued and raised the possibility of a semi pedestrian scheme; similar to that in operation on the continent.

Griselda Kerr has copied in the Parish Council in on a letter she has sent to the Chief Executive of SDDC, which includes this scheme. Mrs Kerr has informed that to draft a proposal on traffic systems within Melbourne would cost in the region of £1,000 and that she was prepared to finance the drafting of the scheme/plan.

RESOLVED to contact Mrs Kerr and advise that if she wished to carry out the drafting of such a scheme, then the Parish Council, whilst under no obligation, would provide time for the scheme to be presented at a future Parish Council meeting.

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