

# Melbourne Parish Council



Mrs J Storer, Clerk to the Parish Council, 2 Mansfields Croft, Etwall, Derbyshire DE65

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Melbourne Parish Council held at 7.30pm Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 at the Shone Lounge Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, Melbourne**

**520. Councillors Present:** Cllr J Carroll (Chair), Carpenter, Earp, Hicklin, Howard, Hudson, Minifie, Parker, Sharp, Smith, Stockill, Wilmore (from 7:40pm)

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

**521. Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Collyer (work), Cllr Dunnicliff (personal), Cllr Jackson (personal)

**522. Declaration of Interests:** no declarations of interests were received.

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

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

### **525. Public speaking:**

No members of the public were present.

### **526. Police matters**

No representative from the police were in attendance.

### **527. District and County Councillors**

#### District Council

Cllr Hewlett reported that he had fed back to SDDC, the Parish Council's thoughts for the banks at the Recreation Ground to be seeded before winter. It is unclear as to whether this can be achieved.

The Parish Council agreed that the meeting would be suspended to allow Cllr Harrison to address the meeting when he arrived.

### **528. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013.**

The Minutes of the meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **529. To approve the Minutes of the Committees**

#### Burial Committee, meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> August 2013 – approved

The Cedar tree and other unsustainable trees have been removed.

Cllr Carpenter reported that the safe which is to be relocated from the Assembly Rooms to the Chapel, is open and does not require a key. Cllr Parker and Cllr Smith will arrange to move the safe. **(Action: Cllrs Parker & Smith)**

#### Recreation Committee, meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – approved

7.40pm Cllr Wilmore arrived

A discussion took place about the possibility of having a defibrillator located within the centre of the village. The Clerk will make enquiries about costs and the logistics of having such an item of equipment. **(Action: Clerk).**

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Highways Committee, meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – approved  
The CCTV is operational.

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

## District Council

Cllr Harrison informed that the new kerbside collection comes into effect on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

The Draft Local Plan is now open for a six week consultation; there will be a presentation at the Assembly Rooms Melbourne on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and the closing date for comments is 15<sup>th</sup> November.

The tax advisors for SDDC have advised that it is in the best interest if SDDC has the leases for the land at Cockshut Lane; by taking this action, SDDC will be able to recover £400,000 of VAT related to the new Sports Complex. Cllr Harrison continued that this will mean a “re-jigging” of the lease between the Parish Council and the MSP by substituting Melbourne Sporting Partnership (MSP) with SDDC. Both Cllr Jackson and the Clerk were unable to attend a meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September when Kevin Stackhouse (SDDC Finance Officer) met with the members of the MSP to explain the proposed amendments. A letter has been sent to the Parish Council explaining why the change is necessary. The Clerk confirmed that this had been circulated to Cllrs. Cllr Harrison reported that work has begun on the project; the ground has been levelled and the next phase is to build up the ground and for the drains to be laid.

SDDC Handy Van Network provides services to the over 60s and to vulnerable persons. The Clerk was provided the details by Cllr Harrison and these will be included on the Parish Council’s website.

## County Council

Cllr Harrison provided a report on behalf of Cllr Mrs Chilton. A request has been made for the barrier near Blatch’s to be painted. It has been inspected and is safe, but DCC has denied being responsible for the ongoing maintenance.

1. The Parish Council was requested to provide its opinion regarding the one way system, so that a bid can be submitted for inclusion in the 2014/15 budget.
2. DCC are to undertake a programme of replacing the grit lorries
3. The subsidies to the bus companies are under review. Cllr Mrs Chilton will monitor this together with any possible impact that withdrawing of the subsidies may cause.
4. A Capital Improvement Plan has secured funding to improve the Swarkestone Causeway. No date was given as to when the improvements may take place.
5. DCC and the Fire & Rescue Service are holding a safety event for the checking of electric blankets. This event is in the north of the county and Cllr Chilton has made representations that a similar event is held in the south of the county as well.
6. Oaklands Care Home has been highly commended and has received an award for its facilities.

Cllr Harrison raised concerns about an item reported in the Derby Telegraph and on the TV; namely that some fire stations maybe closed as one possible option for the Fire & Rescue Service to save £4m by 2016. One of the stations identified as a possible closure victim is the station at Melbourne. Cllr Harrison urged the Parish Council to fight any proposed closure of the Melbourne station.

A discussion took place as to the risks posed to Melbourne residents and to property should the local station be closed. The consultation started at 5pm this evening, and the Clerk was instructed to send a holding letter to the Fire & Rescue Service highlighting these risks and possible problems if the Melbourne station was closed. Cllrs will consider the consultation documentation fully. **(Action: Clerk).**

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On 17<sup>th</sup> October a grant seminar will be held at CVS Swadlincote for the Friends & Good Neighbours Scheme.

Cllr Earp reminded the meeting that consultation on the one way system was due to take place before funding was made available and that DCC was to organise the consultation event. Cllr Harrison informed that no funding was to happen until an application has been made. He added that Government is seeking to de-clutter street furniture and so the illuminated No Entry sign may no longer be necessary; a non- illuminated one may suffice, which will make the scheme cheaper. He added that the earlier that the application can be submitted the better the chances of obtaining funding.

Cllr Smith expressed great concern about the proposal for the closure of Melbourne Fire Station and reiterated the risks and problems that would transpire if it was to close.

The Chairman returned to Standing Orders

## **530. 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.

**531. Chair's Announcements** -The Chair congratulated all on the very successful Festival, and reported that the best attendance figures had been achieved on the Saturday.

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

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

The Clerk reported that an enquiry had been received about purchasing the Old Burial Ground and in addition it was being used by children as a play area. It was agreed that the Old Burial Ground was not for sale and Cllrs were of the view that the site was not being used inappropriately.

The new staff uniforms have arrived and the staff of happy with them

The annual litter pick will take place on Saturday 19th October.

The new Christmas LED lights have arrived and the Sexton is replacing the old bulbs with the new ones. Thanks have been conveyed to the Jeani Accessories for sourcing the LED Bulbs.

The Clerk reported on her attendance at the Remembrance Day planning event. The Parish Council will fund the printing costs for the order of service and has, this year been asked to fund the first aid provision. The Clerk will make enquiries and report back. **(Action: Clerk)**. The Royal British Legion has the event well organised.

The Clerk reported that she had received the resignation of Tim Cole. It was agreed that the Personnel Committee will meet on Monday evening to discuss cover and a replacement for the role.

## **533. Consideration of the request for alteration of the lease arrangement at Cockshut Lane**

The Clerk had circulated all the correspondence and a report on the request received from SDDC for the lease with MSP to be amended.

The Clerk requested a decision as to whether Fisher solicitors should be used.

RESOLVED that a quote for the work should be obtained from Fishers, before a decision is made as to whether to instruct Fishers. **(Action: Clerk)**

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

Senior Citizens Centre – Cllr Sharp reported that there has been no meeting.

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

Safer Neighbourhood – The next Safer Neighbourhood meeting is on 16<sup>th</sup> October at Shardlow Village Hall.

Education for Melbourne – Cllr Minifie reported that DCC has agreed that there is a problem with the lack of schooling available for the number of pupils within South Derbyshire. No indication was given as to any possible solutions to rectify this problem.

Festival – Cllr Carroll informed that the Festival was a great success.

Sporting Partnership – There was no report

Athenaeum – There was no report.

Promote Melbourne – Cllr Hicklin reported that a meeting has been held and that plans are progressing for the event.

Assembly Rooms – Cllr Carpenter reported that quotes have been obtained for a new boiler and that the project appraisal is still ongoing.

One director has resigned and a decision was made not to fill the vacancy until the AGM.

There is a new improved website.

A request was made for the safe to be moved quickly as it is preventing work to widen the lobby.

EMA Liaison Committee – There was no report

Donington Park Liaison Committee – Cllr Parker reported that there is nothing to report but a meeting is to be held shortly.

## **535. Correspondence**

1. DALC – Various Circulars
2. SDDC – Notification of Melbourne Assembly Rooms adoption under the Localism Act 2011
3. SDDC – Promoting success of the summer holiday activities (numbers still awaited)
4. DCC – Acknowledgement of reported highway matters
5. SDDC – Temporary road closure for the Wakes

## **536. 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 actual to budget report was accepted.

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c) Audit Return – The Clerk reported that the Audit Form has been returned and one item had been raised; that the date advertising the Audit was incorrect. Apart from this there were no matters raised and the Clerk has displayed the notice of Completion of Audit.

## **537. Consideration of Planning Applications**

- (a) 9 2013 0793 – Retrospective application for the conversion of a garage into living at 14 Beech Avenue, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (b) 9 2013 0738 – The erection of a replacement summer house at 55 Blanchcroft, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (c) 9 2013 0717 – The erection of extensions at 103 The Woodlands, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (d) 9 2013 0693 – Amended scheme to that previously approved under planning permission 9 2012 0910 for extensions at 34 The Woodlands  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (e) 9 2013 0776 – The erection of an extension at 77 Castle Street, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (f) 9 2013 0790 – The felling of three trees at 46 Main Street, Kings Newton  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (g) 9 2013 0706 – The construction of a Ha-Ha at Highfields, Sleepy Lane, Kings Newton  
NO OBJECTIONS
- (h) APPEAL NOTICE – 9 2013 0460 – The erection of a dwelling at 78 Ashby Road, Melbourne

## **538. For information only**

Cllr Minifie reported that the Bonfire Event will not take place this year due to logistical reasons. The Council expressed its disappointment as the previous year's event had been excellent.

Cllr Smith reported that the hedge at the back of the school needs to be cut back. This matter will be brought to the Highways Committee.

Cllr Carroll informed that she had received an anonymous letter about parking on Ashby Road. Cllr Earp read the letter and a discussion occurred as to the possible location (which was not specifically mentioned), but no decision was made.

Cllr Carpenter made a request for the overgrown hedge on Cockshut Lane to be cut back as pedestrian access is being restricted along the pavement. The Clerk will ask the contractor to cut the hedge (**Action: Clerk**).

The twitchells in the village are overgrown. The Clerk reported that she is to have a meeting with an officer from the Community Payback Team to investigate the possibility that this team can clear the twitchells. The Clerk will report back at the next Council meeting.

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Cllr Carroll reported that Davidson are to make a film about the new Estate that they built. Filming will take place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October and Cllr Collyer will represent the Parish Council.

## **539. Date of committee meetings**

The Facilities Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm.

The Personnel Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00pm

The Highways Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 8.15pm.

## **540. Date of the next Parish Council meeting**

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30pm in the Shone Lounge.

There being no other non confidential business, the Chair closed the open section of the meeting at 8.50pm and moved to the confidential section of the meeting. Members of the public left the meeting.

## **CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**

### To consider the quotations for Christmas trees and lights

The Clerk had sent out four requests for quotes for the provision of trees and the erection of the lights; three quotes had been received. The Clerk had prepared a schedule of the quotations and these were circulated to the meeting and discussed.

RESOLVED: to accept T H Heath quote to supply, erect and dismantle the main tree. The supply plus erection of the small trees and of the Christmas lights, was awarded to Melbourne Tree Services Ltd.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8:57pm.