

Melbourne Parish Council

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



Minutes of the Meeting of the Melbourne Parish Council held at 7:30pm Wednesday 2nd January 2013 at the Shone Lounge Room, Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, Melbourne

347. Councillors Present: Cllr J Carroll (Chair), Cllr Carpenter, Collyer, Dunnicliff, Earp, Minifie, Sharp,

In Attendance: Mrs J Storer (Clerk). Cllr Hewlett (to 8.00pm), 8 residents, 1 member of the press, PC Rob Buckley

348. Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Crawford, Hicklin, Howard, Jackson, Smith, Stockill and Harrison.

349. Declaration of Interests: no declaration of interests were received.

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

351. Public speaking:

The Chair welcomed the Walkers Group to the meeting. The Walkers Group gave a short presentation explaining that the Group has been in operation for a year and gave a list of activities it has completed. The Group is striving to achieve participation in the "Walkers are Welcome Scheme" which would be the first in Derbyshire; if the application is successful, walkers from all over the country could visit and walk the paths within the Parish, bringing with them trade for the local businesses. The Scheme requires a footpath noticeboard and the Group is seeking the assistance of the Parish Council particularly about its design and proposed location, which is at the entrance to the Assembly Rooms.

The Chair sought the opinions of the Councillors present.

Cllr Collyer considered that the location is good as was the supporting document. Cllr Minifie enquired as to whether any consideration had been given to locating the noticeboard near to the bus shelter. This suggestion was welcomed by the Footpaths Group.

There were no objections to the location of the noticeboard from the Councillors and it was agreed that if any further comments were received, these will be passed onto the Footpath Group. The Parish Council endorsed the proposal.

The Chair thanked the representatives of the Group for the excellent presentation.

A resident sought further information about the County Youth Service provision as enquiries she had made, revealed that local children knew little about the service. Cllr Dunnicliff advised that the Methodist Youth Club is in the process of being set up again, but funding remains an issue.

The same resident informed that the damaged lamppost is still awaiting repair. The Clerk advised that the matter was being pursued and that a complaint had been lodged with DCC. PC Buckley agreed to inspect the lamppost the next morning and if necessary, will issue a defect form to DCC in support of the Parish Council's efforts.

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Adam Seal reported that following the Speedwatch Scheme, 16 letters were issued to motorists travelling in excess of 35mph; 3 of which were to residents of Melbourne. He added that on Trent Lane, Kings Newton, there are no bins from the monument down to the track. It was agreed to take this to the Highways Committee.

352. District and County Councillors

Cllr Hewlett sent the apologies from Cllr Harrison and provided a report on Cllr Harrison's behalf.

The flooding on Robinson Hill has been reported to DCC.

Another haulage company has been fined for breaching the weight limit on Swarkestone Bridge and as soon as English Heritage has given its approval, the repairs to the Causeway will be carried out.

The Council Tax for DCC has been frozen for 2013/2014.

PC Buckley advised that the Causeway and Speedwatch are of particular interest to him and he is in the process of setting up procedures to stop lorries from travelling across the Causeway.

Cllr Hewlett advised that he has been pursuing the overgrown hedge and had been informed that the owner of the property had pruned the hedge, but Cllr Hewlett will be visiting the site.

The conifers near The Lamb car park have partially obscured the street light; this is an enforcement issue which is in hand with SDDC.

8.00pm 6 members of the public left the meeting.

Cllr Carpenter reported that the verges on Queensway are in a poor condition. Cllr Carroll added that SDDC is not obliged to do anything about the matter as many of the houses are now privately owned, but a suggestion was made that grasscrete is installed. PC Buckley suggested the erection of wooden posts similar to those at Wllington, which has prevented vehicles being parked on the grass verges. He added that if a footpath is not being impeded, there is nothing legally that can be done. He added that it is an offence to come off land and to leave mud on the road, but the offence is nullified if a warning sign/notice is placed; he agreed to visit the area and investigate if anything can be done.

Cllr Hewlett added that the manhole on the verge has become damaged with the traffic passing over it and he will see if the proposal for a driveway over the verge paid by the residents, has been made to the residents.

POLICE

PC Buckley introduced himself. Local children had paid heed to his warnings about anti social behaviour at the Assembly Rooms. There were incidents over the Christmas period but these were from children out of the area. Anti social behaviour notification letters have been sent to the parents. He has also spoken with Andy Heafield about measures that can be taken to prevent the anti social behaviour. However, he did express concern as to whether the problem would become worse if the youth club is opened.

PC Buckley also advised about Oxbox which has been set up in Swadlincote and Hilton He agreed to seek a suitable local venue.

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There has been a spate of thefts of and from BMW cars and the reasons for this were given. The burglaries that have occurred have been opportunistic and two suspects in custody.

PC Buckley noted that the gates to Staunton Harold reservoir were open and he was advised that ST were the appropriate contact point on this matter.

The Chair thanked PC Buckley

353. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held 4th December 2012.

The Minutes of the meeting held 4th December 2012 as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the amendments annotated below.

Page 3 as there are no longer activities at the Kings Newton Depot, the report will be removed from the list.

354. To approve the Minutes of the Committees held 10th December 2012

Burial Committee – approved

Recreation Committee – approved

Highways Committee – approved

Planning Committee – approved

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

There were no items deemed necessary to take with the public excluded.

356. Chair's Announcements

The Chair attended many carol services, plus the Senior Citizens Christmas Party, and enjoyed them all. Thanks were also extended to those who had invited her to the various Christmas events.

357. To receive the Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report as previously circulated was accepted.

RESOLVED the situation regarding the public toilets requires further discussion.

358. Reports from representatives on outside organisations

Senior Citizens Centre – Cllr Sharpe reported that the Christmas Party was successful and that the new floor should now be installed.

Infant School Governors –no report

Safer Neighbourhood – no report

Education for Melbourne – Cllr Minifie informed that no meeting has taen place

Festival – Cllr Carroll informed that no meeting has taken place

Sporting Partnership – no report

Kings Newton Storage Depot – This item will be removed

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Athenaeum – Cllr Dunnicliff reported that there had been no meeting

Promote Melbourne – no report.

Assembly Rooms - Cllr Carpenter informed that quotes have been received about the CCTV provision but nothing has been decided at this stage

EMA Liaison Committee – no report.

Donington Park Liaison Committee – no report

359. Nominations for the Dr Freeman award.

An advert will be placed in the Village Voice for nominations which are to be received before 11th February enabling the nominations to be considered at the February Committee meeting with the presentation can be made at the Annual Meeting in March. **(Action: Cllr Carroll)**. The qualifying criteria are any individual or organisation which has made a significant contribution to the Community in the last twelve months.

8.37pm PC Buckley left the meeting.

360. Correspondence

1. DALC – Various Circulars
 2. Shoosmith – request for update on the Parish Council's position regarding MSP
 3. Julie Bebbington – copy of letter regarding dog fouling which was sent to the Village Voice
 4. CPRE – Field work
 5. ICCM – The Journal – Winter issue
 6. Tim Summers (SDDC Environmental Health) – condition of the public toilets
 7. Mrs Hutchinson – Seeking recognition for Bryony Balen and her trip to the South Pole
- RESOLVED** that Bryony Balen will be invited to present the Dr Freeman Award.
(Action: Clerk)

361. Finance

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

b) Budget appraisal/risk assessment

The draft budget was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Clerk was requested to make enquiries as to the future of the S136 concurrent function provision, the number of houses within the Parish and how the S136 grant will be affected by the loss of the Leisure Centre.

362. Consideration of Planning Applications

- (a) 9 2012 1055 – The display of non illuminated signage at Staunton Harold Visitors Centre, Ashby Road, Melbourne

NO OBJECTIONS

- (b) 9 2012 1081 – The erection of a replacement garage at Packhorse Lodge, Wards Lane, Stanton by Bridge, Derby

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NO OBJECTIONS

363. Confidential Items

It was agreed to hold a discussion about the public toilets in the confidential section of the meeting.

364. For information only

Cllr Carpenter informed that he had received complaints about the next vegetable shop obstructing the pavement and neighbouring jitty. The matter will be reported to the Police
(Action: Clerk)

365. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

The dates of the full Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings for 2013 were agreed.

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.03pm