

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Melbourne Parish Council held at 7.30pm  
on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at the Bill Shone Leisure Centre, High Street,  
Melbourne**

**Present:** Cllr D Smith (Chairman), Collyer, Crawford, , Dunnicliff, Earp, Freeman, Hicklin, Howard, Jackson, Parker, Sharp

**In attendance:** Cllr Harrison, Cllr Hewlett, 1 member of the public, 2 members of the press.

**Public Question Time**

The roads throughout the Parish are in a poor condition and potholes are deep.  
Russell Street particularly in need of repair

The speedhumps on Packhorse Road are crumbling.

A request was made for the Lengthsman to sweep the leaves on the pavements in Kings Newton.

A query as to the frequency that the drains are cleared was made, as the drain on South Street was reported to be full to the top of grit and took a month to clear after it was reported.

Station Road had a flood, as reported at the December meeting. Severn Trent informed that there was no leak and considered that the drains maybe blocked.

The length of Station Road outside the houses opposite the Paddock Public House (Numbers 159A to 201) is breaking up where parked cars oblige motorists to keep to the edge. Because there is no kerb, vehicles are driving on the verge, leaving holes behind.  
7.35pm Cllr Earp arrived.

The grit bins on Commerce Street are missing.

There is a leak outside Chantry House, which has frozen

The road works sign is still in situ outside Kings Newton House, despite the works being completed over a month ago.

It was queried as to whether the police have been invited to the meeting. The Chairman advised that PC Cotterill was aware of the dates of the meetings and had thought that she might have been in attendance tonight.

The bad smells in Kings Newton continue, particularly noticeable at the sharp corner outside John Jackson's yard..

7.38pm Cllr Freeman arrived.

**District and County Council reports**

Cllr Harrison

The pavement surface near the United Reform Church is unsatisfactory and a request has been made for this to be dealt with as a matter of urgency

Action is being pressed for in relation to the unsatisfactory condition of the pavement on Penn Lane.

Ponding occurs after heavy rain at the gully located at the junction of Oaklands Way and Packhorse Lane.

The condition of the Market Place Road has also been reported.

The road closure notice for 31.12.09 was to carry out emergency repairs to a burst.

A petition with over 450 signatories protesting against the closure of the HSBC branch, has been submitted by Cllr Harrison to HSBC, on behalf of the people of Melbourne.

The suggested alternative branch at Castle Donington is not appropriate, partly as transport is an issue.

DCC has introduced a new scheme – "Derbyshire Blue Plaque Scheme". This is the opportunity to nominate and vote for a shortlist of properties within the County. Any nominations are to be with the Chief Executive by 31.12.09.

Currently the zig zag lines outside the primary school are non mandatory, but parking on the lines has generated potential hazards for motorists and pedestrians. After consultation, the lines on Packhorse Road and Station Road are to be made mandatory.

Some of the grit bins are the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Cllr Freeman enquired as to the criteria used in the decision to send out the gritting lorries.

Cllr Harrison advised that there is a policy document which gives the priority routes, which are "A" roads (mainly bus routes), and then the criteria used for other roads.

Cllr Freeman compared the gritting of roads within the County to that of other areas and questioned why Derbyshire appeared to be gritted less.

Cllr Harrison informed that Derbyshire is a large area to grit and that it costs in the region of £300000 per night to grit the county roads.

Cllr Collyer has reported a pothole and had been fairly impressed with the service from DCC.

Cllr Crawford referred to an article in the November edition of the Village Voice about the new Feasibility Study Group and asked for a progress report.

Cllr Harrison reported that the Feasibility Study report will be available to SDDC in January, and that it will also be made available to Parish Council. The Sporting Partnership has also been involved in the feasibility study, and it was requested that free room hire will be available at the LC for future meetings.

Cllr Hewlett

Grant funding has been made available to shops within Melbourne to provide alert box devices. How the scheme operates was explained by Cllr Hewlett who added that the Business Aware Scheme is to be introduced should shopkeepers wish it.

The South Derbyshire Partnership Sergeant is to be relocated to Ripley; his replacement is Sgt Andy King.

Cllr Hewitt has received a reply to the traffic incident reported at the December meeting which states the Neighbourhood Wardens are not permitted to deal with traffic management and it was hoped that the Warden had explained this.

Cllr Freeman enquired as to the exact number of front line police officers in South Derbyshire, as he had heard that the numbers are to be cut.

Cllr Harrison commented that the funding formula meant that Derbyshire Police Authority was not at full strength but he did not have the exact number of officers within South Derbyshire.

Cllr Crawford passed on a parishioner's thanks for dealing with an issue.

Cllr Hewlett sought the opinion of the Parish Council as to whether advertising A boards are a nuisance.

**399. To receive apologies for absence** - were received and accepted from Cllr Carroll.

**400. Declaration of Members interests** – no declarations were made.

**401. To confirm the Non-Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009**

The minutes of the meeting held 01.12.09 were read and signed as a correct record by the Chairman subject to the inclusion of "housing stock" in minute number 384.

**402. To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the Public excluded**

RESOLVED that the following should be taken in Part 2 (Exempt Section) of the meeting  
- Approval of the exempt minutes of the meeting held 01.12.09

#### **403. To receive the reports of Committees – December 2009**

Burial – approved

Two further quotes are to be received and a site meeting is to be held at the end of the month when the local contractors will be invited to attend.

The burial records are on an excel spreadsheet and it was suggested that this is held by the Clerk. Advice is to be sought by the Clerk from ICCM as to how best to keep the burial records up to date.

Cllr Earp asked if this information could be placed on the website.

Cllr Freeman expressed his hope that it would be and stated that there would be a charge from Wendy Nuttall for the work on the records, but that she is willing to assist and advise in order that the records are kept up to date.

Ms M Hallard is to be invited to the next meeting.

Highways and Street Lighting – approved

The Chairman commented that the Christmas Lights were impressive and the season passed relatively free of vandalism.

A length of bulbs did fuse and a small invoice will be received to cover the repairs.

Recreation and Amenities – approved

The Chairman has spoken with PC Cotterill about the damage to the pavilion fence that occurred during the summer and PC Cotterill agreed to look at the case notes. It was hoped that PC Cotterill would be in attendance at this meeting to discuss the matter.

Leisure Centre – approved

A formal query has been lodged with Severn Trent over drainage charges. There has been an exchange of letters between the Parish Council and SDDC and these will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

#### **404. Financial Matters**

- a) Accounts for payment – See appendix 1
- b) To consider applications made under Section 137  
RESOLVED: the application for funding made by Melbourne Rugby Club will be discussed at the Committee meeting
- c) To consider the 2010/2011 precept  
RESOLVED: This will be deferred to the Finance Committee meeting to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- d) To consider the SDDC proposal for the funding of Parish Councils  
RESOLVED: this will be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting

#### **405. Chairman's remarks**

The Senior Citizens Christmas Party was very good and the Christmas shopping event was excellent and enjoyable. Cllr Collyer attended the Carol Service on behalf of the Chairman. A thank you note has been received from Mrs Hill.

#### **406. To receive reports from representatives on outside organisations**

a) Senior Citizens Centre – Cllr Sharp – no meeting has taken place

b) Infant School Governors – Cllr Smith – The news about the zig zag lines was pleasing. The Christmas Concert and party went well and the school is in good health. Cllr Freeman questioned whether the school has taken up the idea of walking buses.

Cllr Smith replied that the school does use walking buses but currently the weather makes it impracticable.

- c) Safer Neighbourhood – nothing to report
- d) Lothain Gardens – nothing to report
- e) Festival – nothing to report
- f) Sporting Partnership - this has been reconvened .

Cllr Harrison reported that this is to be held on a monthly basis and hoped that the Parish Council will provide a room for the meetings, free of charge.

#### **407. Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report as previously circulated was accepted.

#### **408. To book the Summer 2010 holiday sports activities**

Cllr Jackson will compare last year's activities with this year's and will bring any recommendations to the next meeting.

#### **409. To consider the Electoral Arrangements for South Derbyshire**

Cllr Harrison explained why there is a review of the electoral arrangements and that SDDC proposal is that there is no change for Melbourne Parish.

RESOLVED the Parish Council wished for the status quo and the Clerk will write to the Electoral Commission.

#### **410. To consider the first report regarding the Melbourne Feasibility Study**

RESOLVED: The report should be available for the next full Council meeting.

#### **411. Correspondence**

1. SDDC – Summer 2010 Holiday Play Provision
2. DALC – Circulars
3. DRCC – The Playing Field Newsletter
4. ICCM – Newsletter & Journal
5. CPRE – Fieldwork Magazine
6. DCC – Acknowledgement of letter reporting the blocked culvert, Robinsons Hill

#### **412. Planning**

##### Applications

9 2009 1009 FH – The erection of an extension at 45 Packhorse Road, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS

9 2009 0974 L – The demolition of a modern brick single storey outbuildings, stairs and bay window together with internal alterations and extensions to the rear of the Grade II listed building, 22 Potter Street, Melbourne  
NO OBJECTIONS

##### Decisions

None received

#### **413. Members items for report and consideration**

Cllr Freeman asked for an explanation of the Power of Wellbeing, which the Acting Clerk provided.

#### **414. Future Agenda Items**

Budget and precept for 2010/2011

Consideration of the powers of Advisory Committees

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.41pm

## PART TWO – EXEMPT SECTION

### 1. To approve the Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 01.12.09

Cllr Crawford questioned one section of the exempt minutes relating to a statement made by Cllr Hicklin.

The Chairman asked Cllr Hicklin to confirm what was stated at the meeting, and it was agreed “ Cllr Hicklin stated that the Parish Council had been asked on two separate occasions, at sub committee meetings, to sack the manager”.

The minutes of the meeting held 01.12.09 were read and signed as a correct record by the Chairman with the above amendment

There being no further matters, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm