

Medbourne Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY 7TH MARCH 2011

Present: Cllrs Polito (Chair), Smith, Tweddle, Caldwell & Clarke

Parishioners: Stuart Palmer, Louise Pilkington & Karl Jenkins.

1.0 APOLOGIES: Cllr Beaty, Rennie Barbour & Keith Sandars.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2011:

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr Clarke. Seconded: Cllr Smith.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING:

3.3.4.1 Tree Preservation Orders: Clarification had been received from the Landscape Officer at LCC that as all trees within the Conservation Area over 75mm in diameter at 1.5m from the ground are protected, a tree owner must give the Local Planning Authority six weeks notice prior to carrying out any felling or pruning works. This gives the time, should the tree have amenity value, to place an individual Tree Preservation Order on the tree concerned. If such a protected tree is found to be dead, dying or dangerous, the owner of the tree has a duty to plant a replacement tree, and this can be enforced by the Local Planning Authority with the penalty of a substantial fine

3.10.2 Damage to churchyard wall: Repairs to the gully cover are in hand and have been marked for repair by the Highways Dept.

3.10.3 Litter Bins: HDC will replace the two bins in need of repair during the next financial year.

3.11.3 Annual Donation to Mower Fund: Andy Holyoake has been provided with the relevant bank details so that the annual payment of £250 into the Mower Fund can be made by the Sports Club.

4.0 PLANNING:

4.1 Brudenell Estates – removal of condition 13 (pedestrian visibility splays) of 10/00848/FUL Pagets Farm, Main Street: Permission for removal of this condition had been given by the Development Control Team.

The architects have indicated that no problem can be seen with having the hedge cut back before commencement of any work on site, although they will need to contact their client in this respect. Once the position has been clarified Paul Taylor of the Development Control Team will respond to our letter. He has spoken to the Legal Dept regarding enforcement of Condition 19 of the original Planning Consent who advised that as this was imposed by the Highways Dept they would expect this condition relating to the hedge to be implemented before work commences, or at the very least within the first three weeks. It would also be ensured that compliance of Condition 19 is passed on to any purchaser should the site be sold on.

4.2 During the month details of Planning Applications submitted to the Development Control Team for the Harborough District had been received and circulated to councillors.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

5.1 During the month the following correspondence had been received and circulated to councillors:

- Invitation from the RCC to enter the village in this year's Achievement Awards
- Request from LCC for involvement by villages for the provision of 'green spaces' in their community. This topic was placed on the agenda of the Community forum meeting held at Billesdon on 2nd March 2011.
- Questionnaire relating to a Customer Access survey issued by HDC.
- Details about the Mobile Information Unit provided by the Northants Organisation for the Blind.
- Update regarding the Sustainable Communities Act.
- Notification of a Flood Warden Seminar/Workshop being held by the Environment Agency on 23rd February 2011.
- Notice of Consultation on the Proposed Submission of the Leics & Leicester Waste Development Framework Site Allocations Policies.
- Information about the services provided to members of the L&RALC.
- Details of the Planning Policy on Residential Parking Standards, Parking Charges & Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.
- Monthly Newsletter issued by L&RALC.

6.0 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN: No questions raised.

7.0 ELECTION – Nominations for Parish Councillors:

Although as yet no one has indicated they would like to put themselves forward for nomination as a councillor, a number of people have expressed an interest.

8.0 VILLAGE HALL:

8.1 Cllr Caldwell advised that a number of inquiries have been made regarding hire of the village hall. The AGM is to be held on Monday 18th April 2011.

8.2 The Schedule of Dilapidation, showing the present condition of the Village Hall, has not yet been drawn up by Martyn Jones.

9.0 REPORTS:

9.1 Sports Club: Cllr Clarke advised that the fund for the proposed extension now stands at approximately £80,000. The most recent fundraising event was a quiz.

9.2 On Sunday a total of four home football games and a friendly were held which caused problems with parking.

9.3 The Cricket Club plan to undertake work on the nets before start of the season.

10.0 TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME:

This continues to run smoothly.

11.0 PARISH REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:

11.1 Tree on Uppingham Road: A tree just beyond the railway bridge on the Uppingham Road is in need of cutting back as it is forcing people to walk in the road.

12.0 ACCOUNTS:

12.1 During the month the following invoices had been received and submitted to councillors for payment:

V Simkin & Son	£15.00
Redeemed Taxi Vouchers	

Eyebrook Bird Feeds	£63.36
The Hollow	

Murphy's Taxis	£15.00
Redeemed Taxi Vouchers	

E.on UK Energy	£45.60
Street Light Repair	

12.2 At the meeting an invoice for £88.51 from Eyebrook Bird Feeds in respect of The Hollow was presented for payment. Proposed: Cllr Smith. Seconded: Cllr Tweddle.

12.3 Interest of £8.26 in respect of funds held with National Savings had been paid into the Community Account with Barclays Bank.

12.4 The annual donation of £500 to the Village Hall together with hire fees of £220 will be paid within the next few days.

12.5 A transfer of £1,000 has been made during the month from the Business Savings Account into the Community Account.

13.0 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Monday 4th April 2011, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm. The following meeting will be the Annual Statutory Meeting on Monday 9th May 2011 when the councillors elected on 5th May 2011 will take up their positions.

14.0 COUNCILLORS' HOLIDAYS: No dates given.

15.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

15.1 The question of a 'facelift' to the childrens' playground was raised. Whilst the playground is much appreciated as a fantastic resource, it was raised that the rocking horse has been broken for a while now and the equipment is in need of re-painting. It is appreciated that the problem may be lack funds and an offer of help with fund-raising and 'hands on' help was kindly offered by Louise Pilkington.

Cllr Polito clarified that the playground is owned by the Medbourne Educational Foundation

Trust and the present equipment had been provided for The Millennium through fundraising and a Lottery Grant. Cllr Caldwell advised that funds held are only sufficient to cover insurance and general upkeep. The Committee is made up of The Rector, two Church Wardens, a Parish Council Representative and a Secretary. The playground does need regular attention and volunteers help with mowing the grass together with the annual 'tidy up'. Someone had offered to repair the rocking horse a while ago and Cllr Caldwell will speak to the Rector about getting this seen to as soon as possible. Ideally the surface could do with replacing but there are insufficient funds for this.

Louise Pilkington asked if there was any way she could give assistance and offered help to enable the equipment to be re-painted or organize fund-raising. Karl Jenkins also offered to get children to come along to have a cleaning blitz.

As there has been an increase in the number of children in the village over the last few years the possibility of having a group of parents willing to take on fundraising to keep the playground in good condition was considered to be a good idea and Cllr Caldwell will initially discuss this idea with the Rector.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.