

Medbourne Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012

Present: Cllrs Tweddle (Chair), Clarke & Palmer
Cllr David Beaty

Parishioners: Keith Sandars, Martyn Jones, Laurie Smith & Fiona Smith.

1.0 APOLOGIES: Cllr Polito, Cllr Pilkington & Rennie Barbour.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2011:

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
Proposed: Cllr Clarke. Seconded: Cllr Palmer

3.0 MATTERS ARISING:

3.3.11.2 Service of Parish Mower: No further approach has been made from Brooksby College as yet but it is understood that they still intend to undertake maintenance and repair of the parish mower alongside the sports club equipment.

3.3.6.2 Advertising Banners: The matter of advertising banners erected by The Cinnamon Lounge together with those displayed within the church yard appear to have been resolved.

4.0 PLANNING:

4.1 During the month details of the following planning applications submitted to the Development Control Team had been received and circulated to councillors:

- **Mr M Smith - Extension of time (Ref: 08/01491/FUL) for erection of a storey side extension at 2 Brookfield Cottages, Drayton Road.** Councillors had no comment to make in respect of this application.
- **Brudenell Estates – Conversion of barns to create two dwellings, demolition of outbuildings and erection of detached garage block (revised scheme of 10/00848/FUL) at Pagets Farm, 36 Main Street:** A revision of the scheme is partly due to difficulties being encountered in regard to cutting back of the hedge in front of the farmhouse at Pagets Farm which had been a condition of the Planning Permission. The applicant has also applied to remove the agricultural status on the field, on the basis that as it is now their intention for the field to be used as pony paddocks for the occupants of the two dwellings to be created, traffic movement at the development would be reduced. Councillors strongly objected to this new proposal, as they had also done so for the application for which permission was given. Under the revised scheme the situation is considerably worse, especially with regard to visibility at the access, and that it is now proposed the field be brought into the site area. A full discussion regarding the nature and extent of councillors objections took place and these will now be submitted to the Development Control Team, together with a request for a site meeting with both the Planning Committee and Highways Dept. As a number of objections have already been received by Development Control the application should be the subject of a Planning Committee Meeting and representatives from the Parish Council will attend. Cllr Beaty advised that he would also give his support to the village at the meeting.

Additionally to date no official notice has been displayed at the site, although it is understood this was being delayed until after the New Year and the closing date for representations from the public would be extended appropriately.

4.2 During the month Planning Permission had been given for the following applications:

- Mr Karl Jenkins – Erection of a timber gazebo at The Old House 10 Old Green.
- Seven Locks Housing – Installation of cladding to external walls (to provide insulation) and roof covering works at Nos. 24, 34, 36, 42 and 50 Drayton Road and 17 & 19 Hallaton Road.
- Permission for tree work by Mr Robert Hallam at 29 Main Street had also been given.

4.3 Refusal of Planning Permission had been given to Mr & Mrs Richard Hammond for erection of a two storey side extension and two storey front extension at 7 Hallaton Road. The basis of the decision by the Development Control Team was that by virtue of its size and position it would have an adverse impact on the character and appearance of the conservation Area, as it will interrupt the setting and important vista through to the Grade 2* St Giles Church.

4.4 Lists of Planning Applications submitted to the Development Control Team for the Harborough District had also been received and circulated to councillors.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- Details of the crime figures for the Welland Valley Area have been received from PC Tim Harwood that included two burglaries, theft of a 4 x 4 and a road rage! The most serious incident however had been arson causing high value barn fires at Glooston and Stonton Wyville.
- Notification of withdrawal of the Waste Site Allocations Policy Development Plan Document for Leicestershire & Leicester.
- Notification of the Harborough District Core Strategy Adoption.
- Request for representatives for Voluntary Action Leicestershire.
- Annual Report & Invitation for Membership to the Leics Local Access Forum.
- November & December editions of the newsletter published by L&RALC.
- Notification of an Extraordinary Council Meeting at HDC Offices on Wednesday 14 December 2011.
- Copy of the Draft Site Assessment Toolkit Consultation as part of the Allocations Development Plan Document for Consultation issued by Harborough District Local Development Framework.
- Information about SHIRE Community Climate Change Grants.

5.2 Cllr Beaty asked if there had been any reports about telephone calls asking the householder to go and check their utility supply as he had received calls.

6.0 **QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN:** No questions raised.

7.0 **REPORTS:**

7.1 **Neighbourhood Planning:** Cllr Palmer reported that he had attended a New Homes Bonus and Neighbourhood Planning meeting on 12th December 2011 at the Harborough District Council Chamber. A presentation was given by Stephen Pointer on the involvement of parishes in setting up a Neighbourhood Planning Scheme for their community that indicated that it could take two years to set up and require two or three people to run it. Although it may be suitable for larger villages, in small villages it could easily create problems by setting parishioners against each other as the purpose of the scheme is for community groups to say where new homes should be built and be able to grant planning permission for new buildings. The District Council would be able to overturn any proposed development and Cllr Palmer said their response to the scheme was quite negative.

There was also a discussion about the New Homes Bonus Scheme whereby the District Council would receive a financial incentive for working closely with communities for provision of additional housing within communities, providing sites for travellers and additional incentive payment for new affordable housing. New District Planning Regulations are also being put in place for greenfield sites.

A decision by parishes as to whether they would like to become involved in setting up a Neighbourhood Planning Scheme is required by the end of February 2012, but it was considered by councillors at the meeting that it would not be appropriate to go in this direction.

7.2 **Wheelchair Access to the Village Hall:** Cllr Beaty reported that it had arisen at one of the meetings of HDC that correspondence had been received from a member of the public complaining they had been unable to access the Village Hall at Medbourne in a wheelchair.

7.3 **Deed of Easement – The Shielling:** The Clerk reported that Richard Hammond has forwarded the Deed of Easement for The Shielling together with other related correspondence and this will be placed in the church safe. It had been noted that the contact address for the Parish Council on the title documents issued by the Land Registry showed 31 Hallaton Road. This goes back to when Chris Kierle was the Clerk and arrangements will be made to have it amended.

8.0 **TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME:** Nothing to report.

9.0 **PARISH REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:**

9.1 **Mowing of Towpath:** An email had been received from Matthew Bills, Public Spaces Manager for HDC indicating that if we did not wish the grass along the towpath to be cut so short and reduce the number of cuts it would involve using a different type of mower. As this would need to be brought over to Medbourne specially extra costs would be incurred and it would therefore be more advantageous for the Parish Council to leave the present arrangement of 15 cuts (fortnightly) in place.

Cllr Polito has therefore suggested that as we would only need 7 or 8 cuts a year we should be able to organise this on a local basis by using volunteers and save most of the money set aside in the Precept. In view of the size of the area however it was decided to discuss this again at the next meeting when all councillors would be present.

10.0 ACCOUNTS:

10.1 During the month an invoice for £45 received from Murphy's Taxis in respect of redeemed Taxi Vouchers had been submitted to councillors for payment.

10.2 A cheque for £10 had been received from the new owners of The Shielling in respect of the annual payment of £1 under the terms of the Deed of Easement. The next payment will not be due until December 2021 and our records have been noted accordingly.

10.3 At the meeting the following invoices were presented for payment:

R Murphy	£ 55.00
Redeemed Taxi Vouchers	

E.on	£178.83
Street Lighting Charges	

Proposed: Cllr Clarke. Seconded: Cllr Palmer.

10.4 Notification has been received from E.on UK advising that charges for Street Lighting Maintenance will be increased from 1st April 2012. The new quarterly charge will be £105.36 including VAT. A price list was also included in respect of the new charges for street lighting repairs that also comes into effect on 1st April 2012.

11.0 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th February 2012, followed by 5th March 2012 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall .and the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 2nd April 2012.

12.0 COUNCILLOR'S HOLIDAYS: Details of when councillors would be away were given at the meeting.

13.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: No questions raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.