

Medbourne Parish Council
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
MONDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2013

Present: Cllrs Polito (Chair), Tweddle, Clarke, Oliver and Dunkley
Cllr Beaty, J Sandars, N Philbin, D Tuffs, T Price, R Daulby, D Woods, M Paine, L Smith

1.0 APOLOGIES: Cllr Pilkington

2.0 RETIREMENT OF COUNCILLOR TWEDDLE:

On behalf of councillors Cllr Polito made a presentation to Pat Tweddle on her retirement as a Councillor, and thanked her for her tireless efforts over the past 16 years, especially her contribution to the Millennium Playground Project and running the Taxi Voucher scheme.

3.0 CO-OPTION TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY:

3.1 Following display of the Notice of Casual Vacancy no notice in writing of a request for an election was received. Therefore the Parish Council co-opted Steph Dunkley to fill the vacancy left by Pat Tweddle with immediate effect. Steph was welcomed as a councillor and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the clerk. The Register of Members Interest form will be completed and returned to the Monitoring Officer.

3.2 The role of Medbourne Charities and Taxi Voucher scheme representative passed to Cllr Clarke, whilst Cllr Dunkley took on the role of Village Hall representative.

3.3 The election for vice-Chair was deferred until the next meeting, due to the absence of Cllr Pilkington.

4.0 REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

Cllr Dunkley requested dispensation to discuss the precept setting for Medbourne Parish Council. This was approved to cover the period up until the next elections in May 2015.

5.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 7th JANUARY 2013:

The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record.
Proposed: Cllr Clarke. Seconded: Cllr Oliver.

6.0 MATTERS ARISING: None

7.0 PLANNING:

7.1 During the month details of the following planning applications submitted to Development Control had been received and circulated to Councillors:

- **Mr and Mrs Ludiman – Erection of porch and entrance gates with wall, Bridgedale Farm:** Councillors had no comment to make in respect of this application.
- **Mrs B Walker – works to trees, Dale Farm:** Councillors had no objection, but a comment was made that some of the trees possibly required further investigation to determine if felling is the only option.

7.2 During January Planning Permission had been given by Development Control in respect of the

following:

- **Mr G Roberts, 1 Hallaton Road:** Demolition of existing single storey rear extensions, erection of single storey rear extension and works to boundary wall.
- **Mr G Roberts, 1 Hallaton Road:** Listed Building Consent for work above.
- **Mr O Muto, Bridge House, 15 Old Holt Road:** Erection of external staircase.
- **Mr Brian Godfrey, 11 Rectory Lane:** Erection of porch canopy, erection of two and single storey rear extension, insertion of side elevation window.

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

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

8.1 During January the following correspondence had been received and circulated to councillors:

- Details of Neighbourhood Plan workshop
- RCC Achievement Awards 2013
- Details of Broadband Briefing Session
- LRALC January Newsletter
- Letter of advance notice re. Road closures
- Details of LCC's Budget Consultation
- Details of survey on rural issues by LRALC/LRP

9.0 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN: None raised.

10.0 REPORTS:

10.1 Cllr Clarke reported that the windows and doors have now gone into the new Sports Club building.

10.2 Representing the Cricket Club, Cllr Clarke asked if the Council would agree to the location of the existing net being changed and a further net being added. This was approved.

10.3 Cllr Clarke also reported that he had attended a very positive meeting of the Village Hall Committee, which included discussion of how they were going to proceed with the questionnaire to the village for which they had received funding.

10.4 The letter sent by Cllr Polito regarding the Big Society project had had a good response, with quite a few people expressing interest in supporting a freshers-style event and supplying information for a directory. The clerk will follow up with those who have not responded.

10.5 The idea of updating the directory was discussed in some detail. It was felt that a paper copy with all telephone numbers on was possibly obsolete – superseded by a village website with full details of the individual clubs and societies (or links to their own websites). However there is still room for a paper copy with information about the activities but which signposts to the website rather than giving telephone numbers which need keeping up to date. Posters and the Parish Magazine could also publicise the website. Help could possibly be given to those unsure of how to access or without access to the internet.

David Tuffs, Nickie Philbin, Tom Price and Mark Paine agreed to work on this together as a

group and report back to the next meeting.

Nickie Philbin suggested including a question about internet access and readership of the Parish Magazine in the Village Hall household questionnaire, which was agreed by the meeting.

11.0 TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME: No change.

12.0 PARISH REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:

The first bridge on the Blaston Track has been damaged by the recent bad weather, Cllr Polito will report this.

13.0 ACCOUNTS:

13.1 During the month the following invoice was submitted to councillors for payment:

E-on Sustainable Energy	£64.80
Lighting Repair	

13.2 During the month the VAT repayment of £301.65 had been received from HM Revenue & Customs.

14.0 PRECEPT 2013/14

14.1 Details had been received from Harborough District Council of the grant amount which would be given to balance the effect of the decrease in council tax base due to the changes in the council tax benefit system. The grant was set at £360.25. To help contribute to a request from the Village Hall (see 14.2), yet stay within a reasonable level of increase, it was agreed that £200 should be added to the original precept estimate. This gives an increase in council tax of 4.4% and takes the total requirement to £6103, thus the net precept was agreed at £5742.75 . This figure will be submitted to HDC for approval.

14.2 The Village Hall Committee had been asked – more than once - by their grant provider on a specific project to approach the Parish Council regarding the possibility of a contribution towards the shortfall in money for the project. It was agreed that a one-off donation of £500 should be made, by bringing next year's contribution to the Village Hall forward from reserves.

15.0 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on March 4th, followed by April 8th at 7.45 in the Village Hall.

16.0 COUNCILLORS HOLIDAYS: Details of when councillors would be away were given at the meeting.

17.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Roger Daulby asked whether the Council was any further forward regarding the investigations into the Village Hall lease and the various charities. Cllr Polito replied that he had a meeting planned, so should have some news shortly.

It was noted that a manhole in Manor Road still has water running out, which could be very dangerous when there is a hard frost. This has been reported, but Cllr Polito will report it again.

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