

MEDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 1 July 2019

Present : Cllrs Pilkington, Easton, Shaen-Carter and Caffrey

Also present : Parish Clerk, 15 members of the public, agent for application 19/00832/FUL and Cllr Rickman (HDC)

ITEM. NO.		
448.0	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Gidley-Wright	
449.0	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None declared.	
450.0	REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION None submitted.	
451.0	MINUTES OF THE PC MEETING ON 3 June 2019 These were accepted as circulated with no amendments	
452.0	PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS (and Guidance)	
452.1	It was recognised that most of the public members present at the meeting wished to raise concern on the planning proposal regarding a potential 'dog care' facility.	
452.2	The concerns raised included the likelihood of such a facility being out of keeping with the village's character and too dominant in appearance on entering the village. Views were given on excess noise, traffic, parking congestion, potential damage to the wildlife 'corridor', and adverse impacts upon existing and neighbouring properties.	
452.3	Concern was also raised that the proposal is contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan and would represent a precedent whereby further development could expand 'through stealth' dangerous precedent. Contrary to NP.	
452.4	The consistent view expressed was that the Parish Council submit strong objections to this proposal.	

453.0	CLERK & COUNCILLORS REPORTS	
453.1	MF noted that the painting to the Bowls Club building should be completed soon by club members. (to check on completion of painting to club shed)	
453.2	It was noted that the 2018-19 transfer of funds from the Mower Fund to MPC's main bank account was still outstanding, so a letter of instruction to move £667 was signed to send to the Barclays Bank Manager.	MF
453.3	It was agreed to order an up-to-date copy of the NALC Good Councillors Guide for all Councillors.	MF
453.4	MF had discussed the new potential charge for handling data within the PC's records with David T. No charges seem apparent at present, but this will be considered through the offered 'checklists'	MF
453.5	No action had yet been possible to follow up to validity of the old share certificates. MF to follow up in due course.	MF
453.6	From the bank account records it does not seem that the yearly 1.00 payments required by the PC's lease had been received from the Bowls club. MF will follow this up with the Club Chair.	MF
454.0	TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:	
454.1	<p>Village Hall Cllr E had written to the Hall Committee to request confirmation on insurance of Village Hall.</p> <p>A disappointing response had been received from the Lottery Heritage Fund, who stipulate that 10% of funds should go towards Heritage events and demonstrate increased future numbers of hall users. Other feasible sources of funds may need to be considered.</p> <p>There will be no Committee meeting in July.</p>	
454.2	<p>MEFT The barbeque in June had been a distinct success - donations were collected for MEFT (towards additional swings for older children) and Parish Council (towards the repositioning of the village dovecote).</p>	
454.3	<p>Sports Club No news to report – a date had yet to be set to meet and discuss the future operations of the Mower Fund.</p>	
454.4	<p>Village broadband and website No update to report at the meeting.</p>	

455.0	TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT ON PLANNING MATTERS	
455.1	<u>Applications submitted to HDC:</u>	
455.1.1	<p><u>Ref No. 19/00852/FUL</u>: Padgets Farm Hallaton Road Medbourne (Conversion of existing farm buildings to form 6 dwellings, erection of a new dwelling, erection of 7 business units, a replacement agricultural building and the demolition of 3 agricultural buildings).</p> <p>A set of comments on this proposal was provided by Cllr SC with recommendation to refuse this proposal, notwithstanding previous presentations to PC, on agricultural grounds, poor visual amenity, unsuitable traffic movements (no parking mention for farm vehicles), shared single point of access for domestic and farm traffic, no pedestrian access, new workshops in open countryside, the potential noise nuisance to local residents, and the imposing scale of the current submitted plans.</p> <p>Discussion noted that there had been previous presentations to the PC on such plans, but it was noted that this should not be interpreted as gaining automatic support from the PC.</p> <p>It was agreed to return objections to this set of plans. Though it was acknowledged that further discussion could be had on plans for a smaller scale of development on this site.</p>	CllrSC / MF
455.1.2	<p><u>Ref. No: 19/00832/FUL</u>: Field Off Drayton Road, Medbourne (Change of use of land from agriculture to dog day care with dog play field & walking area, erection of building for up to 8 dogs including ancillary office/storage space)</p> <p>Cllr SC submitted a summary of points recommending reasons to object to this proposal : planning history of previous rejected schemes for this site in open countryside; contradictions to the Neighbourhood Plan; potential damage to local ecology; as bounded by Med Brook and need for 'buffer zone; unattractive to the visual amenity and entrance to village; noise from future operations and from likely traffic and waste movements; and the likely adverse impact of its proximity local dwellings.</p> <p>It was agreed to return strong objections to the proposal and to note the extent of local concerns. Cllr SC.</p>	CllrSC / MF
455.1.3	<p><u>Ref. No: 19/00960/FUL</u>: Mill Farm Slawston Road Medbourne (Erection of new extension to front, side and rear).</p> <p>It was noted that no site plan was identifiable for the proposed large extension. It may not be visible from road but could be from open countryside. The proposed design echoes the original dwelling but does need to be 'subservient' to the original ridgeline.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed that more information is need on the orientation and impact of the proposed extension, but so long as the ridgeline is altered that there are no objections to submit.</p> <p>Councillors will check their impressions on the site from open countryside and Cllr SC will contact HDC Planning.</p>	CllrSC / MF
455.1.4	<p><u>Ref. No 19/01001/LBC</u> : Old School, 10 Main St., Medbourne (retiling of roof, repointing)</p>	
455.2	<p>It was noted that the planned bat survey has been undertaken. There are no substantial alterations planned to the listed building and no objections were made to the proposals.</p>	
	<p><u>To note decisions undertaken by HDC:</u> No further information.</p>	
455.3	<p><u>To note enforcement actions commenced by HDC :</u> No further information.</p>	
455.4	<p><u>Other planning matters :</u> None discussed.</p>	
456.0	ROADSIDE AND VERGE MAINTENANCE	
456.1	<p>The meeting noted that this was a follow up to discussion had first at the PC meeting on 3 June 2019. Cllr SC had been in contact with Great Easton for comparative info about use of LCC Highways and routine cuttings.</p>	
456.2	<p>The 'Good Verge Guide' was recommended as a promising guide to verge maintenance, although it was felt that the note contained therein that there should be no grass cuts from July to September could be a safety issue in some parts of the parish.</p>	
456.3	<p>It was suggested that a village inspection be made of areas that could be left uncut, if it could also be assessed that there would not be a new hazard introduced to road users. Some natural growth in areas is clearly attractive and some wildflower growth could be stimulated. Discussion with County Highways would be sought.</p>	All
456.4	<p>It was agreed to place details of the 'Good Verge Guide' on the village website.</p>	MF
457.0	A REVIEW PROCESS FOR MPC ASSETS	
457.1	<p>It was noted that the Internal Audit report recommended a review of the PC's assts and recorded valuations.</p>	

457.2	<p>Information on the assets had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that MF will draft some proposed revisions to the descriptions on the list and contact the PC's insurers for advice on revised valuations.</p> <p>The PC meeting in September will review progress on this matter.</p>	MF
458.0	2019-20 REVIEW OF MPC POLICIES	
458.1	It was noted that the Internal Audit report recommended a regular review of the PC's policies.	
458.2	Information on the current list of policies had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that MF will outline a process and prepare some review sheets for a regular updating of policies at PC meetings through the year.	MF
458.3	<p>Proposed details of a new policy had been circulated prior to the meeting to clarify how to organise and respond to public representations at PC meetings.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr draft a final copy including all comments. And confirm at the next meeting.</p>	CllrC
458.4	All policy details will be highlighted on the website under a heading of 'Policy and Other Guidance'.	MF
459.0	LED REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHTING	
459.1	<p>Information on two sets of proposed costs had been circulated prior to the meeting on potential replacements of the existing street lighting with LED bulbs.</p> <p>Discussion was had on the potential glare to pedestrians and neighbours close to the columns from such replacements.</p>	
459.2	It was agreed to see if further advice can be obtained from other village settings on the effect of such replacements, and to consider a gradual introduction as funds permit.	
460.0	TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:	
460.1	A note from HDC advised on the use of RoSPA for potential safety inspections – this will be forwarded to Cllr P.	MF / CllrP
460.2	MF had completed and returned a LRALC Satisfaction Survey on the Internal Audit arrangements.	
460.3	The Leicestershire Communities 2019 Annual Parish Liaison is to be held on 8 July 2019.	

460.4	The HDC Parish Liaison event will be held on 6 November 2019	
460.5	It was noted the Cllr Rickman had been confirmed as the District Councillor for the parish area. Other responsibilities are noted on the HDC website.	
461.0	2019-20 BUDGET AND APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS	
461.1	Bank reconciliation and 1st Qtr payments to June 2019 Details of the bank reconciliations to mid-June had been circulated. All matters are in balance. Details will be placed on the website.	
461.2	The following payments were approved 2019-20: - M Field (salary, July): £153.78 - Autela Payroll (payroll services) : £39.33 - E-on (lighting maintenance) : £126.43 + 2 others - HDC (emptying bins) : £130.37 - Village Hall (room hire) : £75.00	MF
462.0	AUDIT OF PC ACCOUNTS	
462.1	Internal Auditors report 2018-19 The Clerk noted that actions to update procedures as required by the report would be factored into a series of issues to be brought to Councillors through the year.	MF
462.2	Submission of AGAR (External Audit 2018-19) It was noted that the period for public inspection of the PC's financial records would operate until 8 August 2019. All details are on the website.	
463.0	GRANT APPLICATIONS	
463.1	One application had been received – a request for £250.00 towards general expenses of Parish Magazine. This was approved.	MF
464.0	QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIR There were no questions raised.	
465.0	ITEMS OF REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	
465.1	Cllr SC circulated suggestions for measurements, materials and sitings of 'gates' that could help traffic calming measures. It was	CllrSC

	acknowledged that plastic could be acceptable if this was of a sound make and design. Some locations and quotation will be obtained, and then brought to discussion with Highways.	
465.2	MF to pass request for a streetlight repair to Cllr P.	MF / CllrP
465.3	The pending road resurfacing works are to be completed shortly Highways.	
465.4	Concern was raised on an increase in parking on the village pavements. It was suggested that photos be taken of such examples and reported on-line to 101 Police.	
466.0	COUNCIL TRAINING AND RESOURCES Nothing to report at this meeting	
467.0	ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA Subject of policy renewal and audit actions to be confirmed.	
	DATE OF NEXT MEETING <i>2 September 2019</i>	