

Medbourne Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL STATUTORY MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL MONDAY 11TH MAY 2009

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

Parishioners: Gerald Garfield, Peter Jackson & Rennie Barbour.

1.0 APOLOGIES: Cllr Beaty & Keith Sandars.

2.0 CLLR'S ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE & ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

2.1 All Councillors agreed to continue with their current duties for the forthcoming year.

2.2 Nominations were received for the position of Chairman for the ensuing year. Cllr Smith proposed that Cllr Polito continue as Chairman and this was seconded by Cllr Tweddle. There being no further nominations the proposal was put to the meeting with all being in favour.

3.0 CHAIRMAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

3.1 Cllr Polito agreed to continue as Chairman for the ensuing year by signing the formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office and this was witnessed by the Clerk.

4.0 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

4.1 Cllr Caldwell proposed that Cllr Smith continue as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year and this was seconded by Cllr Tweddle. Cllr Smith accepted re-election.

5.0 APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES & REPRESENTATIVES:

L&RAPLC	Cllr Polito
Medbourne Charities	Cllr Smith & Roger Pocock
MEFT	Cllr Caldwell
Village Hall Representative	Cllr Caldwell
Street Lighting Warden	Cllr Clarke
Sports Club Representative	Cllr Clarke
Taxi Voucher Scheme	Cllr Tweddle
Planning Representative	Cllr Caldwell
Bowls Club Representative	Cllr Tweddle
Tree Warden	Bryan Smith
War Memorial Warden	Keith Sandars
Heritage Warden	Cllr Caldwell
Village Web Site	Peter Jackson
Custodian of The Hollow	Bryan Smith
Flood Warden	Bryan Smith
Custodian of Village Benches	Peter O'Donnell

6.0 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:

6.1 It was agreed that any committees necessary would be appointed on an ad hoc basis.

7.0 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

7.1 Subscriptions for the SLCC and the RCC had been agreed for renewal at the meetings held 5th January 2009 and 2nd February 2009 respectively.

7.2 It was agreed at the meeting that the following subscriptions be renewed for the ensuing year:

L&RALC	£151.31
L&RPFA	£17

Proposed: Cllr Tweddle. Seconded: Cllr Smith

8.0 INSPECTION OF TRUST DEEDS & INSTRUMENTS:

8.1 The Trust Deeds and documents held by the Parish Council were checked against the Inventory by Cllrs Caldwell & Clarke. Items number (1), (1A), (5), (5b), (6) were not available for inspection, being presently with Richard Hammond.

9.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 6TH APRIL 2009:

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

Proposed: Cllr Caldwell. Seconded: Cllr Smith.

10.0 MATTERS ARISING:

10.4.3 Cllr Polito has not yet made contact with the appropriate person regarding our Village Design Statement being adopted in its present form.

10.7.1 Possible ways to encourage a more eco-friendly approach to reducing our 'carbon footprint' will be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting. Councillors were asked to put forward any ideas they may have for consideration before the meeting takes place.

10.11.1 Cllr Clarke was asked if he could establish whether the new banking arrangements for the Sports Club were now in place so that the standing order for the Mower Fund Account could be set up.

11.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- Notification of the change of address for L&RALC.
- Instructions from the Information Commissioner's Office about the responsibilities of Parish Councils under the Freedom of Information Act on an instructional DVD.
- Request for help from Leicestershire First to promote their work to encourage leadership, excellence and citizenship in the county.
- Training programme for Voluntary Action Leicestershire.
- Diary of Village Events & Guided Walks published by the RCC for 2009.
- Autumn/Winter 2009-2010 Touring Programme for Centre Stage.
- April 2009 Newsletter from L&RALC.

- RCC Weekly Bulletin
- Advice Times for branches of South Leics Citizens Advice Bureau.
- Rural Services Survey for completion and return by 31st May 2009.

12.0 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN:

12.1 Cllr Smith had received complaints regarding dog fouling, particularly in the rough areas around the sports field and village. It is also apparent that dog walkers are not watching their dogs when visiting the sports field and consequently not cleaning up after them. Other areas include the gravelled area leading to the children's playground, outside the Old Chapel on Main Street and in front of the church gate.

Cllr Tweddle will contact HDC to enquire whether larger signs are available as councillors felt it may be a case of the present signs having lost their impact and need to be more prominent. Cllr Polito will also arrange for an article to be placed in the Parish Magazine to address the problem.

13.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 6TH APRIL 2009:

No matters raised.

14.0 REPORTS:

14.1 Cllr Caldwell reported that he had attended the first of a series of Parish/District Council Liaison Meetings held at HDC for the Planning Representatives. Brett Culpin, Head of Built Environment had headed the meeting that was intended to give an understanding of how the planning process works and how it is envisaged this initiative will develop.

The role of Parish Planning Representative is not intended to be that of a planning expert but to act as the champion for planning matters in the parish. Through training and liaison with planning professionals it is hoped that they will acquire additional planning knowledge and perhaps more importantly knowledge of where and from whom information can be sourced. A key role of a Representative is to provide information to householders and others in the Parish concerning planning policy and particularly local planning considerations such as use of building/finishing materials. A further key part of the role will be acting as a point of contact for the parish with the District Council and vice versa so that a good working relationship can be developed and a two way line of communication established.

An opportunity was given to ask any questions regarding concerns about the planning process. Everyone was given a Glossary of Planning Terms together with a Parish Planning Handbook.

14.2 Cllr Clarke reported that a very busy and successful football season had finished on Sunday 10th May 2009 with entertaining matches being played between parents and children. The success of the Football Club means that more ground on the sports field is to be levelled to provide additional playing area. The MEFT have approved the work which should be completed and ready to be played on in September.

Cllr Clarke has been asked whether the Parish Council would give consideration to whether any monies from the Mower Fund Account could be used to help meet the cost of re-seeding the pitch. However, as these funds are ring fenced specifically for a capital project of replacing the gang mowers, when it becomes necessary, councillors were unable to agree to such a proposal.

The cricket season is now up and running and fixture lists are presently being printed ready for distribution.

15.0 TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME:

Fewer people are using the scheme at present. As the scheme is well funded due to the generosity of many people within the village following the fundraising last year, it was agreed that where necessary we could now distribute books of vouchers to those in need of transport on a more frequent basis.

16.0 PLANNING:

16.1 During the month details of a Planning Application submitted to the Development Control Team by Mr T Walker for erection of a Victorian grand lodge greenhouse at Dale Farm, Manor Road, had been circulated to councillors. Councillors support for the proposal has been returned to HDC.

16.2 To date there has been no further developments regarding the Planning Permission given to Mr & Mrs Heyman for conversion of outbuildings to a dwelling at The Manor House, Manor Road which was subject to a final decision regarding Listed Building Consent being given by Government Office due to it relating to a II* Listed Building.

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

16.4 A Customer Satisfaction Survey relating to Planning Enforcement had been received and circulated to councillors regarding any complaints made to the Enforcement Team. This has now been completed by the Clerk and returned.

17.0 PARISH REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:

17.1 Peter Jackson raised the issue of the grass along the towpath not having been mowed along with the remainder of the village. Cllr Polito will follow this up.

17.2 Cllr Caldwell asked about markings being placed by the dropped kerb outside the Village Hall as vehicles are parking there and creating a problem for disabled people. As the Parish Council prefers to avoid having painted lines within the village it was initially agreed to try and overcome the problem by placing a note on offending vehicles.

18.0 ACCOUNTS:

18.1 During the month the following invoices had been submitted to councillors for payment:

V Simkin Redeemed Taxi Vouchers	£ 15.00
Eyebrook Bird Feeds The Hollow	£ 27.90
Six Saints Circa Holt Youth Club Donation	£400.00
P Polito	£ 25.00

Flower Arrangement – Ros Willatts

E.on £178.83
Street Lighting Charges

Veolia ES(UK)Ltd £299.00
Servicing Dog Bins

- 18.2** At the meeting an invoice from Eyebrook Bird Feeds for £15.00 in respect of The Hollow was submitted to councillors for payment. Proposed: Cllr Clarke. Seconded: Cllr Tweddle.
- 18.3** During the month the first instalment of £2,688.50 for the Precept had been credited to the Parish Council Community Account held at Barclays Bank.
- 18.4** Proceeds from the Dawn Chorus in support of The Hollow totalling £55 has been credited to the separate fund held within the Parish Council Community Account at Barclays Bank.
- 18.5** The renewal notice for the Parish Council insurances for £617.91 had been received from Allianz Cornhill. As agreed at the March 2009 meeting the Clerk had asked for quotations from both Came & Company, with the Norwich Union Insurance, and Community Consultation Ltd with the Zurich Insurance Company. The Clerk has since been received a quotation from Came & Company for £525.22 but advised this would need to be compared with the policy terms and conditions of our present policy, preferably by someone with experience in this field. It was agreed Cllr Clarke would speak to an Insurance Broker connected with the village asking if he would be prepared to look at the policies on our behalf.

19.0 COUNCILLORS HOLIDAYS:

No councillors advised they would be away during the forthcoming month.

- 20.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 1st June 2009 at 7.45pm. The following meetings would be 6th July 2009 and 3rd August 2009.

21.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

- 21.1** Peter Jackson advised that the Parish Website would be transferred over to Leicestershire Villages in September.
- 21.2** Cllr Smith asked if benches within the village were covered by the Parish Council insurances. As this is not the case at present, Cllr Tweddle will make an inventory of the benches so that consideration could be given to having them included.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.