

# Medbourne Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

### MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2010

**Present:** Cllrs Smith (Chair), Tweddle, Caldwell & Clarke  
Cllr Beaty  
Parishioners: Gerald Garfield & Peter Jackson

#### **1.0 APOLOGIES:** Cllr Polito, Rennie Barbour & Keith Sandars.

Before commencement of the official business PC Andy Cooper attended the meeting to provide further information regarding his approach to the Parish Council about assistance with funding for purchase of a laptop so that he can spend more time in the local community by reducing the need for returning to his base in Market Harborough to access the main police computer.

Andy explained that although a limited amount of funding had been provided by the Home Office, which has enabled mobile computers with full police system access to be placed in all the marked police vehicles, Beat Officers have only been provided with hand held Blackberry's which do not have access capability to many of the police systems. Inevitably in the current financial climate any additional funding to provide Beat Officers with laptops in the community is highly unlikely.

Ideally Beat Officers such as Andy, who have various offices in the community, would benefit from a mobile laptop available for their sole use whenever needed. His target is to raise £1,800, based on a standard laptop that would be specially encrypted to have a lot of the additional police software to make it viable for use and linked directly to the main police computer. To this end Andy has approached six villages which he feels would benefit most from this laptop technology.

The police would take care of the upkeep and maintenance of the laptop and any funding by the Parish Council would be a 'one off' contribution. Additionally should Andy be moved on at some point in the future, the laptop would remain within the villages.

Foxton and Horninghold have already pledged a contribution of £250. Office space has kindly been offered by Kerry at our Village shop, giving the additional benefit of a visible police presence in the village. Other villages approached are Hallaton, Allextion and Stockerston.

Cllr Smith thanked Andy for coming along to talk about his request for help with funding. He was given an assurance that the Parish Council would provide a contribution and this would be discussed as part of the agenda for the meeting.

#### **2.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2010:**

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

#### **3.0 MATTERS ARISING:**

**3.3.9.1 Children's Playground:** Following removal of the willow tree volunteers have arranged to repair the fence and tidy up the area so that it can be re-opened.

**3.6.1 Salt Bins:** The Clerk advised that although the rubbish had been removed from the salt bin at Marlow Court, the small amount of salt inside had been there a number of years and had gone solid.

**3.3.8.1 Dog Fouling on Sports field:** Cllr Clarke will contact the Dog Warden again as to date no patrols appear to have been undertaken.

**3.3.8.1 'SmartWater':** Cllr Caldwell asked about distribution of the leaflets with the Parish Magazine as they had been omitted from the ones delivered to Holt Yard. Additionally, there is no reference to the 'SmartWater' kits being available from the Parish Council. It only advises people to contact Neighbourhood Police Officers or the local Police Station.

**3.10.1 Water leaks on Hallaton Road & Uppingham Road:** As repairs have not been undertaken Severn Trent have been contacted again.

#### **4.0 PLANNING:**

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

**Miss J Swaine – Erection of a dwelling (access and siting to be considered). Renewal of 06/00607/OUT land adjacent to Dale Farm, Manor Road:** All councillors gave their support to this application.

**Mr R Hammond – Felling of tree 7 Hallaton Road:** All councillors gave their support to this application.

**R Beaty & C Gittins – Erection of a replacement dwelling (re-submission of 09/01181/FUL) Home Farm, Holt Road:** Councillors had no comment to make regarding the revised plans which move the proposed property in a northerly direction closer to the original dwelling on site.

**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 to attend the Rural Community Council Community Action Seminar at County Hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Cllr Caldwell will attend.
- Reply from the Highways Dept about movement of the village name sign on Hallaton Road. Following a site visit David Hook, Technician for the Southern Highways Area Office, considered that although not in an ideal location he did not feel the sign compromises visibility unduly. Moving it to the opposite side of the road would create problems due to the presence of both the 30mph sign and the flood warning sign. He therefore recommends no change to its present location unless the Parish Council feels very strongly on the matter.
- Letter from E.on advising that their annual inspection of the street lights has been carried out. All bulbs have been changed and the visors cleaned.
- Information from LCC about the Consultation on the Transfer of Ten Residential Care homes and Sale of Silverdale Hostel to the independent sector.
- Notification of the Annual Parish Meeting being held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Unfortunately this is on the same evening as our Parish Council Meeting.

- Copy of the January 2010 Newsletter published by L&RALC.
- Notification of a meeting of HDC on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- Notification from Leics County & Rutland NHS regarding their campaign to increase dental access. A poster has been placed on the Parish Notice Board.
- Notification of dates and times for the Mobile Library visits to the village together with a poster for the Parish Notice Board.
- Invitation to enter the RCC Achievement Awards 2010.

## **6.0 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN:**

No questions raised.

## **7.0 VILLAGE HALL:**

**7.1** No further progress has been made in relation to the lease.

**7.2** Repairs are presently being undertaken to the roof of the front porch, guttering and drainpipes together with restoration of the stonework and brickwork. A new cooker is also being installed.

## **8.0 REPORTS:**

**8.1 Sports Club:** Cllr Clarke reported that help with obtaining grants had been discussed at a recent meeting and a decision made to obtain the assistance of a professional as there are numerous grants available but it requires the expertise of someone knowledgeable in this field. Interviews will be taking place to engage a suitable person.

## **9.0 POLICE LAPTOP & OFFICE SPACE:**

Following the presentation given by PC Andy Cooper all agreed that a contribution of at least £250 be made towards purchase of the laptop, especially in view of the additional benefit to the village by having a police presence when the office space above the shop is being used. Proposed: Cllr Caldwell. Seconded: Cllr Clarke.

Cllr Caldwell raised the question of whether the smaller villages would have difficulty making an equivalent contribution and suggested that an increased figure of £350 be given by ourselves, particularly as we would benefit most by having the additional police presence. The Clerk will look at the accounts and report back at the next meeting.

## **10.0 TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME:**

At present we only have approximately four people using the scheme. This is mainly due to all the youngsters now being able to drive and some of the elderly people no longer being able to use taxis due to health reasons. There are a number of children in the village however who will no doubt wish to use of the scheme once they are old enough.

## **11.0 PARISH REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:**

**11.1** Repairs have been carried out to the road surface near the bridge on the Ashley Road.

**11.2** Work to place the power supply for Manor Road and Rectory Lane underground is presently being undertaken.

**12.0 ACCOUNTS:**

**12.1** During the month the following invoices have been presented to councillors for payment:

Harborough District Council Servicing of Dog Bins	£185.67
Medbourne Village Hall Rent & Annual Donation	£720.00
Eyebrook Bird Feeds The Hollow	£104.32
SmartWater Technology SmartWater Kits (Re-drawn due to VAT having been omitted from the original invoice)	£345.00

**12.2** At the meeting the following invoices were submitted to councillors for payment:

Medbourne District Church Council Donation for Church Light	£ 24.00
V Simkin Redeemed Taxi Vouchers	£ 50.00
RCC Annual Subscription	£ 31.50

Proposed: Cllr Tweddle. Seconded: Cllr Clarke.

**13.0 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be the held at **6.30pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010 followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.** The following meeting will be the **Annual Statutory Meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.45pm.**

**14.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** No questions raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.