

16 DECEMBER 2010

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MILDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL held in the DAVID ROGERS` MEETING ROOM, JUBILEE CENTRE, RECREATION WAY, MILDENHALL on Thursday, 16 December 2010 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr B J Sulman (Chairman)	Cllr G A Hayes
Cllr A J Wheble (Vice Chairman, arrived 8.30)	Cllr H T Hitt
Cllr M J Ball	Cllr J W McGhee
Cllr J Barker	Cllr A F J Peachey
Cllr J M Bloodworth (arrived 7.25)	Cllr N A Roman (arrived 8.30)
Cllr D W Bowman	Cllr M K Smith
Cllr Mrs T A Gooch-Taylor-Balls	Cllr G H Taylor-Balls

Also present were: Sgt P Payne, Mr A Keogh, Mr M Peachey, Mr Donavan, Sqn Ldr R Fryer, County Councillor C Noble, one member of the press, Mrs C Steggles (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs V Shrimpton (Deputy Chief Executive Officer) and Mrs R Buckingham (Minute Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs AFJ Peachey, D J Newton and County Councillor S Frost and apologies for late arrival were received from Cllrs Bloodworth, Roman and Wheble.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Aiden Keogh spoke again about the vandalism problems on the footpath at the rear of Turnstone Close, Mildenhall and said that he did not feel that the suggested planting of prickly shrubs would solve the problem.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item was reached and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

4. RECEIPT AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

a. Police information

Sgt P Payne reported on recent crime figures and spoke about the recent SNT meeting to set priorities. The three priorities are graffiti, parking in the town centre and anti-social behaviour in the town centre, particularly outside Sainsbury's.

Matters raised by members included the vandalism at Turnstone Close (Sgt Payne said that police patrol there regularly and had apprehended a person for criminal damage but that the CPS had dropped charges. He suggested that lighting in the area might be helpful); cars parked on double yellow lines opposite Barclays (Sgt Payne said that if registration numbers are forwarded the police can write and offer advice to the drivers concerned); the need for renewal of yellow lines outside Mabbs Hall and cars driving with no lights in the fog.

b. Base information

Sqn Ldr Fryer thanked Mildenhall Parish Council for all co-operation and support throughout the year. The Chairman thanked the Sqn Ldr for his invitation to the Seasonal Celebration at RAF Lakenheath.

c. County Council information

County Councillor Frost gave an update on the road gritting programme and asked to be informed of pothole problems. He said that the barriers requested near the zebra crossings in the town centre are still under consideration. C Cllr Frost informed members that there will be a meeting on 31 January in Bury concerning Suffolk County Council's New Strategic Direction to which all parish councillors are invited.

Matters raised by members included the mini roundabout at the top end of Kingsway needing re-painting; whether the CEO of SCC will be resigning to save money and a long discussion about the future of SCC services for the parish, particularly Wamil Court and the library. Cllr Barker felt that there had been many general statements about the future cuts in budgets and that it has been know for some time that SCC will have

to save around £40M in the first year but there has been a lack of detail about what will actually happen. C Cllr Frost replied that he is unable to provide such information until all the SCC figures and budgets have been discussed further.

5. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2010 were confirmed.

6. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Planning Committee Meetings held on 7 December 2010 was not quorate therefore no business could be conducted.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ITINERARY & REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

a) Itinerary

St Mary's Church Festival of Light – 5 December 2010

Late night shopping in Mildenhall – 9 December 2010

Seasonal Celebration, RAF Lakenheath – 10 December 2010

b) Reports

NALC Larger Local Councils Conference – 1 December 2010 – Cllr J Barker

8. SNT PRIORITIES

The document was noted.

9. TURNSTONE CLOSE

It was resolved to refer the matter back to the Recreational Management Committee meeting in January to consider the costs of additional fencing and/or footway lighting.

10. DEVELOPMENT FUNDS PROJECT WORKING GROUP

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2010 were received and agreed.

It was resolved that £30, 000 should be set aside immediately for small projects that could be actioned in the very near future/immediately/at short notice.

From this sum **it was resolved to grant £5, 000 to West Row Village Hall & Playing Fields Association towards the cost of an extension.** (To be retained by MPC and paid against invoice evidence of work in progress.)

From this sum **it was resolved that MPC should work in partnership with FHDC by funding £2, 500 of the £7, 500 costs of resurfacing the footpath from the new car park entry to the duck feeding area.**

From this sum **it was resolved that additional benches be installed in the children's playground at an approximate cost of £400.**

It was resolved that parishioners should have the opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas at to how the Development Funds are spent and that the Annual Parish Meeting is the best time for this.

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE

Members considered the problem of low attendance/apologies at Planning Committee meetings leading to meetings occasionally being inquorate. Cllr McGhee asked to step down from the committee as the meetings so often clash with other commitments for him. **It was resolved that until the next Councillor elections in May all apologies for Planning Committee meetings should be telephoned to Cllr Bowman's mobile phone.**

12. COMMUNITY EVENT 22-24 JULY 2011

It was resolved to refer this matter to the next meeting of the Recreational Management Committee.

13. SCC PRESENTATION

It was noted that there will be a presentation on SCC New Strategic Direction in the Jubilee Centre on 10 February.

14. GRITTING

The update on gritting was received.

15. SUFFOLK TRADING STANDARDS CONSUMER CHAMPION NETWORK

Members were asked to respond individually if they so wish.

16. FHDC TOWN & PARISH FORUM

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2010 and the date of the next meeting 15 March 2011 were noted.

17. SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS

It was resolved to renew the CEO's membership in the sum of £190. Cllrs Hayes and Hitt abstained.

18. REVISED CALENDAR

The revised calendar of MPC meetings for 2011 to include a meeting in August was noted.

19. MEMBER'S INTERESTS

Members were reminded that further to Section 3.xiv of MPC's Financial Risk Management Assessment they should review their Register of Interests on an annual basis and fill in a new form if there are any changes.

20. MILDENHALL TOWN MEET YOUR COUNCILOR

Mildenhall members volunteered for the Meet Your Councillor sessions as follows: February: Cllrs Barker and Sulman; March: Cllrs Smith and Ball.

21. GRANT APPLICATION

It was resolved to ask Victim Support for more information regarding their grant application.

22. LEASE

It was noted that the new lease to Mildenhall Scout Group, as previously agreed by Members, is now to hand for signature by Council Chairman and CEO.

23. ACCOUNTS

Accounts for December 2010 totalling £28, 975.60 including telepay salaries were authorised. Cllrs D W Bowman and G H Taylor-Balls signed the relevant cheques.

24. CORRESPONDENCE

The CEO informed members of the following items of correspondence:

- DIS x 2
- Suffolk Link Bulletin.
- FHDC Fair for All – Comprehensive Equality Scheme
- LAIS x 4
- Thank you letter from Age Concern for grant.
- SCC Digital Switchover Help Scheme
- Transcript of New Strategic Direction meeting held on 23 November 2010.
- Community Right to Build & Localism Bill.
- Environment Agency – River Lark Fish Population Survey report.
- NALC Localism Bill.

The CEO extended Christmas Wishes to all Councillors and their families from all MPC staff.

25. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

26. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

It was resolved pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 Part 1 Schedule 12A to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the discussion of matters relating to Motoland, West Row, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

Motoland was discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.