

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MELLOR PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT MELLOR METHODIST CHURCH ON 4th MAY 2017 AT 7.15PM
(following the Annual Parish Council Meeting)**

Present: Cllr. Bernard Murtagh, (Chairman), Cllrs. Mesdames. Stella Brunskill, Dot Crooks , Margaret Johnson, Messrs. Nick Marsden, Ian Moss, Michael O’Grady , Alan Upton, Noel Walsh

Also in attendance: 1 Balderstone resident, Rev. Stuart Smith and the Parish Clerk

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

1. To Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies had been received from Cllr. Mrs. Pat Young. It was

RESOLVED that these apologies be approved.

2. Public Session

2.1 The resident was most concerned about dog fouling throughout the vicinity of Mellor Brook, particularly on Whalley Road, Commons Lane and the parking area on A59 adjacent to BAe site and she expressed the view that the bins were inadequate. She was of the opinion that more could be achieved if all three parishes (Mellor, Balderstone & Samesbury & Cuerdale) worked together.

2.2 Members reflected her comments and had concerns about the greater footfall during lunchtime, meaning that waste food was possibly causing a further issue with rats.

2.3 Clerk reported that, following the previous email she had received from the resident, she had been in contact with the other parish councils and with Head of Environmental Health at Ribble Valley Borough Council, who informed that no additional bins were planned currently. Parish Council will be charged for any emptying of dog bins.

2.4 Members pointed out that in addition to three Parish Councils, there are two Borough Councils (as well as County Council) who may have input on this. Following discussion, Clerk was instructed to contact County Councillor Alan Schofield, asking him to liaise, however specification of requirements was felt to be needed.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 6th April 2017 : following prior circulation, it was unanimously **RESOLVED that these were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

4 Matters Arising from Those Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

4.1 Members were informed that Clerk had received a negative response from Nigel Evans MP regarding re-instatement or moving a post box to Mellor Lane. Members felt no further action could be taken.

5. To receive Declarations of Pecuniary or Personal Interest

5.1 There were no Declarations

6. To consider any response to be made to Planning Applications

6.1 Members were aware of an application regarding possible 4G sites in the area, especially near Old Dad’s Farm, but had no objections to this.

- 3/2017/0296 Porch Extension, St. Mary’s Primary School
- 3/2017/0318 Detached Shed, 10 St. Mary’s Gardens

RESOLVED – that Mellor Parish Council had no objections to the above applications.

7. To consider any actions to be taken regarding Public Space Protection Orders

7.1 Clerk read the letter received from Ribble Valley Borough Council, detailing further restrictions when dogs are in public areas. Members supported these, and discussed that the Orders be applied throughout the Parish.

RESOLVED – Clerk to complete & return the form to Ribble Valley, copy the letter to Mellor Community Association and request signage from Ribble Valley Borough Council to exclude dogs from public areas and these be displayed at Play Area and Mellor Village Hall Play Area.

8 To any response to the proposed Draft Electoral Boundary Commission changes

8.1 Cllr. Walsh explained that this relates to Ward boundaries and, should the draft recommendations be approved, Ramsgreave would lose a Borough Councillor. **The Draft Recommendations were noted.**

9 To consider further actions for Play Area drainage and improvements, any actions and a timeframe for this ; to consider an open meeting for residents. To approve Play Area inspections in order to comply with insurance cover.

9.1 This was discussed, and a report was given by Cllr. O'Grady who had collated 55 replies to the recent survey. He was thanked for his input, which detailed the areas and ages of children who expressed interest. Members noted that Thwaites have offered £2000, for which they have been thanked, Clerk has been in touch with BAe Systems, it is expected that they will contribute, but less than £10,000 requested. Unfortunately their Apprentice Team has had delays in set up and therefore cannot currently assist with the project design. Clerk has contacted Ribble Valley Borough Council for assistance with funding. Members agreed that Play Area Working Party (Cllrs. Marsden, Crooks, Brunskill, O'Grady, Johnson, Upton & Parish Clerk) to meet Friday 5th May, at Cllr. Crooks' house to discuss further. Cllr. Moss offered to supply photos of Whalley Play Area. Cllr. Crooks confirmed that the Play Area had been inspected and all was in order.

10. To consider any further action regarding pointing of the flags at War Memorial

10.1 Chairman brought to the attention of the Council the complaints he had received from several shop keepers on Carter Fold following the re-location of the notice board. Cllr. Moss had kindly cleared up, cleaned and oiled the notice boards and capped the scaffolding poles as he had previously offered to do, for which he was thanked. Cllr. Moss provided a name of a local contractor to be approached regarding the flags.

RESOLVED Clerk to contact the contractor & report back to Parish Council.

11 To consider any action to fix memorial plaques to the new benches

11.1 Clerk informed that plaques with 3 lines of text could be supplied at a cost of £20.00 each + VAT, however to fix them in place needs accurate gap routing out, or bench backs to be sent back to the manufacturer. Members discussed the merits of a memorial to those who had contributed to Parish life, however were concerned that offence may be caused if some felt left out; a "Gift to the Community" was felt to be a better expression. Chairman has spoken to some residents regarding Cllr. Young, who understand future consideration will be given to this. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED Chairman will obtain prices for plaques & in due course he will fix these to the wooden benches.

12. To further consider any action re. drainage & blocked culvert Glendale Drive area following meeting with Lancashire County Council 02.03.17

12.1 Clerk informed members that, despite both email and telephone voicemail, she had not heard from Mr. Dunderdale, but will chase again.

13. To consider Newsletter Delivery to outlying properties

13.1 Cllr. Walsh expressed difficulty in accessing Woodfold Park & Further Lane, due to electric gates and wished to cease delivering in that area. Chairman informed that he has the access code. Members deferred this item to a future agenda, prior to the next edition being ready for delivery.

14. To consider any response to the proposed Boundary Commission Changes

14.1 Members noted that, due to the General Election having been called, no actions were appropriate.

15. Accounts

15.1 **Internal Audit** - Members were informed that Internal Auditor had examined books and records and had no issues to raise. **Members resolved to accept and approve Internal Auditor's Report**

15.2 **Annual Governance Statement to 31.03.2017.** Details of the report were discussed and **RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed**

15.3 **Accounting Statements 2016/17** Clerk went through the figures for the Statements, which agreed to cashbook & had been inspected and approved by Internal Auditor. It was then **RESOLVED that the Accounting Statements 2016/17 be approved and signed, and that Clerk duly deal with the External Audit process.**

15.4 **Balances** - Current Account £23,924.47 (following receipt of precept), Bank Instant Account £11,066.20, Scholarship Account £1,185.49

15.5 **The following payments were requested:**

EON – War memorial lights 16.03 to 20.04.17	£17.86	1448
AM Gerrard Ltd Internal Audit to 31.03.17	£120.00	1449
Teresa Taylor April net salary & additional re Play Area	£503.50	1450
AON Insurance 2017 renewal	£2,916.35	1451

RESOLVED- All disbursements were approved for payment.

16. To receive reports from meetings

16.1 RVBC Report by Borough Councillors

Members were informed that a Section 19 Consultation was underway, to finish 9th June. Clerk had circulated where to access documents on Ribble Valley website. Cllr. Walsh explained that this was a further layer on the Core Strategy, with site allocations to be determined for additional housing. Mellor had been identified for site for possibly an additional 18 houses, for a site adjacent to Weavers Fold, Members discussed the consultation and it was

RESOLVED – Clerk to send in comments to object since the current drainage infrastructure is already overloaded, and this would lead to increased pressure, with resultant flooding. Also to object due to the provision of further school places needs to be part of the infrastructure considered

It was then reported that the Spread Eagle Hotel owners have agreed to take over the phone box, which will no longer be in use, and is on private land.

16.2 Ribble Valley Liaison Meeting 30th March

There had been no meeting since the April Parish Council meeting

15. Matters brought forward by Members (For Information Only)

15.1 Members were informed that 20mph sign at the top of Mire Ash / Church Lane junction was missing

15.2 Members noted that various matters reported to Lancashire County Council had not even had a reply, and no attention to complaints had been actioned.

16. To report any matters requiring attention to the Tree Warden

16.1 Cllr. Johnson had no matters to report.

17. To receive Mellor Community Association Minutes since December

17.1 In response to her query, Clerk had been informed that the Minutes are now available through the Village Hall website. Members were informed that the signing of the amended lease is following process, delay being due to Cllr. Marsden and Mr. Hymas' holidays. Mr. Hymas had requested that posters be displayed on Parish notice boards, however the key for the Carter Fold notice board is unusual. Cllr. Murtagh & Clerk to liaise with Mr. Hymas.

18 Date of next meeting

18.1 Members were reminded that the next Parish Council Meeting will be on **Thursday 1st June 2017, starting at 7.00pm.**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.18 pm, thanking all for their participation.