

**Minutes of the Long Melford Parish Council Meeting held in the Library, Hall Street, Long Melford ~ Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 @ 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr J Watts (Chair) Cllr's J Nunn, R Kemp, R Michette, T Coll, M Brabner, D Walters, P Turner, J Walton, C Spraggons, H Spear, C Michette, J Frost, Clerk Mrs L Goodban, police and seven members of public.

**01/07/11 - Chairman's announcements** The Chairman made the following announcements;

- The chairman welcomed acting clerk and members of Glemsford PC who were attending to observe meeting procedures.
- Members of the Personnel committee have resolved the clerks hours and salary remain unchanged for the current year, this will be reviewed again in April 2012.
- Chair and vice chair met with Village Hall committee to discuss various issues which will be discussed later under item 17.07. Deed of easement for Alstons has been signed by the chairman, a vote of thanks offered to Cllr Spear for her help and support with these issues.
- Street fair was very good despite poor weather, a vote of thanks extended to all those who helped. More details in Street Fair report.

It was **resolved** the meeting be suspended for item 05.07 and that item 17.07 be held 'In Camera'.

**02/07/11 Apologies:** none received

**03/07/11 To adopt minutes of meetings:**

Minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011 at the Library – amended to show Cllr Walton gave apologies and left meeting after Wellbeing presentation

Minutes of **Planning** meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at the Library

Minutes of Burial Ground meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at cemetery – amended to include the Rector informally asked if the council would consider reducing fees for interment of person who did not live in village but was on parochial church roll, he was advised the family should make formal application in writing and the council would consider the application on its own merit. (no decision made by committee as item was not on agenda and only raised informally by the Rector)

It was **resolved** the minutes be signed as a true record

**04/07/11 Declarations of interest or hospitality:**

**Cllr Carolyn Spraggons** declared a non pecuniary interests in discussion of distribution of funds from concerts on the green as she is member of Friends of the Group and they are nominated to receive donation and took no part in consideration of this item

**Cllr Michael Brabner** declared a non pecuniary interest in item 14.07 request for funding for Megan Roper as friend of the family and took no part in consideration of this item

**05/07/11 Reports: Vice Chairman's report:** Cllr Nunn gave the following report to members;

Over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of this month, Michael Wood and Carezza Lewis of Maya Vision have been filming for television, an archaeological dig consisting of up to 40 test pits dug by local volunteers around the village, much information was gathered and an enjoyable weekend had by all involved. The weekend culminated in a gathering of those involved in the garden of the George & Dragon, where finds were collected. The landlord very generously supplied a free Barbeque and Maya Vision bought a round of drinks for all the volunteers, Cllr Kemp gave a thank you speech to the Maya Vision Team, and I presented Michael Wood and Carezza Lewis with a commemorative dish made in a Roman style and engraved with the words "to the team Mayavision, the villagers of Long Melford gave this as a gift in 2011". This very fine dish was made by Roger Kistruck especially for this occasion, so a special thanks to Roger for all the trouble he went to. The event would not have been the success it was without the immense amount of effort put in by Mr Rob Simpson who spoke to us at the last meeting, Rob acted as village co-ordinator for the film crew and did a magnificent job in promoting our village, our thanks also go to Rob. It was agreed a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Simpson.

**District Council:** Cllr Nunn gave the following report;

Work is now commencing on merging services and making savings, Parish Councils will be invited to prioritise non essential services. Cllr Kemp stated that BDC are now starting to sort policy for use of S.106 funds.

**County Council:** Cllr Kemp gave the following report;

It was announced this week that Andrea Hill, Chief Executive at SCC will be leaving with immediate effect, no improprieties have been found and the council are now advertising for a replacement with a 'realistic salary'; Scrutiny committee met on 13<sup>th</sup> July to discuss a number of items including the 'Supporting People' grant which now consider how the programme is being affected by changes in the way it is being funded; SCC at an emergency Cabinet meeting has increased its contribution to the Suffolk Better Broadband bid, up from the previous amount of £439,000 to a potential £10m over four years; It has been announced that Library services will not now be divested, they will be managed by SCC with community involvement.

**Police:** The following report was given by Police to members: Five crimes have been reported for the period 21<sup>st</sup> June to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 which compares to 6 crimes for the same period last year; A business premises in Hall Street was entered where a number of items were stolen; A garden shed in Westropps was broken into and items stolen; theft from a shop in Hall Street, suspect arrested and charged; Theft of a wooden gate from property in Rodbridge Hill; Theft in Hall Street where an item was stolen from outside business premises. It was further stated that PCSO Lorna Chapman has recently issued 2 Section 59's, vehicles driving in anti social manner, both drivers are Long Melford residents.

**Clerk:** The following matters were reported by the Clerk and noted by members; Various dates of meetings were confirmed.

**Local Needs Housing:** Ian Tippet is unable to attend July PC meeting and has been invited to attend on 20<sup>th</sup> September instead.

**Mobile Skate Park:** The skate park is not suitable for use on grass surface and requires hard standing areas only therefore it is unlikely we could have this in Long Melford. It was hoped we could use the car park or playground at Primary School but it appears they will now be carrying out building works in preparation of the new year 5 & 6 intakes in September so access will not be available. It was suggested contacting the former Fleetwood Site to see if grounds could be used for skate park.

**Street Fair:** The event went well with a very good turnout despite poor weather, it is anticipated the event could be up to £1,000 in profit this year. A good report was put in the E.A.D.T and a further report is expected in the SFP later this week. There was some disappointment that local organisations do not use this event to promote themselves and/or activities. An email from Nick Elliot of BDC informed members the council were very pleased with the efforts in clearing up after the event. It was stated that future events require help from all members of the PC, especially with clearing up at the end of the day. The chairman thanked everyone for their efforts in making the event a success.

**Concerts on the Green:** Topless Barmaids concert was very successful, well attended, the food and beer tents provided by Cafe Marsalla and George & Dragon were very popular. Only real problem was the failure of BDC to leave the toilets open as per request. A vote of thanks was offered to Trustees of Holy Trinity Hospital, Marlborough and Mini Waste for their support. The Long Melford Silver Band will be performing on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2011, 2.30pm till 4pm, (£100), cream teas provided by Friends of the Church. After some discussion it was agreed that money raised from the cream teas and Topless Barmaids concerts should be equally split between Friends of the Church and Friends of the Group (First Long Melford scouts & guides)

**Village Hall:** The newly formed committee held their second meeting last week and reported the following items have been completed:

A deep clean of kitchen (compliments received from all users); re-done the steps and slope at front entrance to Hall; A donation of paint to repaint the front of the Hall prior to winter has been received, volunteers are being sought to help with this task; As a result of the recent closure of Focus, some 80lt of paint has been purchased to use inside the Hall, volunteers will also be asked to help with this project. Things now seem to be getting on track. Positions of ALL new officers was confirmed at the previous meeting and approved in minutes.

**Matters raised by members of Public:** Mr Richard Roper addressed the meeting and stated he was pleased to hear the Street Fair was such a success, the charity he supports, E.A.C.H also did very well at this event. Mr Roper then advised members that he wished to make a complaint against a member who he alleged had blackened his name with unfounded accusations regarding donations received by him from businesses in the village to support his stall at the Street Fair, and had used a very offensive attitude towards persons involved. Following several interruptions, Mr Roper advised members that he would be making formal complaints against Cllr Carole Michette to the Standards Board for England. The chairman advised members that the council would check Standing Orders for procedures and that we would consult with SALC on an appropriate way forward without pre-judging either party involved in this issue.

**06/07/11 Allocation of S106 Recreation Contributions:** Planning application for lighting at Cordell Place has not yet been submitted, It was **resolved** that an agent be appointed to submit planning for this scheme and also for Glebe Land at Church yard. The DPPO alcohol ban is progressing and should hopefully be concluded before the end of the year. No further progress with the Cricket Nets It was suggested a request for funding of an environmental scheme which would include bins and seating within the parish from S106 be submitted to BDC for consideration.

**07/07/11 Divestment:** SCC have this week confirmed that Libraries will no longer be divested. A document with further information was available with the Clerk (Cllr Walton volunteered to read the document). A meeting was arranged for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2011, 7.30pm to discuss progress with Railway Walk and Rodbridge Picnic area. It was suggested a claim to have the walk made a public

footpath be made, SCC would then have to take responsibility for the paths. This will be discussed further by the volunteer group. A further meeting will then take place with the group and SCC

**08/07/11 Parish Council Newsletter:** Cllr Walton informed members that she and Rosey Eade, Chairman of Community Association had agreed to become joint editors of a Village Magazine and Linda Buckland Bell has volunteered to provide 'layout'. Copy of nearby parish magazines has been obtained and it was felt that an A4 size document would be best. It is hoped that volunteers within the district will provide distribution. Members considered a name, Cllr Kemp suggested the medieval name of Melfordia which members accepted. It was resolved that the Parish Council will sponsor initial set up and production (to be reviewed after first or second issue).

**09/07/11 Parish Web Site:** nothing to report (waiting for figures from Business Association)

**10/07/11 Diamond Jubilee 2012:** It was confirmed a public meeting has been arranged at the Village Hall on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 7.30pm. All village groups, businesses and organisations will be invited to attend, fliers will also be distributed to residents. Members were issued with 'bullet points' of items that may be worth considering for this event.

**11/07/11 Flooding at Old School:** During the past few years there have been several heavy floods at the Old School as a result of poor drainage which is unable to cope with surface water drainage in today's climate. To alleviate this problem SCC have produced a scheme which will relay larger pipes straight across the back of the school, via the adjoining field and into the River instead of the current 'dog leg' route via car park, front of school and back across field to river. Total cost of the scheme is approx £5,000, Cllr Kemp will provide £2,000 from locality and asked if the council could match this. It was **resolved** the PC contribute £2,000, SCC will fund the remaining £1,000.

**12/07/11 Community Housing:** Concerns have again been raised regarding the Homeless person living by the toilets on the Green. Many residents are now beginning to feel intimidated by his constant presence. It was confirmed that his presence is not illegal; he is not threatening in his behaviour and has no known criminal record. There was some concern that his mental state is deteriorating and he may eventually reach a level where he will need to be 'sectioned' for his own safety. Social services and police will be advised once again of Parish Council concerns.

**13/07/11 Audit:** Nothing to report. No conclusion yet received from BDO Auditors

**14/07/11 Request for S.137 grant funding:** The following requests were considered;  
Produce Show – Resolved to grant £150  
Megan Roper – Resolved to give £500 to Skeynes charity and £1,000 from Skeynes to Megan Roper fund.

**15/07/11 Accounts** It was **resolved** to pay the outstanding accounts  
It was **resolved** that Finance committee will meet on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011, 7.30pm at the Parish Council Office

<b>Accounts outstanding:</b>	P & K Monthly	262.56
	E.on Energy	501.18
	Zen internet	15.31
	British Gas - office	13.90
	U.R.C Hall Hire	<u>48.00</u>
		<b>840.95</b>

**Cheques issued 16/06/11 – 12/07/11**

13/06/11	SALC book	1717	15.95	13/06/11	P & K mthly	1718	333.40
13/06/11	A C Sawyer	1719		05/07/11	Old Ch Yard	1720	55.57
05/07/11	Concert for band	1721	300.00	06/07/11	St Fair tax refund	1722	83.90
06/07/11	L A Goodban	1723		06/07/11	Playdale	1724	27,818.80
06/07/11	Mini Waste fly tip	1725	186.00	06/07/11	Old School Roof	1726	3,060.00
06/07/11	Clear Hamilton land	1727	450.00	06/07/11	Cllr Training	1728	162.00
06/07/11	PC annual cover	1729	184.99	06/07/11	refuse new office	1730	161.29
06/07/11	Copier repair	1731	42.00	06/07/11	Compliment slips	1732	79.20
06/07/11	Pest control	1733	25.00	06/07/11	P & K June	1734	333.40
06/07/11	C. Tax new office	1735	405.95	06/07/11	E.On monthly	1736	604.16
21/06/11	Transport copier L/A-1702		30.00	01/07/11	TENS – V. Hall	L/A1652	21.00

**16/07/11 Planning Applications** The following applications were considered;  
B/11/00687/FUL – Saint Catherine's road Church, St Catherine's Road – Replace existing windows with pair of entrance doors; Creation of disability access ramp  
**Resolved to recommend approval**

B/11/00779/ADV – Tesco Stores, Springlands Way, Long Melford – Proposed signage to click & collect facility including additional freestanding directional signage  
**Resolved to recommend approval**

B/11/00798/TPO – 3 Stephen Close, Long Melford – To reduce the crown by 10% to eastern side of 1 no. Walnut Tree to balance the tree; To carry out a 25% / 30% end weight reduction on the lowest most southerly limb with bad bark damage to reduce weight protected by TPO no. BT144

**Resolved** to recommend approval

Invitation has been received for members to attend Pre-Planning consultation at Long Melford Primary School on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011 between 3pm and 7pm to review proposals for extension to school to accommodate 2 further groups (year 5 and 6 children). The clerk advised members they were permitted to attend, to view the proposals and listen to comments but must NOT indicate any preference as this will suggest they have 'pre-determined' the application once produced to Parish Council for consideration and will exclude them from contributing to the decision.

Statements of concern regarding this proposal have been received, in particular asking members to consider the impact 2 new classes will have on traffic generation in Cordell Road which already suffers traffic congestion. Comments were noted for consideration at the appropriate time.

**Next Meetings:**

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2011	7.30pm	Parish Council Office	<b>Finance Meeting</b>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2011	7.30pm	Parish Council Office	<b>Planning Meeting</b>
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2011	7.30pm	Library	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm