

Melbourne Parish Council
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Minutes of the meeting of Melbourne Parish Council held in the village hall at 6.30pm on Monday 10 March 2025.

Present: Councillors Cooper (in the chair), Thomas, Downes, Lee, Breeze, Rollason, Tomalin and Kemp.

Cllr West was in attendance.

24/84 Apologies – Cllr Johnson.

24/85 Members of the public present – a representative was in attendance for Minute 24/89.

24/86 Declarations of interest – None.

24/87 Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13 January 2025 – Agreed – that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

24/88 Matters arising from the minutes:

- **24/27 Boundary Farm Junction/Ash Lane-** ward councillors were pushing for the agreed work to be completed but had no update at present. **Noted**
- **24/46 Sink hole** – some temporary repairs had been carried out and also a sample taken for analysis to ensure the work carried out originally by Yorkshire Water had been carried out to the required standard. **Noted**
- **2454(b)** – East End Planter – **Agreed that Cllr Thomas would look after the planter.**

24/89 Millennial tree and replacement for cherry tree – It had previously been agreed to replace the cherry tree with a rowan tree. Greener Pocklington would supply a tree and plant it for £15.

Millennial tree – this was located in one of the parish plots. Statkraft was offering community grants and the representative from Greener Pocklington informed the parish council that it was prepared to submit an application on behalf of Melbourne Parish Council for a £5,000 grant to carry out improvements and enhancements to the parish plots and other public areas in the parish. The deadline was April 2025 and so timings would have to be considered, especially as an ecological survey would be required.

Agreed that:

- a) **the Clerk would inform the Council that the rowan tree would be planted next to the old cherry tree stump by the bench;**
- b) **£15 be approved to purchase a rowan tree;**
- c) **the Clerk would check with the primary school, the scouts and Melbourne Sports and Playing Field Association to see if they were applying for the grant; and if not**
- d) **in principle, the parish council supported applying for a grant. A small group consisting of Cllrs Thomas and Downes would work with Greener Pocklington on the grant details.**

24/90 Decision-making process when making payments not itemised on the agenda – Cllr Rollason informed other councillors that he had objected at the January 2025 meeting to the decision to make a £200 donation to the Carstairs Trust because this had not been on the agenda. In addition, he did not consider the parish council had carried out due diligence before agreeing to donate the money.

Agreed that:

- a) **where possible in future all expenditure should be on the agenda prior to the meeting.**

- b) a future item be brought to the May 2025 meeting to determine how to make extraordinary payments not on the agenda.
- c) In future, items considered under 'matters arising' are listed as substantive items on the agenda,

24/91 Public Right of Way update – Cllr Breeze updated the parish council on the state of all public rights of way in the parish. He recommended the following:

- a) Gates on PROW 1 require monitoring as in a state of disrepair.
- b) The path on PROW 11 needed clearing to meet the required standards for access.
- c) Monitoring the access to PROW 7 from Kidd Lane was required during summer months.
- d) MPC to consider allocating a small budget to meet some of the above.

Agreed that Cllr Breeze be thanked for his report. Cllr Downes would prepare a report for the May meeting on the budget and recommendations on whether the parish council could assign a small budget to help maintain the public rights of way.

24/92 Parish Council's current financial position - £18,684.06 – Noted.

24/93 Requests for payment – Approved:

- a. VH Hire - £22.00
- b. West End Planter - £10 (repaid to Cllr Downes)

24/94 Clerk's salary – agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Downes prepare a report on the clerk's salary including the scope for back payment for the May 2025 meeting.

24/95 Planning applications – None.

24/96 Planning notices – None.

24/97 Correspondence since the last meeting – Already circulated. Noted

24/98 Councillor Forum

- a. Mylen Leah – the Secretary of State had responded to the scoping document and the Chairman would provide the link to councillors. The Chairman also provided an update following attending a meeting with Mylen Leah earlier in March.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be 6:30pm on **Monday 12 May 2025.**

All agenda items for the May 2025 meeting must be with the Clerk by Friday 2 May 2025.