

Melbourne Parish Council
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Minutes of the meeting of Melbourne Parish Council held remotely at 7.00pm on Monday 11 January 2021

Present: Councillors Cooper (in the chair), Tomalin, Lee, Breeze, Rollason, Kemp and Downes.
Councillor Hammond (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) was in attendance.

20/63 Apologies – Councillors Johnson and Braidley.

20/64 Members of the public present: 0.

20/65 Declarations of interest – None.

20/66 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 November 2020 – Agreed – that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

20/67 Matters arising from minutes:

20/49 – Coping stones at the village signs – Cllr Kemp informed councillors Mr and Mrs Uncles had volunteered and mended the coping stones. The Parish Council thanked Mr and Mrs Uncles for their kind work in mending the coping stones and caring for the village planters.

20/55 – Hedges at the new development (west end of the village) – Cllr Hammond reported he had informed Planning Enforcement at East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) of the state of the hedges.

20/62 – Public Rights of Way – Cllr Breeze stated the footpath at the junction of footpaths 4 and 5 on the map had been mended. The issue with the bridge on the footpath at St Monica's Close was still outstanding but the work was not urgent.

20/68 Current finances – The clerk presented the latest figures which showed the Parish Council currently had £10,240 in both accounts.

20/69 Requests for payment – approved:

- ICO annual fee - £35 (payable to Clerk)
- HMRC tax (Quarter 3) - £420.93 (paid online)
- Zurich Parish Council insurance - £257.60 (paid online)
- Post Haste Printers (village newsletter) - £218.00 (paid online)
- MSOS grant (repayable to Clerk) - £300 (paid online)

20/70 Parish Precept – The precept for the current year 2021/22 was £12,632. **Agreed that the precept for 2021/22 be increased by 1% in line with inflation.**

20/71 Grant application requirements – Councillors discussed the current grant procedures and whether they required amendment, with particular regard to the financial information requested by the Parish Council to support applications.

Agreed that:

- **if any councillors had concerns or queries about a grant application, these be raised with the Clerk before the meeting;**
- **the grant application form be amended to clarify requirements (Cllrs Breeze and Tomalin to action);**
- **all councillors to consider all applications; and**
- **a decision on each application to be decided by a show of hands.**

20/72 Yorkshire Water update – Cllr Hammond provided an update on issues connected to Yorkshire Water (YW):

- no further work had been carried out in relation to St Monica's pumping station not being fit for purpose – Cllr Hammond was continuing to chase this;
- YW had stated it had no knowledge of the tractor residents had seen pumping out St Monica's pumping station – Cllr Hammond was continuing to investigate;
- YW had completed the work to the sewer pipe at Kidd Lane – Cllr Kemp said the problems seem to have been resolved;
- YW had put a camera down the Kidd Lane fresh water pipe which had shown significant infiltration by tree roots which were causing the flooding – YW had agreed to dig up and replace that section of pipe;
- A further section of sewer pipe was collapsing at the east of the village by Campey Lane – Cllr Hammond was chasing YW for a date when this work would be carried out;
- YW had agreed to send engineers to a Flood Liaison meeting with engineers from ERYC and councillor representatives from Market Weighton and Melbourne. Cllr Hammond was currently trying to get confirmation from the Environment Agency of its attendance and would circulate a date when known; and
- the government was threatening to withhold funds from YW because of poor performance and was undertaking an investigation into the company.

20/73 Hagg Bridge Update – There had been further delays because of the high water levels. The revised date for opening the bridge was now 11 March 2021.

20/74 MSOS Group update – the group continued to support vulnerable residents and those needing help. It had provided food parcels for a number of vulnerable people at Christmas. So far, it had not spent any of the grant provided by the Parish Council. The Parish Council thanked the MSOS volunteers and looked forward to continuing to work with them during the current challenging times.

20/75 Parish plots of land – The Clerk said that professional advice would be needed to progress this as the Land Registry had stated it had no record of the plots being gifted to the Parish. **Agreed that the Clerk would contact Stevensons in York for advice and to obtain a quote for its services.**

20/76 Neighbourhood Plan – It was agreed not to pursue this at the moment. **Agreed that the Clerk would send councillors a map of the proposed development sites within the parish which had been logged by ERYC.**

20/77 19/00811/PLF – Land North of Field View, Main Street - Change of use of land for 14 holiday lodges – The Parish Council had been informed by ERYC that it could not progress this application until it had received comments from Natural England (NE). The Parish Council had been in contact with NE who had stated it was unaware ERYC required any further comments from it after it had commented on the original application. **Agreed Cllr Cooper would contact NE to discuss timescales for it to feedback its comments to ERYC.**

20/78 Planning applications received:

- 20/04031/PLF 7 Melbourne Park, YO42 4QP – Erection of a single storey garage extension** – No comments.

20/79 Planning Notices received - Noted

20/80 Correspondence – Noted. It was agreed the Council would put forward the following two subjects to ERYC Overview and Scrutiny Committees – (i) Yorkshire Water and (ii) the Effective gritting of secondary gritting routes.

20/81 Councillor Forum:

- Permanent closure of Church Lane – the Parish Council was aware of a petition for the closure but had not been formally approached for involvement. However, the feeling was that the closure of the road would prove difficult – **Agreed the Clerk would feed this back to the Thornton Clerk;**
- Village Hall and Pavilion buildings – this would be added to the March meeting agenda;

- c) Community Speedwatch – Cllr Rollason said Cllr Downes had found enough volunteers to move ahead with a speedwatch group once the lockdown had finished; and
- d) The Clerk was asked to add an item on Facebook to the March meeting agenda.

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held remotely at **7pm on Monday 8 March 2021.**

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.