

Mendlesham Parish Council

A Parish Council Ordinary meeting was held in the Old School Room, Mendlesham on Wednesday 6th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

1. Present: Cllrs M Exley (Chairperson), A Davey, D Foster, N Foster, E Ward, M Watson and S Jones (Clerk), SCC/MSDC Cllr Stringer and three members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Nunn and Orton.

The Mendlesham Parish Council filming statement was read out.

2. Declarations of interest:

a) To note Councillor's declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items. Nothing declared.

b) To agree any dispensations with regard to declarations of interest. Not required.

3. Minutes: To approve the following minutes as a true record of the meeting:

a) Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 9th August 2017.

Pages 1505-1509 inclusive were unanimously approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairperson.

4. Police report: see August Safer Neighbourhood Team report as appended to these minutes.

7.35pm Cllr Webb arrived

SCC Cllr/ DCllr Stringer:

See County and District reports as appended to these minutes.

Public Forum: nothing raised.

Agenda item 13. Mendlesham Green Telephone Box was moved to this part of the meeting and the meeting open to allow members of the public to speak:

Reports were provided separately by two members of the public.

Mrs Triscott reported that the project to refurbish the box over the past two years had proved more complicated than originally thought. Whilst the box had been cleaned, the paint was lead based which meant that rubbing down by volunteers was inappropriate. The box would need professional sandblasting and probably dismantling and taking to the contractor which was an engineering issue. This would be at a cost, but there may be the possibility of grant funding.

Mr Green reported that he had an engineering background.

He also reported the dangers of the flaking lead paint- irrespective of if the box was refurbished or not. He reported that the box contained an inner concrete base that would need to be removed, so that the box could then be transported either whole or in pieces, using a small hydraulic lifter and trailer for sandblasting. There would be the need for an electrician to check electricity supply. Quotes for just the sandblasting ranged from £800- £2500. There would also be the cost of paint and a new concrete base for reinstatement. This would all require a risk assessment.

Mr Green then reported on the possible use of the box for a community defibrillator.

After discussion it was noted that the cost of the box refurbishment was likely to be some £2k plus the initial cost of a defibrillator and ongoing maintenance. It was possible the cost of the defibrillator could be offset by grants/ obtained for nothing.

It was agreed that in view of the costs involved, a consultation should be undertaken asking two separate questions.

1. About support or otherwise for the cost of the refurbishment of the box.
2. If the box was refurbished, about use of the box and costs to supply a Parish Owned defibrillator

8.10pm a member of the public left.

Agenda items 5d and e were moved to this part of the meeting.

5. d) Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan : to commence plan

Councillors noted Parish Council ordinary minutes of 7.9.16 (p1436, 8) and the minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting 4.9.17. The need to consult with the residents of Mendlesham about priorities was noted and considered this could be included in the forthcoming " Mendlesham Growth" consultations for the site allocation for the Neighbourhood Plan and new Local Plan consultation.

Items for consultation to include:

Mendlesham Community Centre and Playingfields site (small hall kitchen extension, public toilet facility

Mendleshams Woodland

Village entrance gates

Battery Storage facility.

Other items discussed:

Mendlesham Green allotment facilities (water, sheds...)

50 50 shop replacement

Grant aid to village organisations

Bus shelter Old Station Road

Footpath cutting equipment.

e) Proposed MSDC Local Plan and Mendlesham Neighbourhood Plan:

i) Report from Advisory Committee meetings. Noted

ii) To confirm proposals from Advisory Committee. Confirmed, including Cllrs Exleys report and proposals regarding a site allocations policy.

6. Planning:

a) Applications:

a) Applications:

DC/17/04033 Memorial Farm, Norwich Road, Mendlesham Change of use of land to hovercraft track

It was unanimously agreed to provide comments only as follows:

- regarding the impact of the change of use on an existing footpath thought to be running through the site.

- It was also noted that whilst not a planning matter, the footpath was blocked and would be reported accordingly.
- The lack of information regarding parking arrangements was of concern as the site is adjacent to the A140.

8.55pm SCC/D.Cllrs Stringer left.

**DC/17/03572 Latin Hall, Brockford Road Mendlesham
Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning
Act -to remove condition 6
(Surface water discharge prevention details) and vary condition 7
(landscaping) attached to planning permission 3084/16 (Erection
of 2 no dwellings including associated works).**

It was noted that the Parish Council was not qualified to comment on the surface water discharge matter.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed to object to the proposed variation of condition 7, landscaping, which proposes removal of the hedge on the eastern boundary, with installation of a 1.8m close boarded fence. It was considered that the hedge is a good habitat provider and there is no reason for its removal for the reasons submitted. The original objections to this application including concerns about the impact of this build, outside the settlement red line for Mendlesham village and on the approach to one of the main gateways to the village was also noted. It was considered essential that the hedge is retained to help soften the impact of this development as much as now possible and the same effect will not be achieved by a high wooden fence. This would then protect the village gateway and the neighbouring rural amenity.

b) Results:

**DC/17/03588 Land adjacent to Willow House, Mill Road,
Mendlesham:**

Reserved matters -submission of details under Outline Planning Permission 4670/16 erection of three detached dwellings ,construction of access -Condition 1 (plot 1 only). Grant.

c) Correspondence: none.

6. Reports:

a) Clerks report & delegated decisions. Actions taken from last meeting and correspondence received since last meeting:

Affordable Housing Needs Survey: contact with CAS and meeting arranged but then cancelled due to sickness. To be re arranged.

Neighbourhood Plan: Contact from Hoxne and information provided. Terry Moore and myself to meet with Wetheringsett Parish Council 6th November.

Station Fields and highway/path changes: Further contact from MSDC, belatedly, following report to them. Have advised of SCC Highways reply as co ordinated by Cllr Stringer ie Highways have confirmed all as agreed with themselves and MSDC. Planning Enforcement to review.

USAAF 34th Bomb Group Memorial: further contact with Jack Steffen (USA) and Sean Welsh, historian. Sean has now completed final list of fallen and rather than 190 as listed in the Roll of Honour in St Marys, has found 263 serving with the 34th Bomb Group plus a further 25 on attachment. Meeting of 34th Bomb group committee in process of being arranged early October to consider way forward including updating the church roll of honour. Have been advised Wetheringsett Parish Council will be sending a wreath and representative at this years Remembrance Service (Clerks note: we had a resident complain last year there was only one wreath which is paid for by Mendlesham Community Council, laid by a church representative- do we wish to send representative and wreath specifically from Mendlesham Parish Council? Unanimously agreed at meeting).

Mendlesham Playingfields project:

Email sent to MSDC regarding use/access of the s106 funds and proposal for a phase 1. Confirmation received that our plans would seem to fit in with S106, funds to be available via normal grant applications, support would be given if further funding required, no clarification as to if that would just be to find grant providers or MSDC grant support. Once full details known, meeting with MSDC offered. Planning application will also probably be required. Advised normally project managers are volunteers. Had asked if the project could be extended in partnership with District to include new/revamped changing rooms and toilet facilities. Response 6.9.17 from MSDC requesting a meeting. (*Clerks note: this is just exploratory as not been discussed/agreed by Parish Council*).

Further to the meeting with TGMS 5.9.17 regarding the new land, they advise they may also be able to help, particularly regarding the muga parts of the project. Have provided them with the proposals and maps.

Mendlesham Green Playingfield.

Meeting arranged with Play equipment provider 2.10.17 re new equipment

Mendlesham Playingfields

Meeting arranged with Play equipment provider 2.10.17 re renewal/maintenance requirements.

Footballers advise that from now there will be three football teams using the pitches. Mendlesham Football team on Saturdays, the Sunday team from Stowmarket and a " old players " team from Mendlesham football team also on Sundays (understand both Sunday teams will only be 8 or so games a season each). Need to now sort out hire agreement arrangements for Mendlesham Playingfields with all users.

Bank mandates: change of signatory mandates to remove Mr Favager and add Cllr Watson now obtained from both banks and to be processed.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan consultation: details of public consultation events already circulated, Cllr Exley and ano to attend Parish Council meeting invitation on 20th September. Mr Moore working on a report/response for Mendlesham Parish Council to consider, with Neighbourhood Plan committee input.

Correspondence:

Community Council and eco toilet. (*Clerks note reply agreed, full proposal required*).

Delegated Decisions by Clerk :

Parish Council owned grasscutting machine: Further to damage, new " blades ordered " and received. £115.85 including vat.

Cheque 000650 £154.41 K Hales July salary as agreed for payment at meeting 5.7.17, was only signed by one of the Parish Councillor authorised signatories, so to avoid further delays with salary payment for member of staff, Parish Clerk signed as second authorised signatory.

Also see Community Centre report re CCTV, but further to installation, a blind spot was identified requiring an additional camera @ £282. Please note the £10k Parish Council funds allocated for Community side of this work is likely to come in at approximately £6k.

b) Report from Village Organisation Representatives.

Mrs Triscott reported Mendlesham Community Council Street Fayre had made some £5,000. Grants had been made to Mendlesham Football Club for replacement nets £400, URC porch repairs £1100. Community Council funds currently £13700. The Picnic on the Green attracted 60 people.

c) Young Persons report:

See report from Cllr Foster as appended to these minutes.

It was agreed that a meeting with Cllrs Foster, Orton, Ward, Watson and Webb, Watson should be arranged to discuss. **Action: Cllr D Foster.**

9.25pm An extension to Standing orders for 30 mins was unanimously agreed.

d) Chairs report: The Chair reported that Cllr Nunn and himself would liaise regarding works to the meadow behind the Chapel at Mendlesham Green.

d) Questions to the Chair: Cllr Davey reported that the Mendlesham website was in need of rejuvenation. It was unanimously agreed Cllr Davey and the Clerk could take this matter forward.

7. Financial matters: Mendlesham Parish Council

a) To approve invoices for payment

The following invoices were unanimously approved for payment.

00658	148.80	S Jones reimbursement re toner for printer.
000659	79.98	S Jones reimbursement for imaging unit for printer
000660	180.00	RSA Pest Management Services mole control at MG playingfields
000661	36.98	J Michell -fuel for Woodland work
dd	5.50	Google docs
000662	71.32	D Lambert street cleaner holiday cover
dd	13.57	NEST monthly contribution
000663	767.44	S Jones Clerk August salary
000664	154.71	K Hales Street Cleaner August salary
000666	115.85	Thurlow Nunn Standen grassmower parts

b) To receive External Audit report for the year ending 31.3.17 and agree actions. Not received.

c) Any other financial matters: none

8. Playingfield Matters:

a) Mendlesham Playingfields report further to TGMS visit:

The Clerk reported a site meeting had taken place with TGMS, Alan Ferguson, Mendlesham Football, Cllr Nunn and the Clerk.

It was agreed the topped up land drains were in need of no further work. An application of fertilizer was required (Cllr Nunn) and grass seed applied manually to the bare patches (Mendlesham Footballers, but seed paid for by Mendlesham Parish Council). It was anticipated that the site was some 14 days away from being able to be used. TGMS would return to inspect the site early October.

b) Any other playingfield matters: none

9. Mendlesham Emergency Plan:

a) To continue plan review: Steve and Rachel Crooks had volunteered as officers which was confirmed. WI were still to meet. It was agreed the Clerk would update the plan accordingly once WI involvement was known and circulate as required.

10. Proposal for new dog bin located near properties at Hobbies Lane, Mendlesham

The resident had confirmed the situation had improved further to use of signs. It was agreed not to purchase a bin at present, but to review again as required. Location of a bin was noted as still needing to be resolved.

11. Mendlesham Green grassed area

a) To review responses and actions required, further to consultation regarding maintenance plan for grassed area.

Responses to the consultation had been mixed ie to encourage a wildflower meadow or to have part wildflower area, part kept cut for community use, or keep totally for Community use. Information had been obtained from Suffolk Wildlife Trust reporting the importance of creating new wildflower areas and also advising further re maintenance. It was noted that the mixed use was not possible if a farmer was to be asked to remove the swarth via small bales. Cllr Exley volunteered to do the bailing.

It was unanimously agreed as a one year trial to encourage the wild flowers with the area closed for community use between March-July. A track providing access from the gate to the allotment areas to be maintained.

12. Jubilee Gardens, Mendlesham:

a) To finalise improvement works . Cllr Exley reported that he had found a contractor willing to remove the soil from the flower bed and this would now proceed over the next few months.

14. Any other business: matters of report and future agenda items.

A matter of concern was noted as requiring those concerned to report to the Police at the time of any concern.