

**MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Minutes of the Play Areas, Recreation and Youth Committee held on Monday 8th February 2016 in the upstairs meeting room in the Community Hub, High Street, Melbourn commencing at 8.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. M. Linnette (Chair), I. Bloomfield, C.Stead, R.Tulloch, J.Regan, J.Norman, J Hales, and M.Townsend

In attendance: The Clerk and Bookkeeper

PLY52/15 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Crosby due to ill health and Cllr Mulcock for work commitments.

PLY53/15 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations made.

PLY54/15 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 14th December 2015

PLY44/15 There were two typos: "pplay" was amended to play. And "in to" the contract was changed to into the contract.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stead, seconded by Cllr. Tulloch and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2016 be signed as a true record.

PLY55/15 To receive a report on the meeting 14th December 2015:

There was nothing to report

PLY56/15 Update on the Pavilion:

Cllr Bloomfield reported there had been a few maintenance issues, but now resolved. There was a damp issue in the toilet of the pavilion. Ashton Renovations were asked to quote to repair and work has now been completed.

Groundworks thanked Melbourn Parish Council for the purchase of the newly floodlit lights around the pavilion. This has made the area safer and has allowed youth club members to congregate both inside and outside during the evening.

The fridge located in the pavilion had accidentally been turned off, causing Groundworks food to be inedible. Cllr Bloomfield suggested for health reasons all regular pavilion users should be advised to remove all consumables from the premises.

ACTION: THE CLERK TO PUT THIS ITEM ONTO THE NEXT MAYD AGENDA.

PLY57/15 To receive an update on the recreation areas:

The Clerk reported Wicksteed had carried out all the repair work on both play parks as per the agreed quote. The Clerk is awaiting a completed report from Wicksteed.

Cllr Tulloch mentioned the increased issue of dog fouling around the pavements and recreation ground in Melbourn. After a long discussion it was agreed The Clerk to look into the costing of a "Dog Warden". **ACTION THE CLERK TO LOOK INTO COSTING OF A DOG WARDEN AND REPORT BACK TO COMMITTEE.**

PLY58/15 To receive an update on the BMX Trails:
Cllr Hales reported the last year had been a good year with new members joining and fantastic videos being taken of the club members in action. Cllr Linnette mentioned the covering over the track has started to come away and is in need of repair. **ACTION: THE CLERK TO CONTACT BMX REPRESENTATIVE AND TO REMIND HIM OF THE DEADLINE FOR THE GRANT APPLICATION BEING SUBMITTED TO MPC.**

PLY59/15 Income and Expenditure (See Appendix 1)
The committee considered and accepted the report.

PLY60/15 Correspondence:
(a) Littlehands
The Chair read out an email from Littlehands (Appendix 2) relating to theft of oil. The Committee suggested the following:

- Littlehands to install a CCTV Unit (The Parish Council would give you permission to do this)
- Littlehands to fit a lockable cap on the oil tank
- Melbourn Parish Council's Ranger could make the fencing and gate more secure for you if needed.

ACTION: THE CLERK TO INFORM LITTLEHANDS OF SUGGESTIONS.

Littlehands Lease is being discussed at Full Parish Council on 22nd February 2016. The Clerk to ensure the wording "Melbourn Parish Council is not responsible for consumables" is written in the new lease.
ACTION: THE CLERK

(b) Any correspondence received at the time of the meeting:
There was nothing else to report.

PLY61/15 To discuss any matters concerning Youth Issues:
Cllr Hales reported MAYD is funded by Melbourn Parish Council along with other local Parish Councils. At the moment Groundwork run one session a week. A survey was sent out to MVC students and after successful feedback it clearly shows the need to run two youth sessions in a week, one for the older children and one for the younger. To run a second evening it would cost in the region of £18000 including VAT. Melbourn Parish Council needs to consider how we raise the funds. Cllr Hales suggested half the money from Community Funding and the other included within the Precept. The Committee all agreed it was a positive activity for the students and this should be ongoing. **PROPOSED BY CLLR HALES AND SECONDED BY CLLR TULLOCH. THE COMMITTEE WERE ALL IN FAVOUR.**

Cllr Hales mentioned Groundworks is looking for a volunteer to help each week. **ACTION: THE CLERK TO INCLUDE THIS IN THE SUMMER EDITION OF HER ARTICLE OF THE MELBOURN MAGAZINE.**

PLY62/15 To discuss any matters concerning the Village Ranger, Handyman/Caretaker:
The Clerk discussed a new "Weekly Inspection Report" that the Village Ranger and Litterpicker complete each week.
The committee felt this was certainly needed. It was also felt the inspection reports should be handed back in by lunchtime every Monday, to enable The Clerk to deal with any safety issues as soon as possible. **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR HALES AND SECONDED CLLR NORMAN**

INSPECTION REPORTS BE SUBMITTED BACK TO THE CLERK BY LUNCHTIME ON A MONDAY. THIS WAS CARRIED BY ALL.

The Clerk informed the committee the Ranger's Job Description/Contract was being reviewed. This will be discussed again at the next Play and Rec meeting.

PLY63/15 To discuss and approve the Grounds Maintenance Contract

The Committee felt the Grounds Maintenance Contract needed to be reviewed in more detail and to separate the contract into two. The first section is relating to Hedging/Millennium Copse and River Mel and the second section is relating to football pitches and line marking.

The Clerk to arrange a meeting between Melbourn Parish Council, Melbourn Dynamos, and River Mel Group to discuss their requirements. Once decisions have been made The Clerk to arrange another meeting to discuss the Grounds Maintenance Contract with BeActive.

ACTION: THE CLERK

PLY64/15 To accept notices and matters for the next Agenda

- (a) Update on the Pavilion
- (b) Updated on the Recreation areas
- (c) Updated on the BMX Trials
- (d) Littlehands
- (e) Matters concerning Youth Issues
- (f) Matters concerning The Village Ranger
- (g) Grounds Maintenance Contract

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25p.m.

APPENDIX 1

PLAY AREAS AND RECREATION:

- 1. PAVILION:** Expenditure to date is £23,622.99 and the end of the Financial year should complete the project. All but approx. £1,000 of this can be accounted for by the refurbishment of the pavilion. In terms of Income, principally grants, it has generated £8,361.00. In order to cover future expenditure, I am recommending a precept of £1,000
- 2. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:** £8,000
- 3. PAVILION RATES:** £2,575
- 4. SKATE PARK:** £9,000

The total for this cost centre will be £20,575

HIGHWAYS

- 1. STREET LIGHTING:** A recommendation is for a precept of £1000
- 2. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:** Expenditure to date is nil. However, planned work in the village for bollards, the footpath behind the war memorial and some work on the creation of dedicated footpaths will generate a precept recommendation of £3,000

The total for this cost centre will be £4,000

COMMUNITY HUB:

I believe that the Community Hub will continue to need the support the Community Hub in its second year of operation. I am recommending a precept of £25,000

MELBOURN FUTURES:

This committee will continue after the consultation on the New Road development is over in order to look at future strategy. This will only need a limited budget. I am therefore recommending a precept of £5,000

SINKING FUND:

In next year's figures there needs to be proper provision for a Sinking Fund to provide for future maintenance requirements for our assets:

I am recommending a sum of £10,000

The total for the precept for 2015/16 is: £289,728.30

Car Park capital project: £300,000

Total: £589,728.30

Projected income is:

S106: £7,000; Loan £200,000; income £30,000; Community Benefit: £37,500

Grant under the SCDC Localised Council Tax Support Scheme Grant Payment for 2014/15 is nil.

I am recommending that £125,017.40 be taken from reserves.

Budget Headings Transaction Details

Play & Rec Income

300 Match Fees

300/1 Melbourn FC

300/2 Melbourn Dynamos

300/3 Melbourn Sundays

300/4 External Clubs

300 Match Fees Total

310 Use of gezebo

320 Hire of Old Recreation Ground

Received	Invoiced	Tn. no	Reference	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
23/06/15	03/06/15	15	Cash	H.Harris - Fee for the fair 2015	150.00	0.00	150.00
23/06/15	15/06/15	19	Cheque 101	H.Harris - Payment for water & elec for	40.00	0.00	40.00

320 Hire of Old Recreation Ground Total

190.00 0.00 190.00

330 Little Hands Nursery Rent

Received	Invoiced	Tn. no	Reference	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
30/04/15	30/04/15	8	BACS	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
29/05/15	29/05/15	20	Cr	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
30/06/15	30/06/15	27	BACS	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
30/07/15	30/07/15	41	BACS	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
30/08/15	30/08/15	46		Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
30/09/15	30/09/15	57	Cr	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
30/10/15	30/10/15	105	BACS	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
27/11/15	27/11/15	119		Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00
28/12/15	28/12/15	142	BACS	Little Hands Nursery - Rent	1,155.00	0.00	1,155.00

330 Little Hands Nursery Rent Total

10,395.00 0.00 10,395.00

340 Pavillion

350 Grant Money

360 Other Sports

370 MAYD reimbursements

Received	Invoiced	Tn. no	Reference	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
23/06/15	03/06/15	17	Cheque 002	Meldreth Parish Council - MAYD	650.00	0.00	650.00
23/06/15		0		- Journal from heading 370 Income	-650.00		-650.00
25/11/15		0		- Journal from heading 370 Income	-450.00		-450.00
25/11/15	25/11/15	121		Shepreth Parish Council - MAYD	450.00	0.00	450.00

370 MAYD reimbursements Total

0.00 0.00 0.00

380 Bike Bank

Play & Rec Income Total

10,585.00 0.00 10,585.00

Play & Rec Expenditure

3000 Play Areas and Recreation

Budget Headings Transaction Details

Start of year 01/04/15

3000/1 Little Hands Nursery

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
27/01/16	27/12/15	571	Direct deb	e.0n - Elec charges for Littlehands	7.54	0.38	7.92
3000/1 Little Hands Nursery Total					7.54	0.38	7.92

3000/2 Pavilion

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
29/04/15	14/04/15	33	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	116.31	5.82	122.13
29/04/15	13/04/15	16	104313	P J Robinson - refixing pavilion clock	52.00	10.40	62.40
29/04/15	01/04/15	4	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	246.00	0.00	246.00
30/04/15	01/04/15	9	BACS	South Cambs District Council - Trade	158.10	0.00	158.10
01/05/15	01/05/15	144	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
28/05/15	11/05/15	60	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for the pavilion	185.65	37.13	222.78
01/06/15	01/06/15	198	DD	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
23/06/15	13/05/15	72	Direct Deb	Cambridge Water Company - Charges	25.75	0.00	25.75
23/06/15	03/06/15	116	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	77.51	3.88	81.39
01/07/15	01/07/15	265	DD	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
29/07/15	08/07/15	181	BACS	Briar Security Systems - Intruder Alarm	70.00	14.00	84.00
29/07/15	20/07/15	204	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	55.19	1.23	56.42
29/07/15	08/07/15	187	BACS	P J Robinson - Reapair water leak	52.00	10.40	62.40
01/08/15	01/08/15	316	DD	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
26/08/15	10/08/15	249	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for the pavilion	24.11	1.21	25.32
01/09/15	01/09/15	371		South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
30/09/15	14/09/15	314	BACS	P J Robinson - Lighting in pavilion	62.00	12.40	74.40
30/09/15	28/09/15	329	BACS	Briar Security Systems - Reset alarm	72.50	14.50	87.00
30/09/15	07/09/15	298	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	23.85	1.19	25.04
01/10/15	01/10/15	439	DD	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
28/10/15	26/10/15	410	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	145.00	29.00	174.00
28/10/15	30/09/15	345	Direct Deb	e.0n - The Pavilion	66.84	3.34	70.18
01/11/15	01/11/15	525		South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
25/11/15	25/11/15	529	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges credit	-7.54	0.00	-7.54
25/11/15	09/11/15	417	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	87.20	4.36	91.56
07/12/15	02/12/15	494	Direct Deb	Cambridge Water Company - charges	40.29	0.00	40.29
23/12/15	14/12/15	513	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for pavilion	126.76	6.34	133.10
23/12/15	01/12/15	552	DD	South Cambs District Council - Rates for	250.00	0.00	250.00
27/01/16	27/12/15	578	Direct Deb	e.0n - Electricity supplied to ORG	7.78	0.39	8.17
27/01/16	04/01/16	574	BACS	P J Robinson - LED Lighting Pavilion	1,302.00	260.40	1,562.40
27/01/16	10/01/16	605	Direct Deb	e.0n - Pavillion electricity fees	125.59	16.91	142.50
27/01/16	24/12/15	569	Direct deb	e.0n - Elec charges for Pavilion	39.08	1.95	41.03
3000/2 Pavilion Total					5,153.97	434.85	5,588.82

3000/3 Play Areas

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
29/04/15	01/04/15	17	BACS	Morley Manufacturing - safety grills on	120.00	0.00	120.00
30/04/15	30/04/15	87	BACS	Bannold - Paving	81.97	0.00	81.97
26/08/15	03/08/15	242	BACS	Wicksteed Leisure - fixing equipment in	307.00	61.40	368.40
28/10/15	12/10/15	363	BACS	Wicksteed Leisure - Inspection of Play	284.00	56.80	340.80
3000/3 Play Areas Total					792.97	118.20	911.17

3000/4 Recreation

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
21/04/15	21/04/15	84	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges ORG	10.07	0.00	10.07
29/04/15	05/04/15	5	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for ORC	9.07	0.45	9.52
28/05/15	05/05/15	55	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	620.00	124.00	744.00
28/05/15	11/05/15	61	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for ORG	23.01	1.15	24.16
28/05/15	11/05/15	62	Direct deb	e.0n - Elec charges for adj sports club	0.73	0.75	1.48
23/06/15	03/06/15	117	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for adj sports social	11.85	0.59	12.44

08/02/16 01:27 PM Vs: 7.17

Melbourn Parish Council

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Budget Headings Transaction Details

Start of year 01/04/15

26/08/15	10/08/15	251	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges adj Sports & Social	0.26	0.58	0.84
26/08/15	10/08/15	248	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for ORG	10.84	0.54	11.38
28/08/15	21/09/15	320	BACS	Shire Tree Surgery - Work on ORG	2,350.00	0.00	2,350.00
30/09/15	14/09/15	313	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	150.00	30.00	180.00
30/09/15	01/09/15	292	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	80.00	16.00	96.00
30/09/15	07/09/15	300	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for Adj Sports Social	11.49	0.57	12.06
30/09/15	07/09/15	305	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	150.00	30.00	180.00
30/09/15	14/09/15	311	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	150.00	30.00	180.00
30/09/15	28/09/15	332	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	150.00	30.00	180.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	380	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	210.00	42.00	252.00
28/10/15	26/10/15	409	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	105.00	21.00	126.00
28/10/15	26/10/15	407	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	180.00	36.00	216.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	385	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	384	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	65.00	13.00	78.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	381	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	45.00	9.00	54.00
28/10/15	05/10/15	355	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
28/10/15	05/10/15	354	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
28/10/15	05/10/15	353	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	90.00	18.00	108.00
28/10/15	30/09/15	343	104347	Cambridge Fencing And Forestry	4,200.00	0.00	4,200.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	379	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	170.00	34.00	204.00
28/10/15	19/10/15	382	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	90.00	18.00	108.00
25/11/15	11/11/15	429	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec chargers for ORG	8.29	0.41	8.70
25/11/15	23/11/15	460	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
25/11/15	23/11/15	459	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	40.00	8.00	48.00
25/11/15	23/11/15	458	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	65.00	13.00	78.00
25/11/15	23/11/15	457	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	1,700.00	340.00	2,040.00
25/11/15	17/11/15	453	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	90.00	18.00	108.00
25/11/15	17/11/15	452	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	105.00	21.00	126.00
23/12/15	14/12/15	515	Direct Deb	e.0n - Elec charges for adj Sports Social	3.37	0.17	3.54
23/12/15	18/12/15	534	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
23/12/15	18/12/15	536	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	130.00	26.00	156.00
23/12/15	07/12/15	496	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	65.00	13.00	78.00
27/01/16	14/01/16	603	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	65.00	13.00	78.00
27/01/16	08/01/16	592	BACS	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance	105.00	21.00	126.00
3000/4 Recreation Total					11,908.98	1,059.21	12,968.19

3000/5 Refuse collection

3000/5/1 Stockbridge Meadow

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
01/01/16	01/12/15	619	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	-864.07	-172.81	-1,036.88
01/01/16	01/12/15	618	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Part	481.18	96.24	577.42
01/01/16	01/12/15	617	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	-864.07	-172.81	-1,036.88
01/01/16	01/12/15	580	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	864.07	172.81	1,036.88
01/01/16	01/12/15	620	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Part	160.39	32.08	192.47
3000/5/1 Stockbridge Meadow Total					-222.50	-44.50	-266.99

3000/5/2 Ogdon Close/Water Lane

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
01/01/16	01/12/15	623	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Part	160.39	32.08	192.47
01/01/16	01/12/15	628	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Part	173.90	34.78	208.68
01/01/16	01/12/15	581	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	432.53	86.51	519.04
01/01/16	01/12/15	622	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	-432.53	-86.51	-519.04
01/01/16	01/12/15	627	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	-432.53	-86.51	-519.04
3000/5/2 Ogdon Close/Water Lane Total					-98.24	-19.65	-117.89

Budget Headings Transaction Details

Start of year 01/04/15

3000/5/3 Clear Crescent

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
01/01/16	01/12/15	625	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	-146.88	-29.38	-176.26
01/01/16	01/12/15	582	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Refuse	146.88	29.38	176.26
01/01/16	01/12/15	626	Direct Deb	South Cambs District Council - Part	160.40	32.08	192.48
3000/5/3 Clear Crescent Total					160.40	32.08	192.48
3000/5 Refuse collection Total					-160.33	-32.07	-192.40
3000 Play Areas and Recreation Total					17,703.13	1,580.57	19,283.70

3100 MAYD PC budget

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
01/04/15		0		- Journal from heading 3100 MAYD	-5,000.00		-5,000.00
29/07/15	08/07/15	178	104333	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - Payment for	495.00	0.00	495.00
03/08/15		0		- Journal from heading 3100 Youth club	-1,005.00		-1,005.00
26/08/15	03/08/15	233	BACS	The Hertfordshire Groundwork Trust -	1,005.00	201.00	1,206.00
01/09/15		0		- Journal to heading 3100 Youth Club	11,692.80		11,692.80
30/09/15	03/08/15	244	104346	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - payment for hire	180.00	0.00	180.00
30/09/15	28/09/15	330	BACS	The Hertfordshire Groundwork Trust -	815.00	163.00	978.00
28/10/15	21/10/15	388	104348	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - July's payment	180.00	0.00	180.00
28/10/15	05/10/15	348	104348	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - Hire of pavilion	225.00	0.00	225.00
25/11/15	11/11/15	425	104356	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - Youth club	180.00	0.00	180.00
02/12/15		0		- Journal from heading 3100 Youth	-2,948.00		-2,948.00
22/12/15	02/12/15	491	BACS	Groundwork East - Youth Club delivery:	2,948.00	589.60	3,537.60
23/12/15	02/12/15	490	104364	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - Youth Club:	180.00	0.00	180.00
27/01/16	04/01/16	575	104373	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - MAYD Youth	225.00	0.00	225.00
3100 MAYD PC budget Total					9,172.80	953.60	10,126.40

3200 Bike Bank

Plav & Rec Expenditure Total

26,875.93 2,534.17 29,410.10

Budget remaining: £6,300.93 overspend.

APPENDIX 2

Email from Littlehands, Melbourn

I'm not sure if you're aware but we had some oil stolen from the tank at the weekend. The incident was witnessed by a neighbour who kindly called the Police who attended the scene but weren't able to apprehend anyone.

We've had our builder (who happened to be on site) look at the fencing around the tank with a view to making it more secure. He feels that there is little he can do with the fencing in it's present condition though. One point he raised; It's unclear if the incident happened during the daylight hours. Is the gate still locked at dusk and opened again at dawn?

Have you / the PC's handyman any thoughts or suggestions on how security might be improved?