

**MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 27th March 2017 in the upstairs meeting room of Melbourn Community Hub at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllrs Norman (Chair), Siva (Vice Chair), Cross, Gatward, Hales, Hart, Kilmurray, Porter, Shepherd, Sherwen and Travis.

In attendance: The Clerk, County Cllr van de Ven, District Cllr Barrett, and approximately 13 members of the public. Hopkins Homes, Curtin&Co and Countryside Developers.

PC373/16 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Harrington and Regan for personal reasons and Cllr Shepherd for late arrival to the meeting.

PC374/16 a) To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest and reasons from councillors on any item on the agenda.

Cllr Sherwen non-pecuniary interest as he knows the tree surgeon carrying out the work on PC390/16 e)

Cllr Shepherd non-pecuniary interest as she knows the applicant of PC390/16 a)

Cllr Travis, Cross, Hales, Kilmurray, Porter non pecuniary interest as Directors of Melbourn Community Hub Management Group

b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

Cllr Shepherd has resigned from the Hub Management Group.

c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
The Clerk has received Dispensation Requests relating to non-pecuniary interests for The Hub from Cllrs Travis, Cross, Porter, Kilmurray and Hales. These are valid from now until May 2018.

At 7.18pm The Chair Suspended Standing Orders

PC375/16 Presentation from the Developer (Hopkins Homes Ltd) re: the land off of New Road

Mr Robert Eburne Ms Sereena Davey from Hopkins Homes gave their presentation.

Mr Eburne explained Hopkins Homes has been selected as the housing developer for the 199 houses site and Optimus Health Care will be responsible for the new care home.

There was an appeal against the original application. This was then resubmitted and approved in August 2016 due to the insufficient housing supply.

In the middle of May Hopkins Homes will be holding a consultation event followed by submitting reserve matters relating to landscaping and buildings at the end of May.

The Chair reminded Cllrs that the development has been approved; therefore bear this in mind when asking questions.

A member raised the question that the plan does not appear to finish on the hammer head, but finishes on the boundary. Therefore does this mean the road could be extended? Mr Eburne explained not to his knowledge.

A member asked is there any design obligations to the roadway. Mr Eburne believed there could be a planning obligation to show this.

A member asked where will the 2.3 million pounds worth of infrastructure improvements be allocated to:

- £76,000.00 – Healthcare
- £7,000.00 – Bus Shelter
- £60,000.00 Car Club
- £45,000.00 - Community Transport
- £25,000.00 - Cycleway
- £145,000.00 - Early Years
- £82,000.00 - Footpath to Meldreth Station
- £14,000.00 - Library
- £1,500,000.00 – Primary Education
- £54,000.00 - Public Transport
- £100,000.00 – Community Space
- £216,000.00 - Community Changing Facilities

Mr Eburne stated there are fixed trigger points for when the above would be paid out.

Mr Eburne explained the main entrance to the development will not be controlled by traffic lights.

A member asked does the £2,300,000 include the contribution for buffer build and who will be responsible for the green areas? Hopkins Homes Ltd clarified they would hold onto the land for the first year and then the Parish Council would have first refusal.

A member asked how long it would take from start to finish for the build. Mr Eburne explained Hopkins Homes plans to build 50 homes per year, taking approximately 4-4 ½ years in total.

A member asked how Hopkins Homes would manage the construction traffic. Mr Eburne explained this is part of the revised matters and they have to abide to a Construction and Environmental Management Plan.

A member asked how the affordable and private homes will be positioned. Mr Eburne explained the affordable houses will be in groups of 6-12 and within a street with private homes.

7.55pm The Chair suspended Standing Orders

Mr Mulcock asked what would happen if the Care Home fails. Mr Eburne replied Hopkins Homes is spending a considerable amount of money and has never had a development that has failed. Hopkins Homes is not providing the Care Home, Optimus Health Care is.

Mr Conner – stated that the original outline planning was located on the other side of the entrance. Mr Eburne assured Mr Conner this was not the case.

The Chair reinstated Standing Orders at 8.05pm

Mr Peter Williams, Land Director, Mr Alex Robinson, Associate Director and Amelia Cherry, Graduate Land gave their presentation for proposed 160 units on Cambridge Road.

Countryside explained about their background, the other Countryside developments and where they are located. Countryside plan to hold a consultation on 19th April 2017 at the Pavilion. Cllrs felt the location was inappropriate and advised them to change this to The Hub.

A member explained previously Endurance Estate did not want to engage with the public when explanations were required relating to the 199 New Homes on New Road. Countryside should include a proper design then submit an outline planning application and they should be prepared to work hard with the community, so the right application can be submitted.

A member explained Hanson Services Ltd are following the process correctly, they met with the Parish Council and now a full application has been submitted and is with the SCDC planning system.

A member felt that although Countryside is trying to retain the value and features of the village, potentially building another 160 units how will this be possible? How will it not upset the feel of what we have? Countryside explained the Council and Public will need to inform them what infrastructure improvements will be required.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 8.50pm

Mr Conner asked whether they considered the cumulative effect with the traffic on A505. Melbourn Surgery has already reached its capacity and 160 new units will have an effect on transport and infrastructure within the village.

Mrs Alison Colley stated that integrating new developments within the village Melbourn does not have the infrastructure to cope.

Mr Huett asked Countryside how the development would be sustainable. Countryside explained by encouraging cycle/pedestrians to use The Drift and to use the cycle path to reach Meldreth Station. Mr Huett stated that the housing images within the presentation seem to be focussed on the high end rather than the affordable housing. Countryside explained there is a mixture and that the appearance of both the affordable housing and private homes is the same.

Mrs Stapleton asked if Countryside has considered the distance from the proposed site into the centre of the village. Countryside explained without The Drift residents will have to walk the long way past the main entrance of the site if they need to get to the centre of the village.

Mr Stapleton asked whether the main access be from Cambridge Road. Countryside confirmed this was correct.

County Cllr van de Ven stated Melbourn village has always welcomed houses but it references this to being outside the local plan and Councillors have a responsibility to Melbourn.

The Chair reinstated standing orders 9.05pm

The Chair asked members if the Melbourn Futures Working Party should include this development in its Terms of Reference. **ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOUR.**

The Chair also asked members if they want the Melbourn Futures Working Party to have a preliminary consideration of how the Council should deal with this application. **ALL MEMBERS**

WERE IN FAVOUR.

PC377/16 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 13th March 2017

Cllr Sherwen made the following comments:

PC357/16 Cllr Sherwen is not related to the tree surgeon carrying out the work on PC 370/16 a) and b), but has a close association with them.

PC366/16 Cllr Sherwen left the meeting for personal reasons.

Cllr Gatward stated the two words "bought" should actually read "brought" within the text.

IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR CROSS AND SECONDED BY CLLR HART TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS. CLLR KILMURRAY, PORTER, SHEPERD, SIVA ABSTAINED AS THEY WERE NOT PRESENT AT THE LAST MEETING. ALL OTHER COUNCILLORS WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.

PC378/16 To report back on the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 13th March 2017

The Clerk had no comments to report back.

PC379/16 Public Participation (For up to 15 minutes members of the public may contribute their views and comments and questions to the Parish Council – 3 minutes per item).

The Chair suspended Standing Orders 9.08pm

Mr Mulcock asked about PC345/16 - Clarification of view expressed at a previous Council Meeting – whether the recording was taken by a member of the public or a Councillor. The Clerk explained it was from a member of the public for a specific purpose, given for an investigation of a complaint.

Mr Forbes stated the Vexatious Complaint Appendix 1, number 18 conflicts with the new Standing Orders. The Chair apologised for this and agreed number 18 should be removed from Appendix 1 of the Vexatious Complaints.

At 9.12pm The Chair reinstated Standing Orders

PC380/16 To receive details of cheques/BACS/Visa/Direct Debits to be drawn on the Parish Council's account as detailed or amended by late payments. To approve payment and agree the amount(s) to be transferred from the Business "No Notice" Account. APPENDIX B

Cllrs Hales left the room

- The Parish Council is responsible for holding Celebrating Ages funds. There are 3 payments which relate to Celebrating Ages this month: Royston District Community Transport, Melbourn Village College and Cllr Hales reimbursed for printing costs.
- £922 to Hundred Houses Sinking Fund – this is the annual payment for the maintenance upkeep of the roadway, pavements and lighting etc on development. This was part of the purchase agreement of The Hub.
- PWLB Hub Loan is due to come out on 18th April 2017- £16477.10
- Melbourn Parish Council has already paid £12775.00 to Melbourn Community Hub Management Group for the rent on 9 March 2017.

Cllrs Hales returned to the room

IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR TRAVIS AND SECONDED BY CLLR KILMURRAY TO ACCEPT THE APPROVAL LIST. ALL WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.

IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR CROSS AND SECONDED BY CLLR KILMURRAY TO ACCEPT TRANSFER OF £29,000 FROM BUSINESS NO NOTICE ACCOUNT TO CURRENT ACCOUNT. ALL WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.

PC381/16 To receive a report from District Cllr Barrett and Hales
There was nothing to report.

PC382/16 To receive a report from County Cllr van de Ven
County Cllr van de Ven presented her report. **APPENDIX C**

In addition to the report County Cllr van de Ven thanked Tim Stebbings and two other gentlemen from Royston for clearing the site where Royston Road meets with the A10 cycle path.

Network Rail still proposes to close the rural level crossing on the footpath near to Fieldgate and is not planning to extend the platform at Meldreth Station due to trying to save tax payer's money.

County Cllr van de Ven met with the County Road Safety Officer and the Primary School regarding the path coming out of the school. It was proposed by the Officer that a half barrier at the end of the path should be installed to prevent children from accidentally ending up in the road whilst enabling access for double pushchairs.

PC383/16 Report back from Drainage Action Group

Cllr van de Ven presented the Drainage Action Group report – **APPENDIX D**

PC384/16 Report back from Melbourn Community Hub Management Group APPENDIX E

Cllr Travis, Chair to Melbourn Community Hub Management Group gave a summary to Members.

- This is the first report from the Director Group and we are pleased to report there is now a mixture of both Councillors and non-Councillors. There have been two new co-opted members from the public, Emma Drake a Communications Consultant and Antonia Anderson, a Qualified Accountant.
- Conflict of interest has become more manageable due to the proportion of Directors now in effect.
- The Chair explained the Management Group are addressing the governance of the Director Group so that each Director will have their own responsibilities.
- The Chair explained in the near future he will step down as Chair to let a non-Parish Councillor become Chair.
- The Chair thanked the Parish Council for moving the lease money early to improve the short term cash flow.
- The Hub Management Group received a letter from the Parish Council. The letter is being addressed and in particular there is a need for a Business Plan.
- The Hub Management Group would like to thank Jonathan Berks for giving amazing support with the transition between the old and the new Directors.
- The Hub Management Group would like to thank all the staff and volunteers for their continued support and commitment throughout this challenging year.
- The Hub Management Group will present their Business Plan to the Parish Council at the end of May 2017.

PC385/16 To agree and adopt
a) Persistent, vexatious or abusive complaints
b) Standing orders
Due to shortage of time this item was postponed until the next meeting.

PC386/16 A report from Communications Working Party recommending the format for the Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the Annual Parish meeting is provisionally the 8th May 2017 and The Chair explained The Clerk will need time to commission contributions as necessary.

The Communications Working Party recommended the following:

Below is the report format for Working Parties of Melbourn Parish Council

- *Working Party Name / Title*
- *Members of public and How many (no names need to be given)*
- *Meeting dates to present*
- *Overview / Report of what Working Party has been doing to date*
- *Any future proposals of what they are going to do*

THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT OTHER IDEAS CAN BE INCLUDED INTO THE REPORT AS NEEDED.

IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR SHEPHERD AND SECONDED BY CLLR HART TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKING PARTY. ALL WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.

PC387/16 To agree the format of the Award Scheme Nominations

The Chair explained that previously Cllrs used to nominate local groups or individuals who had been recognised in doing something positive for the community.

It was felt this year the Council should advertise that the public should be able to nominate groups/individuals rather than Councillors.

Members felt there should be category's put in place for awards being given. **ACTION: CLLR HART TO SEEK EXAMPLES FROM OTHER PARISH COUNCILS.**

IT WAS AGREED TO ADOPT THE CATEGORIES FOR AWARDS VIA EMAIL.

THE CLERK WILL NEED TO ADVERTISE THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC ARE AWARE THEY HAVE BEEN ASKED TO MAKE NOMINATIONS RATHER THAN FROM COUNCILLORS. ACTION: THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE ON FACEBOOK/WEBSITE/NOTICEBOARDS AND LOCAL VILLAGE SHOPS.

PC388/16 Preliminary discussions about the future arrangements for the pavilion and sports field.

The Chair explained the only people left on the Council who have been involved with the Service

Level Agreement with BeActive are The Clerk and The Chair. The Chair also informed members that the agenda item is to explain the history and to see how the Council wishes to take the issue forward:

History

The Sports Pavilion on the New Recreation Ground was refurbished with money from the Parish Council, donations from local sources and a grant from Sport England. To qualify for the money from Sport England, the Parish Council had to make a case about how the refurbished pavilion would improve sport, health and wellbeing activities in Melbourn and how the community would be involved. So a number of promises were made and the Parish Council has to report back on how those promises are being met for a period of 5 years. There is another 2 years to go.

The application was made on the PC's behalf by Bridget Smith who worked on grant applications for a number of other projects in the village and she is a District Councillor for another ward. Bridget has also been completing the reports to Sport England.

The two aims were:

- To have the pavilion occupied as much as possible to reduce the chances of vandalism. This could be through community activities such as hire for birthday parties or yoga classes or being used by the Youth Club not just for sporting activities.*
- To increase the range of sports and well-being activities available.*

The question then arose as to how the Pavilion would be managed and sport promoted.

The Parish Council itself through the Clerk/Assistant Clerk could potentially run the pavilion hire aspect as had been done prior to the refurbishment. But clearly the Parish Council couldn't run the sport aspect and nor did it have the capacity to market the facilities.

Bridget's initial suggestion was that a User Group should be set up to cover both aspects but that didn't get off the ground. At the same time, Melbourn Village College was in the process of tendering for a company to run the Sports Centre and its own sports facilities. The successful company was BeActive.

To quote what they say about themselves:

"BeActive are a school lettings company specialising in leisure facility and Astroturf management. We help you maximise income from community use of your facilities out-of-school hours while your school retains priority use.

Our popular, not for profit model, ensures all profit generated is reinvested back into your facilities and that you can benefit from any applicable tax and rate breaks. We can also offer profit or income share models if that suits your requirements better. "

So their ethos fitted in with what the Parish Council wanted. At the time, there was no other local organisation which might want to bid to run the facilities and given that Melbourn Village Collage had been through a tendering process, the Parish Council decided that it would make sense for BeActive also to run the Council's facilities.

So Bridget Smith drew up a Service Level Agreement which set out 4 aims:

- To deliver the Council's Sports Development Plan*

- *To manage the day to day maintenance of the facilities*
- *To develop community (non-sport) use of the facility*
- *To deliver a financially sustainable business case and project plan for the facility*

The Parish Council undertook to:

- *Insure the facilities*
- *Retain maintenance responsibility for the fabric of the building*
- *Pay 100% of the utility bills for the first 3 years (though these were predicted to be low because of the heating system installed)*
- *Carry out the ground maintenance programme for the playing field.*

Be Active pays for cleaning the Pavilion and manages the cleaning and letting but takes the income from hire of the playing fields and pavilion.

In financial terms, BeActive was to retain 100% profit for the first year, 70% in Year 2 and 60% in Year 3.

So the Parish Council has paid out a lot for the grounds maintenance, in wear and tear on the building. The Clerk has spent a lot of time dealing with issues about the Pavilion.

The Chair explained the SLA with BeActive expires at the end of July 2017 and the Parish Council has to decide whether to issue a tender along the lines of what BeActive has done for the past three years.

The Chair suggested to members the following options:

- Go straight to a tender based on the Service Level Agreement;
- Have an intermediate stage where a small group of Councillors explore some options for a different Service Level Agreement
- Ask potential contractors to present their ideas to Council based on a short specification.

CLLRS NORMAN, HALES, TRAVIS, AND KILMURRAY NOMINATED THEMSELVES TO LOOK AT OTHER PARISH COUNCILS AND THEIR SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS AND DECIDE WHAT THEY WANT TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE NEW SLA.

IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR NORMAN AND SECONDED BY CLLR HALES TO ASK POTENTIAL CONTRACTORS TO PRESENT THEIR IDEAS TO COUNCIL. ALL WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED. ACTION: CLLRS NORMAN/HALES/TRAVIS AND KILMURRAY

MEMBERS AGREED TO CONTINUE THE MEETING UNTIL 1030PM

PC389/16

To receive any notifications or planning consultation documents

- (a) Notification of application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (materials) and 4 (Details) of listed building reference S/2236/16/LB at 6 Little Lane, Melbourn, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 6BU. S/0459/17/DC. Flexer. For information only.
- (b) Any other notifications at the time of meeting
Notification of application SCDC grants permission for two storey side extension at 34 Armingford Crescent, Melbourn, Royston, SG8 6NG. Mr James Hoad. S/3386/16/FL

PC390/16

To consider the following planning applications

- a) Notification of planning application for Front single storey extension and rear single storey extension at 2 Mortlock Close, Melbourn, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 6DA. S/0789/17/FL. Mr Andrew Mellor. **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR SHERWEN AND SECONDED BY CLLR HALES TO SUPPORT WITH NO COMMENT. ALL IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.**
- b) Notification of planning application for erection of wooden garden shed at land between 6 & 8, Meeting Lane, Melbourn, Royston, Herts. S/0631/17/FL. Ms Marian Mitchell **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR PORTER AND SECONDED BY CLLR HALES OBJECTED WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: THE SIZE AND IMPACT OF THE SHED IS DISPROPORTIONATE ADJACENT TO THE CONSERVATION AREA. CLLR TRAVIS WAS IN FAVOUR. ALL OTHER CLLRS WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.**
- c) Notification of planning application for general purpose agricultural building as a lean to extension to existing grain store at Summer House Farm, New Road, Melbourn, Royston, SG8 6DL. S/0694/17/FL. Mrs Jane Green, WTV Wedd & Sons **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR GATWARD AND SECONDED BY CLLR KILMURRAY TO SUPPORT WITH NO COMMENT. ALL IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.**
- d) Notification of applications to carry out tree works subject to a tree preservation order or situated within a conservation area at 23 High Street, Melbourn, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 6ER. S/0950/17/TC. Mr James Mowatt. **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR GATWARD AND SECONDED BY CLLR SHERWEN TO SUPPORT WITH NO COMMENT. ALL IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.**
- e) Notification of applications to carry out tree works subject to a tree preservation order or situated within a conservation area at Old Hall House, 2-4 Little Lane, Melbourn, SG8 6BU. S/0946/17/TC. Mr & Mrs Benfield **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR CROSS AND SECONDED BY CLLR HALES TO SUPPORT WITH NO COMMENT. CLLR SHEPHERD AND CLLR SHERWEN ABSTAINED. ALL OTHER CLLRS WERE IN FAVOUR. THIS WAS CARRIED.**

PC391/16

Correspondence

- a) Any correspondence received at the time of the meeting

- The Chair read out the letter from Hanson Services about the proposed development at The Moor. **APPENDIX F**

- Cllr Hart asked for clarification relating to the signs that have appeared on the bank of the Mel, located on the recreation ground and why they were worded the way they are? Should the signs be aimed to remind the contractors not to disturb the wildlife? Cllr Hart also felt Herts & Cambs Grounds Maintenance should incur the costs of the signs and the stakes rather than the Parish Council as cutting the wildlife protection area was an H&CGM error not the Parish Council's. **ACTION: THE CLERK TO CONTACT H&CGM.** The Clerk explained there had been a meeting which involved the River Mel Group, H&CGM and a Councillor. At this meeting all parties agreed on a solution and The Clerk authorised the work. There were discussions about the wording of the signs. **IT WAS PROPOSED BY CLLR NORMAN AND SECONDED BY CLLR HART TO TAKE THE SIGNS DOWN, BUT LEAVE THE STAKES. CLLR KILMURRAY, TRAVIS, CROSS AND SHEPHERD WERE IN FAVOUR. CLLR SIVA AND PORTER WERE AGAINST. CLLR GATWARD AND CLLR SHERWEN ABSTAINED. THIS WAS CARRIED.**

- b) Mr Mitchell – **APPENDIX G**

At 22.25pm The Chair reinstated Standing Orders

At 22.25pm The Chair closed the meeting

APPENDIX A



Land at Cambridge Road, Melbourn
Melbourn Parish Council Presentation
27th March 2017

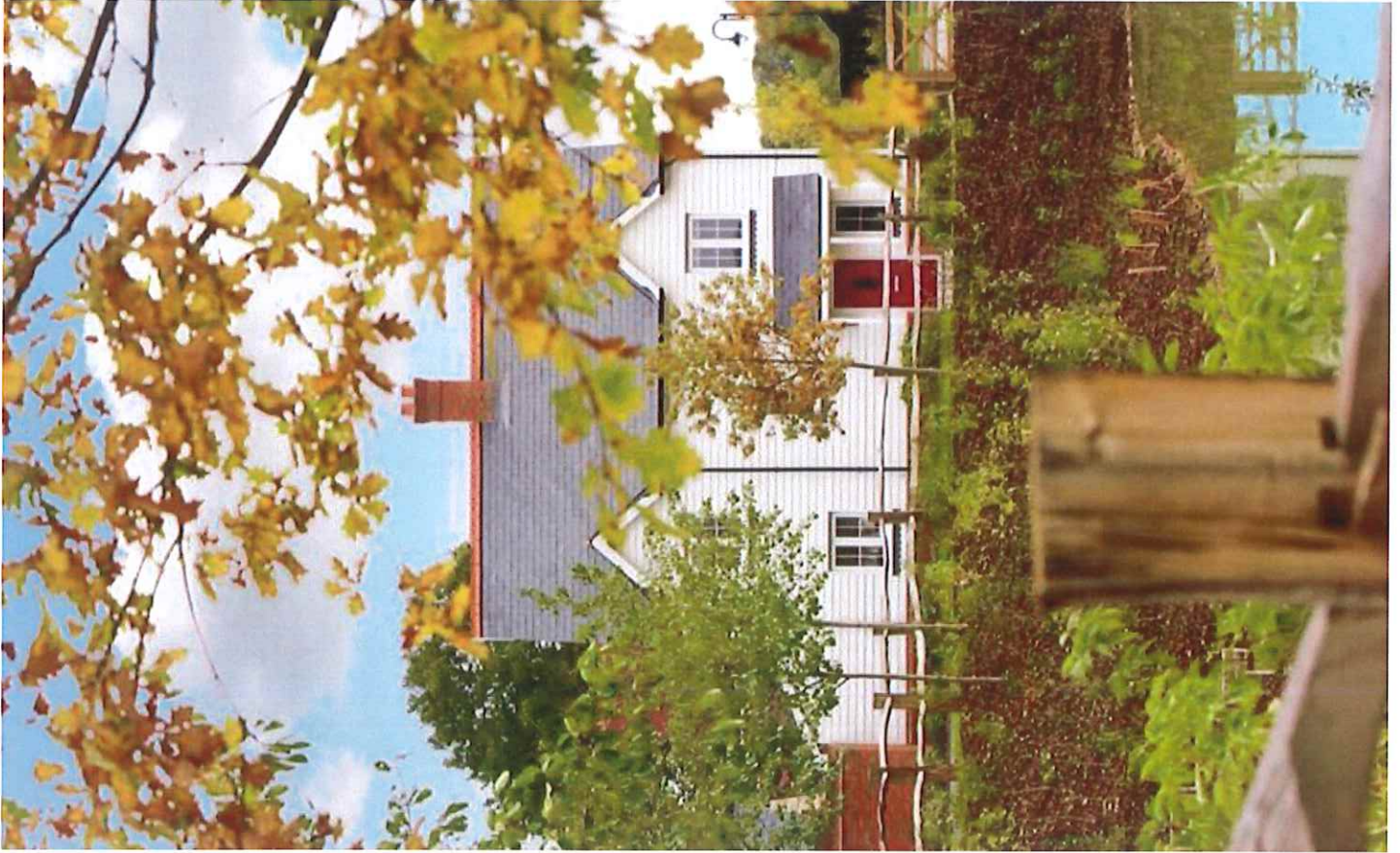


Peter Williams – Land Director

Alex Robinson – Associate Director

Amelia Cherry – Graduate (Land)





Why are we here:

- Introduce you to Countryside and explain our approach to bringing forward high quality developments.
- Initiate dialogue to capture views on priorities for the village.
- Discuss Countryside's emerging plans for the site.
- Discuss our approach to engaging with the community.

About Countryside

Creating Places People Love

- Major developer and placemaker founded in 1958 by Alan Cherry.
- Established reputation for delivering high quality developments.
- Exacting standards and sustainable credentials combine to create places that will stand the test of time.
- Committed to work in partnership with landowners, agents, local authorities, statutory consultees, and the public.

Our Interest in the site

- Selected by landowner after rigorous selection process because of our credentials for design and delivery.
- Looking to create place of quality and distinction which reflect the character of the village.



Countryside Developments

Great Kneighton, Cambridge

Great Kneighton is a sustainable new community located in the South of Cambridge.

- 2,550 new homes
- 120 acre country park and extensive amenities
- Housing Design Award winning contemporary architecture



Countryside Developments

Newmarket Road, Royston

Currently with the Council for consideration and planned as a high quality development reflecting the charm and character of Royston.

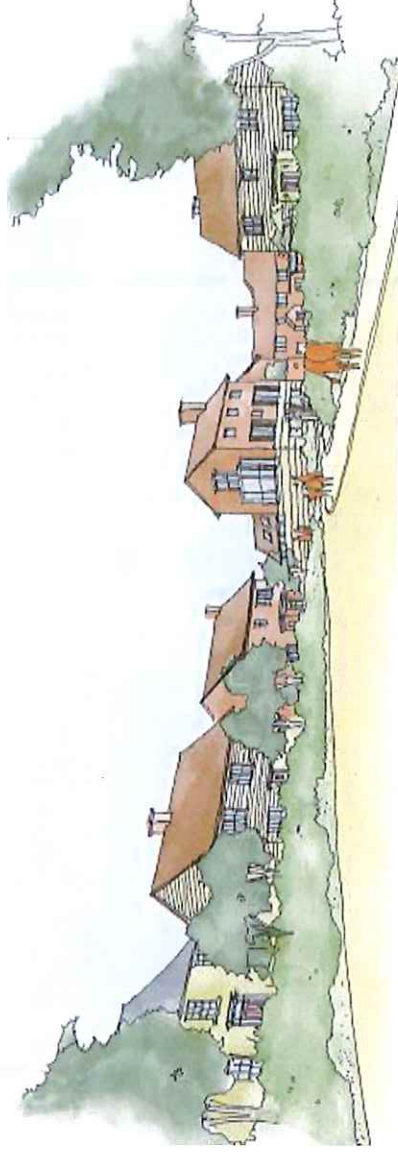
- 325 new homes
- Design led masterplan with focus on creating a high quality new community.
- Open spaces, pedestrian and cycle improvements



Countryside Developments

Hazel End, Bishop's Stortford

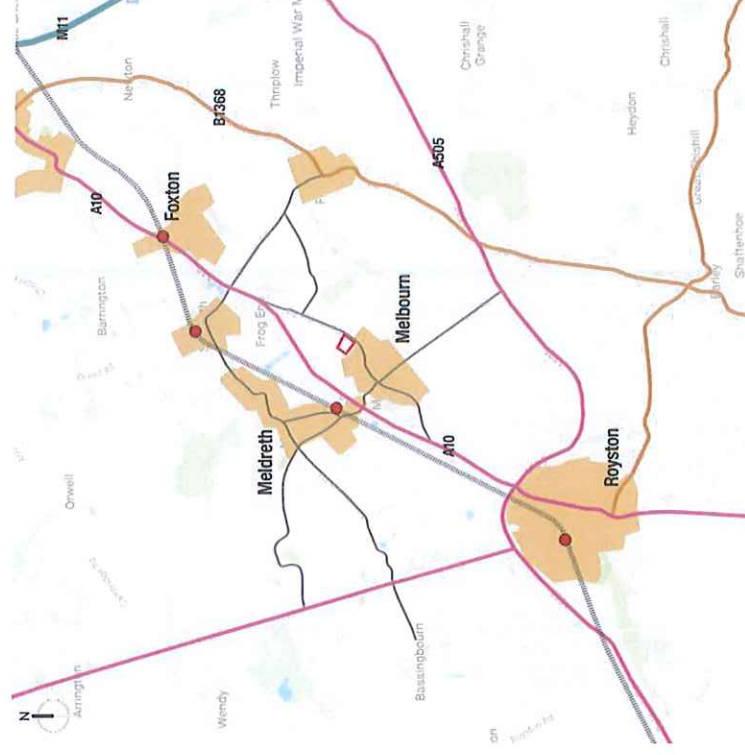
- Approximately 330 residential dwellings
- Network of open space and cycleways
- Riverside Park



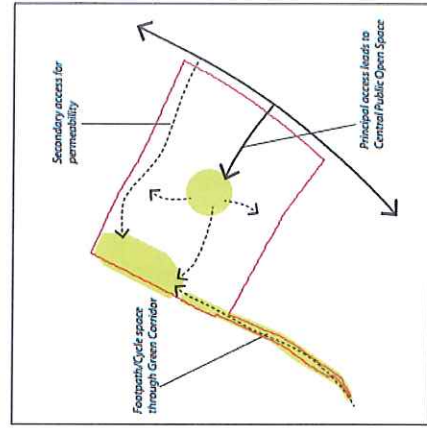
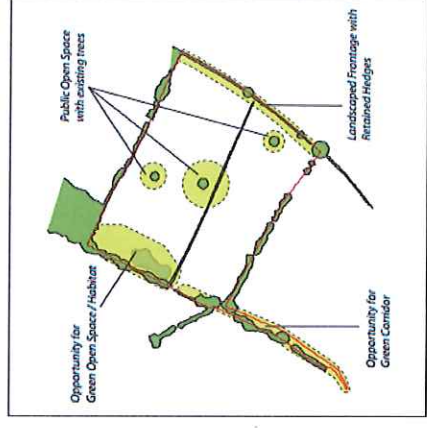
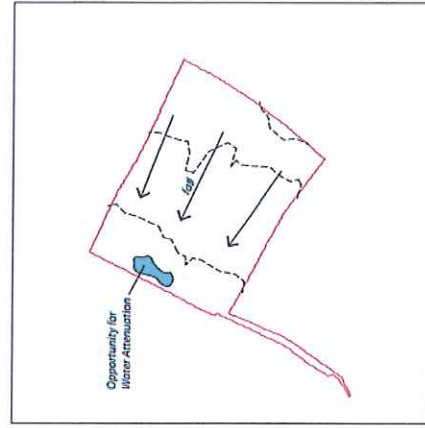
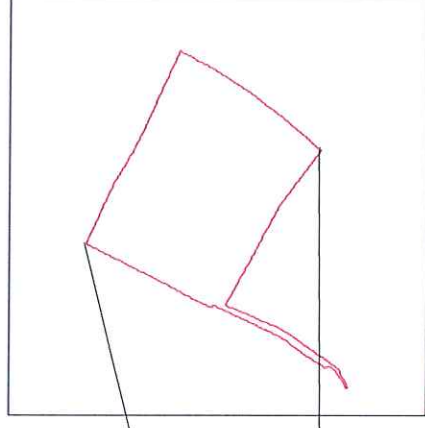
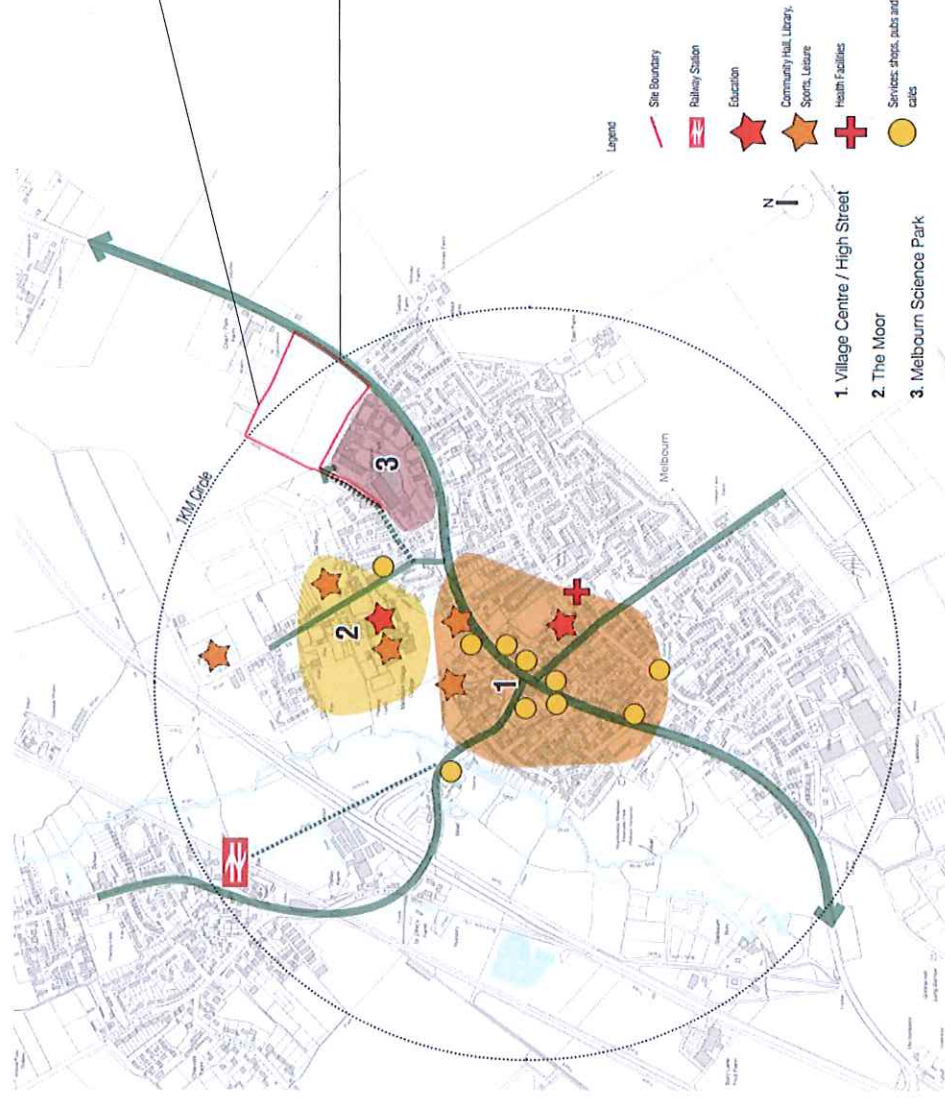
The Site

Cambridge Road

The Site



Site Context and Analysis



Site Context and Analysis



Site Context and Analysis



Local Context



Melbourn Village Character

Typical urban grain precedents



Architecture and landscape palette

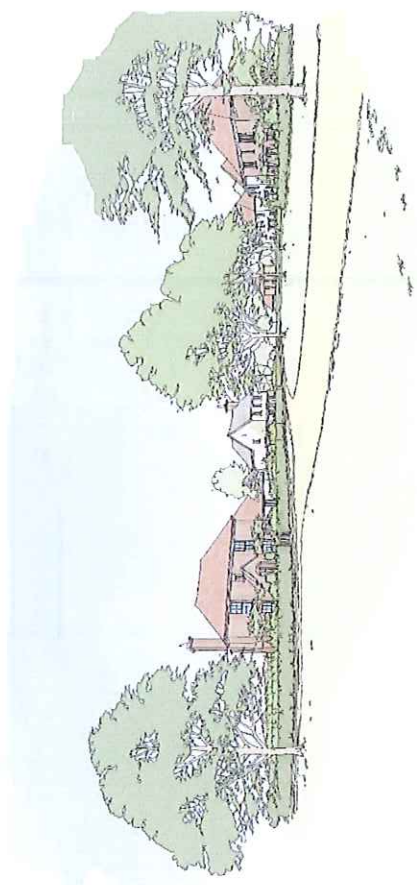
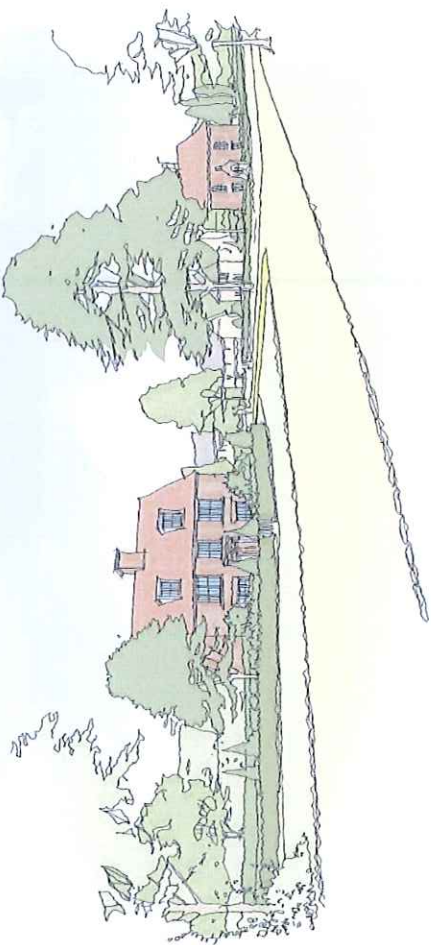


Emerging Design Concept

Concept Summary:

- Approx 160 units
- 2-4 bed houses
- 1-2 apartments
- 40% Affordable
- Proposed pedestrian and cycle way linking to Melbourn Village
- Open green spaces





The proposal



160 New homes
40% Affordable homes

Expenditure benefits



Construction benefits



Local Authority revenue benefits



LICHFIELD

Analysis and design by Lichfields (March 2017)

Our approach to engagement

- Initial presentation this evening
- Opportunity for initial feedback
- Continued discussions with SCDC
- Public consultation (mid April)
- Further presentation with the Parish (early May)
- Submission of outline application
- Continued discussion with the local community on design and other matters
- Submission of Reserved Matters



COUNTRYSIDE

Places People Love

Melbourn Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/16

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1517	BACS1703 29BA	£180.00	£0.00	£180.00	06/03/17	Beactive Melbourn Ltd - MAYD use of pavilion	£180.00
		£180.00	£0.00	£180.00		Beactive Melbourn Ltd - Total	
1508	BACS1703 29BT	£47.40	£7.90	£39.50	08/03/17	British Telecom - Broadband line for workshop	£47.40
		£47.40	£7.90	£47.40		British Telecom - Total	
1499	BACS1703 29CAPS	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	18/03/17	CAPS - Deduction of wages	£10.00
		£10.00	£0.00	£10.00		CAPS - Total	
1486	DC170228D YNOROD	£336.00	£56.00	£280.00	28/02/17	Dynorod - Call out charge drains at Littlehands 280217	£336.00
1487	DC170302D YNOROD	£330.00	£55.00	£275.00	02/03/17	Dynorod - Camera survey drains at Littlehands 020317	£330.00
		£666.00	£111.00	£666.00		Dynorod - Total	
1505	DC170320E ON	£118.41	£5.64	£112.77	05/03/17	e.On - Pavilion Elec Bill	£118.41
1519	DD170314E ON	£32.68	£1.56	£31.12	27/02/17	e.On - Sports Social Club Littlehands storage room	
1520	DD170314E ON	£8.44	£0.40	£8.04	27/02/17	e.On - Old Rec Ground elec supply	£41.12
1515	DD170315E ON	£10.36	£0.49	£9.87	28/02/17	e.On - Electricity Bill for Cemetery Orchard Rd	
1516	DD170315E ON	£136.87	£6.52	£130.35	01/03/17	e.On - Car Park workshop elec bill	£147.23
		£306.76	£14.61	£306.76		e.On - Total	
1485	BACS1703 279LTD	£24.41	£0.00	£24.41	28/02/17	Glassblade Ltd - Search WP plugin renewal for one year - website	£24.41
		£24.41	£0.00	£24.41		Glassblade Ltd - Total	
1504	BACS1703 29GH	£65.80	£0.00	£65.80	09/03/17	Graham (Jose) Hales - Printing of program and flyers for celebrating ages event	£65.80

Signature

Signature

Date

23/03/17 02:22 PM Vs: 7.37

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Melbourn Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/16

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1523	BACS1703 31GH	£14.40	£0.00	£14.40	20/03/17	Graham (Jose) Hales - Mileage from Melbourn to Cambourne and return for legal planning training	£14.40
		£80.20	£0.00	£80.20	Graham (Jose) Hales - Total		
1526	BACS1612 21H&CGM	-£360.00	-£60.00	-£300.00	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Contra 1333, Cut hedges in Worcester Way - overcharge credit note CRD9 020317	-£360.00
1521	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£540.00	£90.00	£450.00	02/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - overmark pitches 2 x and spike old and new rec x1 march	
1527	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£1,400.40	£233.40	£1,167.00	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Monthly cemetery maintenance for March 17	
1528	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£256.01	£42.67	£213.34	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Monthly maintenance for five areas of the village for March	
1529	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£252.00	£42.00	£210.00	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Mark pithces 3 and 10 March 17	
1530	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£52.20	£8.70	£43.50	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Supply 3 signs as agreed for Rivermel Mark Up of riverbank	
1531	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£312.00	£52.00	£260.00	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Cut old and new rec grounds 15 and 21 March 17	
1532	BACS1703 29H&CGM	£126.00	£21.00	£105.00	22/03/17	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Mark pitches 18/3/17	£2,938.61
		£2,578.61	£429.77	£2,578.61	Herts And Cambs Ground Maintenance Limited - Total		
1537	BACS1703 29HMRC	£5674.09	£0.00	£5674.09	22/03/17	HM Revenue & Customs - Tax and national insurance March 2017	£5674.09
		£5674.09	£0.00	£5674.09	HM Revenue & Customs - Total		

Signature

Signature

Date

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Melbourn Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/16

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1525	BACS1703 29HHS	£922.09	£0.00	£922.09 27/02/17	Hundred Houses Society - Sinking Fund contribution for year to 31/12/2017 and management fee on sinking fund	£922.09
		£922.09	£0.00	£922.09	Hundred Houses Society - Total	
1488	BACS1703 27LS	£87.55	£14.59	£72.96 01/03/17	LUCID Systems - April Monthly service	£87.55
		£87.55	£14.59	£87.55	LUCID Systems - Total	
1507	P415	£2.98	£0.50	£2.48 13/03/17	Mackay - Hinges for electrical cabinet at Pavilion	£2.98
		£2.98	£0.50	£2.98	Mackay - Total	
1495	BACS1703 09MCHMG	£12,775.00	£0.00	£12,775.00 14/03/17	Melbourn Community Hub Management Group - Rent for Parish Office	£12,775.00
		£12,775.00	£0.00	£12,775.00	Melbourn Community Hub Management Group - Total	
1506	P409	£10.00	£1.67	£8.33 23/02/17	Melbourn Garage - petrol for van - Keith Rudge	£10.00
1510	P412	£10.00	£1.67	£8.33 06/03/17	Melbourn Garage - petrol for van - Keith Rudge	£10.00
		£20.00	£3.34	£20.00	Melbourn Garage - Total	
1513	BACS1703 29MVC	£1,277.86	£212.98	£1,064.88 28/02/17	Melbourn Village College - Celebration Ages hall hire/meal costs and staff	£1,277.86
		£1,277.86	£212.98	£1,277.86	Melbourn Village College - Total	
1491DD170329NP		£43.20	£7.20	£36.00 01/03/17	Now Pensions - Employer service charge March 2017 - pensions	£43.20
		£43.20	£7.20	£43.20	Now Pensions - Total	
1509	BACS1703 29PGC	£28.07	£4.68	£23.39 26/02/17	Phillimore Garden Centre - Bark chippings and grass seed	£28.07

Signature

Signature

Date

23/03/17 02:22 PM Vs: 7.37

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Melbourn Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/16

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
		£28.07	£4.68	£28.07		Phillimore Garden Centre - Total	
1429	P405	£6.45	£0.00	£6.45	31/01/17	Post Office - Special delivery postage for PWLB Letter	£6.45
1489	P410	£1.27	£0.00	£1.27	02/03/17	Post Office - Stamps for large letter C Littlewood	£1.27
		£7.72	£0.00	£7.72		Post Office - Total	
1492	DD170418P WLB	£14,470.13	£0.00	£14,470.13	17/03/17	Public Works Loan Board - Community Hub - loan repayment	£14,470.13
1493	DD171418P WLB	£2,006.97	£0.00	£2,006.97	17/03/17	Public Works Loan Board - Communit Hub - loan interest	£2,006.97
		£16,477.10	£0.00	£16,477.10		Public Works Loan Board - Total	
1503	P414	£10.00	£1.67	£8.33	09/03/17	Rontec - Diesel for Van - payment to K Rudge	£10.00
1494	P416	£16.01	£2.67	£13.34	16/03/17	Rontec - Diesel for van - Keith Rudge	£16.01
		£26.01	£4.34	£26.01		Rontec - Total	
1496	BACS1703 29RDCT	£33.00	£0.00	£33.00	15/03/17	Royston And District Community Transport - Transport for Celebration Ages Event	£33.00
		£33.00	£0.00	£33.00		Royston And District Community Transport - Total	
1511	BACS1703 29SB&ASL TD	£75.00	£0.00	£75.00	06/03/17	Scotts Boiler & Appliance Services Ltd - Callout charge and repair oven in kitchen - replace supplied van motot	£75.00
		£75.00	£0.00	£75.00		Scotts Boiler & Appliance Services Ltd - Total	
1518	BACS1703 29STL	£540.00	£90.00	£450.00	02/03/17	Shire Trees Limited - Remove split and dangerous leader growing towards pavilion	£540.00
		£540.00	£90.00	£540.00		Shire Trees Limited - Total	

Signature

Date

23/03/17 02:22 PM Vs: 7.37

Signature

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Melbourn Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/16

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
1498	BACS1703 29SLCC	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00 17/03/17	Society Of Local Council Clerks - Planning/Legal training Cllr Hales	£10.00
		£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	Society Of Local Council Clerks - Total	
1490	P411	£5.45	£0.91	£4.54 24/02/17	Tesco - Refreshments for meetings	£5.45
		£5.45	£0.91	£5.45	Tesco - Total	
1502	P413	£6.00	£1.00	£5.00 09/03/17	Timpson - Key Cutting - payment to K Rudge	£6.00
		£6.00	£1.00	£6.00	Timpson - Total	
1522	P417	£18.00	£3.00	£15.00 20/03/17	Urban Plastics - Toilet seat for pavilion	£18.00
		£18.00	£3.00	£18.00	Urban Plastics - Total	
1484	DC170301 WESHUK	£32.40	£5.40	£27.00 01/03/17	WESH UK - Hub and PC Slices for Website - monthly charge	£32.40
1497	DC170314 WESHUK	£2.09	£0.35	£1.74 14/03/17	WESH UK - upgrade for website 4/slices	£2.09
		£34.49	£5.75	£34.49	WESH UK - Total	
Total		£41,956.99	£911.57	£41,045.42		

Signature

Date

23/03/17 02:22 PM Vs: 7.37

Signature

Appendix C

Melbourn Parish Council, 27 March 2017 County Councillor Report

Meldreth platform extension: At the March 14 Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group, Network Rail representatives announced that they will not be extending the platform at Meldreth. There will be no change at Foxton and Shepreth, where the Cambridge-bound platform extensions are happening. The reason given for excluding Meldreth was 'to save taxpayers money.'

This is concerning because contracts and all necessary planning – including bus replacement services – are in place. Footfall is growing at 10% per year and platforms will get more crowded. Meldreth would be the only station between London King's Cross and Cambridge without an elongated platform on the Cambridge-bound side of the tracks, and it is highly unlikely that adaptations would be carried out in the future as the cost would of doing just one station would be so much higher. I have written to the Network Rail Managing Director to ask if this decision can be reconsidered. If anyone would like to contribute a letter please do.

26 Bus and bus information evening: As you know there is a gradual shift happening on bus services, with ridership not strong and consolidation of routes. This is a pattern in many villages. If Stagecoach decides to cut the 27, one idea for supporting people who are caught out in nearby villages would be a shuttle link to join up with the 26, or with Meldreth Station. A bus and community transport information evening has been set up for 19 April, 7:30PM, at the Meldreth Elin Way community room.

Fairer funding for schools: The government's fairer funding programme for Cambridgeshire schools is panning out better for some schools than others. Schools in our area have clubbed together to provide guidance and suggested responses to the government consultation. Melbourn Primary School and MVC have posted the relevant information on their websites.

Teacher shortage: In response to the Cambridgeshire teacher shortage, a 'Getting into Teaching' event is being organized by Cambridgeshire County Council for anyone interested in a teaching career. All welcome at Anglia Ruskin University on Tuesday 18 April, 6-8PM. Anyone interested should sign up on line: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/getting-into-teaching-information-event-tickets-32462500212>

Out-of-hours GP services: The consultation has closed, but it looks likely that this service will move from Chesterton Hospital to Addenbrooke's. It's clear that this would be best from a clinical point of view; the main concerns are around transport and access. The County Council Health Committee will be delegating a councillor to join the NHS-based team to ensure a user's point of view and input.

Planting the new path verges: Thanks to a generous grant from the TTP Group, the new Shepreth-Melbourn walking/cycling path is being planted with a specialist wildflower mix, to enhance biodiversity. Skanska have provided high viz gear and Manit six children's rakes. The first seed scattering party took place on March 19, with about 40 people taking part. This will be repeated on March 26 and April 3.

The A10 Corridor Cycling Campaign meets next on 18 April, at Sartorius Stedim opposite Royal Mail on the Royston Industrial Estate. Focus will be on a safe walk/cycle connection to Royston.

Drainage Action Group: Earlier this week, Cllr Norman, Cllr Hales and I toured Melbourn drainage hot spots with Highways officers. The plan is to work closely with County Highways officers, sharing local knowledge about problem areas and also, sharing prevention information with the community. I'll report under the relevant item on the Parish Council agenda.

Melbourn Drainage Action Group Report: 27 March 2017

This new group was proposed last year and met up for the first time on March 20 for a tour of known drainage hot spots and again on March 22 for a public information evening. The idea was drawn from an established group in Meldreth. The purpose is for the local community to work collaboratively with Highways to be better informed, maximize opportunities and ensure we are taking preventive actions wherever possible.

All of this takes place in what is called, in council speak, Very Challenging Times. Funding is scarce, and that which exists must be carefully prioritized.

We are careful not to identify or focus on particular properties. Geographic areas in this report relate to area drainage systems where we can see that the relevant responsible players could work to mitigate a problem or prevent one from developing, for the benefit of the wider area.

Key points and actions from tour and meeting

1. Reporting events and concerns is vital: without a data base, it is not possible to take steps toward remedial action. It does not automatically follow that residents will see direct action – but if there is no reporting things stay at square one.

Action: Basic information about drainage responsibilities and reporting tools to be posted on the Parish Council website.

2. Strategic priority areas for action:

a. High Street/Water Lane area liaison with Cambridge Water: Highways believe that a series of connections under the road have been damaged by Cambridge Water work in the area, compromising the effectiveness of the Highways surface water drainage system. This should be rectified.

b. To lobby both CCC and SCDC to look at ways to ensure that all developments of all sizes, use a SUDS system and do not put water into the existing surface water system.

Action: Highways to contact Cambridge Water.

b. Back Lane/London Way junction: A new cattle grid style drain could capture silt flow and alleviate drainage pressures.

Action: Highways to liaise with business owners in the vicinity.

c. Trigg Way: A wide verge owned by South Cambs District Council could provide suitable space for a new soakaway which would alleviate pressures in the wider area.

Action: Cllr Hales to liaise with South Cambs District Council to explore options.

d. The Moor – drainage ditch near college has silted up, compromising effectiveness of wider system.

Action: Cllr Hales to liaise with volunteers and or local business to assist in clearance.

The Drainage Action Group should tour the village with Highways on an annual basis.

Cllr S. van de Ven

MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sarah Adam
Melbourn Parish Council
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
SG8 6DZ

E-mail: parishclerk@melbournpc.co.uk

Telephone: 01763 263303

<http://www.melbournparishcouncil.co.uk>

Please note: New Parish Office opening hours:
Monday: 10.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday: 1.00pm-3.00pm, Friday: 10.00am-1.00pm
Alternatively, please call to arrange an appointment.

16 March 2017


Melbourn Community Hub Management Group
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
Cambridgeshire
SG8 6DZ

Dear Hub Management Group

I thought it would be helpful if I set out the Parish Council's position on a couple of issues and also list some areas where there needs to be discussion between the Council and the Management Group. Not all points need to be addressed immediately but it will enable you to understand the Parish Council's position.

1. **The Council's Strategic Vision for the Hub.** Please would you ensure that any non-Councillor Directors are given a copy of the Vision as soon as they join the Hub Management Group. Adherence to the Vision will be taken into consideration by the Council when considering whether to make grants to the Hub MG.
2. **Review of the Lease.** As you may be aware, there has been some confusion about interpretation of the lease, particularly with regards whether the licence fee paid each year by the Council should increase over time, whether it includes use of the upstairs meeting room for all Monday evening Parish Council meetings or only the monthly full Council meetings and where the division of responsibilities lies for maintenance/upkeep. I suggest that I and a Councillor get together with a couple of Hub Directors to talk this through.
3. **Inventory.** Since it is a new MG taking over the running of the Hub, this would be a good point to take an inventory and to inspect the fabric of the building so that a programme of maintenance and renewal can be developed, together with an understanding of who will pay for what.
4. **VAT.** The advice the Parish Council has been given from CAPALC is that less than 25% of turnover should derive from business use. This threshold is important because of the arrangements which were made with HMRC about payment of VAT on a community building. CAPALC recommends that a spreadsheet is kept to record business versus community use in case the MG is ever challenged.
5. **Business Plan/Grant.** The Council has allocated £14,500 as a grant to the Hub MG for the FY 2017/18. This will not be paid until the MG has presented the Parish Council with an acceptable business plan. The Parish Council will also be looking at how to ensure the grant is spent on areas which directly relate to its Vision for the Hub.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Adam
Melbourn Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk

To: John Travis
Subject: RE: Letter to Melbourn Community Hub Management Group

From: John Travis **Sent:** 16 March 2017 15:17
To: Parish Clerk
Subject: Re: Letter to Melbourn Community Hub Management Group

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your letter dated 16th March, copied here to all Community Hub Directors as requested.

We have a Hub Management meeting on the 24th March 2017 and the points you cover will be on the agenda for discussion.

In the meantime, I believe we can address some of the items without the need to wait until then.

Para 1. Strategic Vision

I attach the Strategic Vision document for the Hub, as previously agreed by the PC, for information for those of the group who have not seen it. This seems to be the only version I have and it contains certain highlighted sections for emphasis. *Sarah, can you at some point provide a copy without the marking-up please?* Clearly, as we develop the new business plan, this vision document will be used as the basis.

Para 2. Lease Review

Please can you set up a meeting involving yourself, Julie, Jose and me to review the lease in detail? I choose Jose, rather than another director to be there, as he and I were present when the Lease document was first drawn up. You are right that some realistic decisions need to be taken on who is responsible for what and exactly what is covered by the lease-back of space by the Council. I guess this is very important but not especially urgent. Due to other commitments I would personally prefer not to meet next week but the week after or later would be fine.

Para 3. Inventory and Building Inspection

We will discuss the best approach at our upcoming meeting.

Para 4. VAT

Would Antonia please note this point. We will cover the issues at our meeting. In truth, I do not believe we can deliver much more than we do in terms of meeting room hire income. There are many constraints, but we need to know where we stand on this and certainly must not violate any threshold that undermines our VAT status. When we discussed this issue before I believe Julie asked you as Clerk to write to CAPALC and have them confirm in writing their position that the 25% room-hire proportion is their interpretation of the tax law. Sarah, please will you confirm this was done and the outcome?

Para 5. Business Plan/Grant

As per my comments under Paragraph 1

Regards

John

On 16 Mar 2017, at 14:20, Parish Clerk <parishclerk@melbournpc.co.uk> wrote:

Dear John

Please find attached a letter from Melbourn Parish Council.

Can I ask you to forward this onto all Directors.

Kind regards

Sarah Adam
Melbourn Parish Clerk
Melbourn Parish Council
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
Cambridgeshire
SG8 6DZ

Tel: 01763 263303 option 3
<http://www.melbournparishcouncil.co.uk>

Please note: New Parish Office opening hours:

Monday: 10.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday: 1.00pm-3.00pm, Friday: 10.00am-1.00pm

Alternatively, please call to arrange an appointment.

<MCHMG 160317.pdf>

Parish Clerk

Appendix F

Subject:

RE: Application

-----Original Message-----

From: John Hanson [<mailto:john@uksaps.co.uk>]

Sent: 24 March 2017 08:40

To: Parish Clerk

Subject: Application

Good morning Sarah

This is just a courtesy email to let you know that our application has now gone in to SCDC.

As per my previous email we have now engaged with Anglian water following on from the public consultation and conducted another traffic survey as asked, that will be included in the application.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course

Kind regards

John Hanson

Hanson Services Ltd

Appendix G
PC391/16 (b)

Brian F. Mitchell

24th February, 2017.

Cllr. J. Norman,
Melbourn Parish Council,
30 High Street,
Melbourn, SG8 6DZ.

Dear Councillor Norman,

With all due respect, the tenure of the joint correspondence received from you and the Parish Clerk, can only be construed as an order to an ignorant 18th century lackey not to rise above his appointed station in life.

I can only guess at the qualifications required for you to achieve the, no doubt fully deserved, title of doctor, but at the same time, I also gained the required qualifications for a career in finance, which involved the safe handling and investment of "other peoples" money, something that has been patently absent from the actions of the Melbourn Parish Council over the past 4/5 disastrous years.

Faced with a concern or complaint, as was my lot on many occasions, if I had even ventured a thought of replying in the terms obviously considered acceptable by you and the Parish Clerk, my feet would not have touched the carpet as I was shown the front door.

You questioned my use of the word childish in respect of the Parish Clerk's action; how else could it have been described? For instead of providing a concise response to my questions, which may have well satisfied my concerns, I was supplied with an host of unsolicited information which in the event has opened an even greater "can of worms", illustrating just how close to the truth my "opinions" are. (your choice of word, not mine.) Total disarray might be a suitable description of the revelations recorded in the Council minutes to which I was referred.

Quite clearly, the impression gained is a complete absence of any management plan, or any idea at all of how to conduct what, from the start of the hub project, is a commercial business, with the use of tax monies as "risk capital", wrapped up as a charity. The appalling lack of direction is self-evident in the turnover of staff and management (six in three years of operation, double that of my knowledge) and twentyone directors whose lack of expertise and unsuitability is only too apparent. The bleak outlook of an inadequate and unpredictable cash flow through the café's till, which was always clearly predictable, does little to engender any confidence in the future viability of the hub under its present constitution. The Centre Manager's description of it, "being a fun place to be and the coffee's not bad either", only too vividly sums up what has gone wrong.

I will not dwell further on the unmitigated mess the council, in the blind pursuit of satisfying its own selfish desires, now finds itself, of which you will be fully cognisant from the council minutes to which I was referred; but from this there remains the subject of the subscription to cover the Parish Clerk and the Assistant's annual membership fees to the SLCC. Despite the mention of this in the minutes (PC264/16) the responsibility for this payment lies entirely with

the individuals involved, nobody else. If councillors feel inclined to be of help, such largesse should come from their pockets. The only justification for such a payment is for it to be the subject of a short term loan, repayable from salary over the specified term to which it applies. It is most certainly not the province of the taxpayer to subsidise unjustifiable disbursements of this nature.

There also remains the item of rent, paid by the council, to the Hub Management, for use of its own building described by the Parish Clerk as a license fee in respect of the lease, the variable size of which would appear to depend on the outcome of future discussions. This is a complete nonsense, for apart from the taxpayer having been burdened with annual payments of £30,000 in respect of mortgage and interest; this no small item inflicts a further charge of approx. £12,800 and effectively disguises an operational deficit twice the size of that reported in the income and expenditure forecasts.


In referring to the car park fiasco in a previous communication, of which I will make no further comment, I inadvertently used the word mindlessness. Judging from what I have now discovered in trawling through the "flood" of information, remitted by the Parish Clerk and referred to by yourself, I find myself doubting that any minds at all were ever present in the compilation of the circumstances in which the council as well as the village now find themselves.

From the sheet of published letters enclosed in my letter you will of course have noted these were not all of my hand but also those of other residents who were deeply concerned by the actions of the council.

Would you not now consider it may well have been far more expedient for you and the Parish Clerk to have replied to my concerns in a less officious manner, rather than to hopefully blind me with references to the Freedom of Information Act and the numerous pages of the Council's parochial meanderings?

In conclusion, I must offer my apologies for the inaccuracies included in my letter for clearly after inspection of the vast amount of material now before me, I find myself proven guilty of gross under estimation.

Yours sincerely,



Brian F. Mitchell.

As a post script, the detritus and leaves blown from the hub premises onto the opposite footpath by the inconsiderate action of the Ground Management people you employ, which gave rise to my initial approach to the Parish Clerk, still adorn their resting place and will no doubt so remain until they have finally rotted away.

I again, earlier this week, witnessed further evidence of these peoples productivity as they sat in their parked van in the car park, watching the world go by and making no apparent effort to commence whatever tasks they were scheduled to complete.

Parish Clerk

To: Brian Mitchell
Subject: RE: For the attention of Cllr. J. Norman & the Parish Clerk

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Mitchell [Sent: 03 March 2017 12:05]
To: Parish Clerk
Subject: For the attention of Cllr. J. Norman & the Parish Clerk

Dear Cllr. Norman & Mrs. Adam,,

A classic case of closing the stable door, after the horse has bolted.

Is there little wonder local government does not have the resources required for its basic responsibilities.
I rest my case.

Brian F. Mitchell.

One of the lessons from the turmoil within the Council last year was that the Council was not conducting its business properly. It had not been following the correct procedures in many areas of responsibility. We are looking in depth at how we do things and comparing what we do currently with what is recommended and what is done by other Councils. At the end of this, the way the Council does business should be transformed and Councillors intend to apply for the National Association of Local Councils Quality Award so that we have independent proof that the Council has changed.

Very tight financial management will be needed over several years to ensure that the Council builds up money held in reserve. This is an obligation so that the Council can continue to pay staff and provide services if, for example, there is a delay in receiving its income from South Cambridgeshire District Council. Councillors will be looking at all aspects of the Council's spending to see where savings can be made, looking at ways of increasing the Council's income and making sure everything spend provides good value for money.

31 Station Road
Melbourn
SG8 6DX

14 March 2017

Dear Mr Mitchell

Thank you for your letter of 24 February 2017.

I have nothing to add to the Clerk's response of 22 February 2017 and mine of 21 February 2017.

Yours sincerely

Dr J A Norman

Brian F. Mitchell

18th March, 2017.

Councillor J. Norman.

31 Station Road,

Melbourn, SG8 6DX.

Dear Councillor Norman,

Receipt of your response to my letter of 22 February is acknowledged.

Its lack of content and your being unable to add anything further to previous replies, does not surprise me, as your reference to the Council's minutes revealed the "La-La Land" ethos of a council seeking the satisfaction of its own narrow agenda, with a complete disregard of common sense or economic reality, dissipating tax monies on a commercial venture, for which there was a complete lack of professional guidance and entirely devoid of any managerial or entrepreneurial skills.

As to the understanding of what went wrong with the car park, all of the above with a multiple of ten.

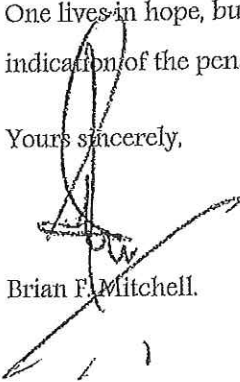
It simply beggars belief there was not one councillor with sufficient integrity to question the consequences of the inadequacy of the poor and cavalier decisions being made, giving rise to the current situation; which can now only be viewed as self-inflicted.

As to it being totally acceptable for the Hub to be described as a fun place to work, only highlights the council's inability to grasp the serious nature of such a venture. It might be a pleasant or even enjoyable environment in which to work, but "fun" should not even enter the equation. It required professional management of a qualified staff, dedicated to its success, not to "have fun"; Volunteers, as has been learned from experience, are thin on the ground and here today and gone tomorrow.

Although it may appear minor against the council's total budget, it remains apparent the cavalier attitude to the dissipation of tax monies still exists with the payment of professional fees, which should be, and remain as such, the sole responsibility of the individuals involved. Such action does little to engender faith in the future ability of the council to come anywhere near resolving, as stated above, its self-inflicted predicament. (Take care of the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves.)

One lives in hope, but the completely unjustifiable increase of 4.5% in the 2017 precept is probably the first indication of the penalty the Melbourn residents will have to accept as the price for the council's "follies".

Yours sincerely,


Brian F. Mitchell.