

# MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sally Shipley, 50 Chestnut Way, Mepal, Ely, CB6 2YR  
Email: [mepalparishcouncil@msn.com](mailto:mepalparishcouncil@msn.com)

Chairman: Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker

---

## MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
TIME: 19.30  
VENUE: Mepal Village Hall, School Lane, Mepal  
PRESENT: Chair Mrs Stazicker, Mr Stacey, Mr Slough, Mr Drew, Mr Pleasance  
Clerk Mrs Shipley

---

**IN ATTENDANCE:** District Councillor Bailey, District Councillor Goodge and 2 members of the public were in attendance.

### **047/09 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received and approved from Mr Sallis and County Councillor Read. Mr Newstead was not in attendance.

### **048/09 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

None.

### **049/09 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:**

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

### **050/09 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

Meeting suspended at 19:35.

Two members of the Mepal Allotment & Leisure Garden Association presented an update of the project to date. Regretfully, the Secretary has resigned and a replacement is being sought. Other matters are moving forward including the writing of a Business Plan, grant applications and local fund raising activities.

One member of the public requested clarification as to whether Emergency Planning Procedures are in place for the village. It is believed that these duties lie with the County and District Councils. District Councillor Bailey will make enquiries and advise the Clerk. **Action: District Councillor Bailey.**

Meeting reconvened at 19:50.

### **051/09 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.**

Oral reports received from District Councillor Bailey and District Councillor Goodge. Details of a written report from County Councillor Read were also given by Mrs Stazicker. There will be a Transport Commission meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April in Ely, Mr Pleasance agreed to attend. There will also be an NHS Meeting in Littleport on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April however no Councillors are available to attend on this date.

### **052/09 PLANNING.**

#### Updates

a) None received.

#### Other Planning Matters

b) None received.

### **053/09 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.**

a) To consider application from Mepal Good Companions.

It was resolved that the application be approved to the value of £75.

b) To consider application from Mepal Archive Group.

It was resolved that the application for £75 be approved.

c) To consider application from MAGPAS.  
It was resolved that the application for £100 be approved.

d) To consider application from Ely & District Citizens Advice Bureau.  
It was resolved that the application be approved to the value of £100.

#### **054/09 CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACRE**

a) To consider entry into the "Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Calor Village of the Year 2009" competition.  
It was resolved that an entry would not be submitted to this competition for 2009.

#### **055/09 THE POWER OF WELL-BEING**

a) To consider whether to seek to use the Power of Well-being and instigate the work necessary to achieve the qualifying criteria.

It was resolved that, subject to further investigation by the Clerk into the practicalities involved, Mepal Parish Council will seek to use the power of well-being and to achieve the qualifying criteria before the end of 2009. **Action: Clerk.**

#### **056/09 PATHS**

a) To consider support of a project to encourage the use of local footpaths and trails.  
The project is being led by a resident of Sutton who wishes to promote and encourage the use of local footpaths. It was resolved that support be offered to this project.

b) To form a new Working Party to support the above project and other matters in relation to the upkeep of the parish footpaths.

It was resolved that a new Working Party should be formed. Mr Slough and Mrs Stazicker agreed to become members. A local resident, Mr Tom Sayer, has also shown interest so the Clerk will make contact and invite him to join the Working Party. **Action: Clerk.**

#### **057/09 NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS**

a) To consider whether there are any matters to be raised at the West Neighbourhood Panel Meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009.

It was resolved that Mrs Stazicker would again raise the issue of the speed that some buses travel through the village. She will pass on details of recent problems experienced by residents due to flooding from the sewer works. Mrs Stazicker will also invite other interested parties to a meeting to establish how a project can be formed to provide a cycle path to Ely. The PCSO will be asked to pay attention to youths congregating (and especially littering) near the village green and at the recreation field. He will also be asked to monitor the parking of vehicles on the bend in Laurel Close.

#### **058/09 PARISH MAINTENANCE**

a) To receive oral report of damage caused to green space in Laurel Close.

Oral report received from Mr Pleasance. Remedial work has now been undertaken to the green space and the adjacent kerbs by the Highways Authority. It was resolved that the issue be raised at the upcoming Neighbourhood Panel meeting so that PCSO may monitor the situation. A letter will be sent to all Laurel Close residents by East Cambs District Council informing them of the disruption that will be caused to refuse and recycling collections if cars continue to be parked on the bend.

#### **059/09 MEPAL PARISH PLAN ACTIONS**

a) To consider best arrangements for the recommencement of Surgeries in Mepal with our Police Community Support Officer.

It was resolved that the PCSO surgeries are important and that they should be reinstated as soon as possible in the form of "drop-in" sessions at Mepal Village Hall. The Hall is available on Monday or Thursday afternoons so the PCSO will be requested to start monthly sessions on the same date and time each month. Some contribution to the cost of the heating and lighting of the Hall will be necessary. **Action: Mrs Stazicker to contact Jonathan Hall to discuss arrangements for the new sessions.**

b) To approve the purchase of a further dog waste bin for the village. To consider and approve location for the new bin.

It was resolved that a further dog waste bin be purchased and located on Brangehill Lane, close to the end of footpath 3.

**060/09 FINANCE**

a) It was resolved that payment of the following outstanding accounts be made;

S Shipley – expenses March inc Annual Computer Allowance	£292.98	LGA 1972 s.111
HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE & NI March	£1.31	LGA 1972 s.111
S Shipley – salary adjustment March	£9.87	LGA 1972 s.111
Truelink – hedge cutting at recreation field	£80.50	Open Space Act 1906 s.10
SLCC – New Practitioners Guide	£22.00	LGA 1972 s.111

**061/09 WEEKLY RECREATION FIELD AND PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS**

a) It was resolved that Mr Pleasance will check the play area on a Monday and Mr Slough will undertake the weekly equipment inspection. Due to recent problems with one of the cradle swings, the Clerk will request a quotation for anti-wrap chains (the same as on the other swing). **Action: Clerk.**

**062/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (For Information Only).**

- a) Cambridgeshire ACRE – Community Action Spring 2009
- b) COPE – newsletter April 2009.
- c) ADEC – What’s on in East Cambridgeshire April 2009.

**063/09 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.**

- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 – Annual Meeting of Mepal Parish Council
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Annual Parish Assembly
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2009 – Full Council Meeting
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009 – Full Council Meeting

Meeting closed at 21:15.

..... Chairman to Mepal Parish Council

..... Date