

MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sally Shipley, 50 Chestnut Way, Mepal, Ely, CB6 2YR
Email: mepalparishcouncil@msn.com

Chairman: Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Monday 13th October 2008
TIME: 19.30
VENUE: Mepal Village Hall, School Lane, Mepal
PRESENT: Chair Mrs Stazicker, Mr Slough, Mr Newstead, Mr Drew, Mr Pleasance,
Mr Sallis, Clerk Mrs Shipley

IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor Bailey, District Councillor Goodge, Vicky Bailey & Leanne Cole from Mepal Youth Club and 3 members of the public were in attendance.

160/08 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
Apologies were received and approved from Mr Stacey.

161/08 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.
Mrs Stazicker declared a personal interest in agenda item 167/08(b).

162/08 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:
The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 8th September 2008 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

163/08 UPDATE OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.
For information only.

164/08 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.
No members of the public wished to address the meeting.

165/08 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.
Oral report received from District Councillor Bailey and District Councillor Goodge.

166/08 YOUTH WORK IN MEPAL

a) To receive oral update on Mepal Youth Club and the provisions of Cambridgeshire Youth Service in Mepal. Oral report received from Vicky Bailey, Locality Youth Worker for Mepal. The meeting was also suspended to allow for questions to be answered.

b) To consider request for the provision of an outdoor skate park/BMX ramps on Mepal Recreation Field. It was resolved that the Parish Council would support the Youth Club in their application for funding to provide a skate park on Mepal Recreation Field.

c) To consider revised fees for Mepal Youth Club for 2009/10. It was resolved that the revised financial proposal for 2009/10 be approved.

167/08 PLANNING.

New Planning Applications

a) 08/00933/FUL Construction of first floor extension to 17 Laurel Close, Mepal. Applicant: Mr B Rollason. It was resolved that no comment be made on this application.

Other Planning Issues

b) To consider response to public consultation on the new Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals & Waste Plan.

It was resolved that Mrs Stazicker would respond to the consultation, on the behalf of the Parish Council, in support of the preferred option but highlighting great concern at the significant increase in traffic movements and respective noise. **Action: Mrs Stazicker.**

168/08 ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY

- a) To receive oral update from Allotments Working Party and report on the meeting with the Allotment Regeneration Initiative.

Oral report received from Mr Sallis. It was resolved that the Parish Council would join the National Society of Allotments and Leisure Gardeners Ltd at a cost of £55. It was also resolved that further advice be taken regarding the use of a section of the recreation field, to the north of the play area, for allotments. **Action: Clerk/Allotments Working Party.**

169/08 NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS

- a) To consider issues for the West Neighbourhood Panel Meeting on Monday 27th October 2008.
No issues of concern were raised for this meeting.

170/08 COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

- a) To receive oral report of "Revive and Thrive – community-based solutions for rural services" conference on Thursday 25th September 2008.

Oral report received from Mr Newstead.

- b) To consider attendance at "The Role of Parish, Town & City Councils in Cambridgeshire Together & Local Strategic Partnerships" Event on Monday 10th November 2008.

It was resolved that Mr Newstead would attend.

- c) To receive update from Village Shop Working Party.

The Working Party has co-opted Mr Phil Harris, Mrs Fiona Abbott and Mr Robert Sculthorpe as new members. The meeting was sad to note that the health of Mr Phil Harris of Mepal Stores has deteriorated and as a result Mr Harris has informed the Parish Council of his wish to retire as soon as possible. He is therefore putting the shop on the market. The Working Party is concerned about the future of this major village resource and is grateful to Mr Harris for his willingness to consider some form of Community Shop. It was therefore resolved that the Working Party continue to investigate the potential for community acquisition of the shop, post office and premises. It was also approved that a leaflet drop be undertaken within the parish to gauge the level of investment potential. **Action: Community Sustainability Working Party.**

171/08 PARISH MAINTENANCE

- a) To receive update from Parish Maintenance Working Party.
Oral report received from the Clerk.

172/08 MEPAL PEOPLE NEWSLETTER

- a) To consider future production arrangements for the "Mepal People" newsletter.

The Parish Council is sad to note the difficulties experienced with the production of recent issues of the newsletter. Apologies are extended to the Editorial Board. Steps have been undertaken to ensure that these problems will not arise again in the future. Response to the recent Parish Plan showed that a large percentage of responders would like to see the newsletter return to monthly circulation. It was resolved that the Parish Council would investigate this. **Action: Clerk.**

173/08 FINANCE.

- a) To receive External Auditor's report on the Annual Return for the 2007/8 financial accounts.

The Clerk reported that an unqualified audit had been received again this year. The audits for 2007/8 are now closed.

- b) To receive quarterly report on budget and expenditure to 30.09.08.

Oral report received from the Clerk. No problems are forecasted at this time.

- c) Initial Considerations for the setting of the 2009/10 precept.

It was resolved that the Finance Working Party reconvene to prepare a proposal for the estimated precept figure and bring this to the November meeting. Mr Drew, Mrs Stazicker, Mr Sallis, Mr Pleasance and the Clerk agree to become members of the Working Party. **Action: Finance Working Party.**

d) It was resolved that payment of the following outstanding accounts be made;		
Moore Stephens Chartered Accountants – External Audit Fee	£646.25	LGA 1972 s.111
Cambs ACRE – Attendance at Revive & Thrive Conference	£20.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Cambridgeshire CTP – Councillor Development Training	£210.00	LGA 1972 s.111
S Shipley – Expenses August & September	£75.03	LGA 1972 s.111
Sutton Royal British Legion – Remembrance Day Wreath	£25.00	LGA 1972 s.137
Mepal Youth Club – half-yearly fees (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19	£920.00	Local Government
Truelink Ltd – Grass September	£642.94	Open Space Act 1906 s.10
National Soc of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Ltd – Membership Act 1908 s.23	£64.63	Small Holdings & Allotments

174/08 WEEKLY PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS.

- a) It was resolved that the Mr Pleasance will check the play area on a Monday and Mrs Stazicker at the weekend. Mr Slough will undertake the weekly equipment check.

175/08 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (For Information Only).

- a) The Standards Board – Town & Parish Standard September 2008.
- b) COPE – Newsletter September 2008.
- c) COPE – Newsletter October 2008.

176/08 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.

- Monday 10th November 2008 – Full Council Meeting.
- Monday 12th January 2009 – Full Council Meeting.
- Monday 9th February 2009 – Full Council Meeting.
- Monday 9th March 2009 – Full Council Meeting.

Meeting closed at 21:05.

..... Chairman to Mepal Parish Council

..... Date