

MELLOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th February 2025 commenced 7.03 pm at the Methodist Church,
Mellor Lane

Present Cllrs: Claire Batty, Emma Dickinson-Gater, Ian Flaherty, Sharon Hughes, Bernard Murtagh Chair, Susan Outhwaite, Jennifer Proctor Vice Chair, Clerk and 2 Members of the Public.

1. Apologies for absence.
Accepted from Cllrs.: - John Fletcher, Robin Walsh who had prior engagements.
2. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest. **None received.**
3. Adjournment for the Public session (max 5 mins per person) maximum 15 minutes.
Members of the public are welcome to attend and may address the Council during the formal meeting under Public Participation.

A resident spoke about the damage to the verges on St Mary's Gardens and expressed it should be widened because houses have more than one car and the fault does not lie with the refuse vehicle.

A resident expressed concern at the type of repairs carried out by LCC Highways on Church Lane and felt the workmen didn't do a good job and also had the same issue with the repairs on Mire Ash Brow. They felt the service they were receiving was not good enough and it will lift again which is wasting money and upsetting residents. They further expressed concern at speeding down Mellor Lane and the time of night that this was occurring which is causing disturbance in the early hours. The resident had arranged a meeting with the local brewery and will update Council.

The Chair thanked the residents for their attendance.

4. Reports
 - 4.1 Borough Council – **None Apologies received.**
 - 4.2 RV Parish Liaison – **None Apologies received.**
 - 4.3 RV LALC Liaison - **None**
 - 4.4 BAE Liaison - **None**
 - 4.5 County Council – **CCllr Schofield sent apologies.**
 - 4.6 Mellor Community Association Liaison – **None Apologies received**
5. Governance
The Co-option Policy was resolved to be adopted.
Approve the updated Standing Orders **Item withdrawn by the Clerk**
6. Approve Minutes JP CB
The Minutes of 5th December 2024 were accepted and duly signed by the Chair.
7. The Chair gave an update on matters arising since the last Minutes not covered on the Agenda
 - 7.1 **Resignation of Jennie Barnes. Vacancy Notice has been posted but has not expired.**
 - 7.2 **Play area is due to re-open on Friday 14th February ready for half term. Notification will be posted. Very wet and muddy awaiting grass seed. Signage will be in place prior.**
 - 7.3 **Greene King has given permission for the bus shelter a previously resolved item and it will be installed at the end of February.**
 - 7.4 **MPC has been consulted on the investigation into the modification of FP49 at Whitecroft Barn to clarify the position and width. Clerk to respond from Councillor responses it is presently encumbered and very narrow. It has been diverted, and the new path is too narrow. The existing path is not accessible 24 hours a day for all to use and it is felt that although a diversion may be approved it should not deviate from the original location without a cause being shown. This is not a Public consultation and has not been notified to the Public yet**
8. Council considered the following Planning Applications:
 - 3/2024/0937 Proposed loft conversion to include dormers to front and rear. 30 Barker Lane Mellor BB2 7ED **although notified to this Council it lies within the Parish of Ramsgreave.**
 - 3/2025/0016 Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use as B8 commercial storage. Meadow Brook Barn Saccary Lane Mellor BB1 9DW **Council considered and resolved for the Clerk to write to Planning stating they wished to support this application.**
 - 3/2025/0021 Proposed single-storey extension to front. Half Acre Further Lane Mellor BB2 7PZ
No comments
9. Council considered sponsoring the Victory in Europe Day Celebrations including flag hoisting and beacon lighting under LGA 1972 s.144 or LGA 1972 s.145 for 'provision of entertainment and

support of the arts' **Vice Chair Cllr Proctor advised Council of the intended celebrations. It was resolved for the Clerk to invite DLL Edwin Booth and other attendees, seek permissions and arrange with MCA. Council agreed to sponsor and donate the sum of £300 to MCA for afternoon tea and evening refreshments for residents. Clerk to order the flag in the sum of £38.**

10. Copyright right infringement from 2021 by the Council Employee using an image on the Council website without permission. **Council considered the infringement and were disappointed that it had received an invoice for £713. The Clerk negotiated a reduced settlement of £375 and advised future images will only be published if owned by the Clerk or provided by the website provider.**
11. Finance

The bank balance Lloyds Bank £28,211.19 was approved.

11.1 Council approved the payments.

 - a. Easy websites Jan 36.96 DD
 - b. Clerk December salary M Russell paid 2nd Jan £866.84 SO
 - c. Almay breach of copyright £375 bank transfer in accordance Financial Regulations 6.9 (i) & (ii)
 - d. NW Tree Clinic Emergency Tree Works War Memorial £300 in accordance Financial Regulations 6.9 (i) & (ii) **Council wished the Clerk to thank the contractor for their prompt service.**

11.2 Council approved the following payments to be paid by bank transfer.

 - a. Branch Rd Kiosk Defibrillator Severn Defib £1686.00 incl VAT
 - b. Euroshel Bus Shelter £4716 incl VAT
 - c. Easy websites Feb 36.96 DD
 - d. Clerk January salary £866.84
 - e. Handyman January £188
12. To consider and debate involving the Road Safety Partnership Team at LCC **Council resolved for the Clerk to write to the Road Safety Team and express concerns in the areas of Mellor Brow, the bend, the narrowing of the road due to telegraph posts and street lighting, Mellor Lane from the Millstone to the Spread Eagle including the danger to horse riders and cyclists. Saccary Lane, St Mary's Gardens (look at vehicle tonnage to stop vehicles over 7.5T using it unless for access, Whitecroft Lane. Also to consider anti-social parking forcing prams and others to walk in the road. Bring to their attention dropped kerbs being obstructed. Review the tonnage limit from Ramsgreave into the Parish of Mellor on all roads and ask for their input.**
13. To consider and debate the purchase and location of bat boxes.
Item withdrawn by the Clerk
14. Council debated and considered the rules of entering the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. **It was resolved to defer December 2025.**

The next meeting will follow the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held on 6th March 2025 commencing 7.00pm at Mellor Methodist Church on Mellor Lane, Mellor.

Meeting ended at: 19.47.

Dated 6th February 2025