

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 9th JANUARY 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Todd (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Ledgerton and Rogers.

3185: Apologies for absence.

Cllr Harrison.

3186: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th November 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th November 2023 be approved as a correct record.

3187: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3188: Public participation.

A representative from the youth club attended to say thank you for the xmas gifts.
A resident attended expressing an interest in the casual vacancy.

3189: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that:

1. The casual vacancies were noted; and
2. Potential applicants for vacancies be requested to attend at least 2 meetings before submitting their application.

3190: Location of bench.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred until a response was to hand from Sefton about the suitability of potential locations.

3191: Awards event.

RESOLVED that this item be referred to a working group for further consideration.

3192: Reports of meetings.

Cllr Fuller reported on the work of the South Sefton Community Alliance and a meeting with Sefton's chief exec.

3193: Correspondence.

Cllr Rogers advised that a message of thanks had been received from the pensioners club for the xmas biscuits and raffle prizes.

3194: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

A Todd 13/2/2024
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3195: Cash flow report.

RESOLVED that the cash flow report to the end of December 2023 be noted.

3196: Budget and precept 2024/2025.

RESOLVED that:

1. The budget be approved as drafted; and
2. The precept for 2024/2025 be set at the same rate as last year of £39,655.00.

3197: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

J Farrar
13/2/2024

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 13th FEBRUARY 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Todd (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, and Ledgerton.

3198: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Harrison and Rogers.

3199: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th January 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th January 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3200: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3201: Public participation.

None.

3202: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies were noted.

3203: Location of bench.

RESOLVED that:

1. A new bench be purchased from Sefton MBC and located on the grass verge on Station Road;
2. The costs of the bench, including £1847 for the purchase and installation of the bench and £360 for the installation of a hard standing for the bench be approved;
3. The plaque on the bench to read 'This bench was provided by Melling Parish Council';
4. Enquiries to continue into other locations for an additional bench next year.

3204: Reports of meetings.

Cllr Fuller reported on the work of the South Sefton Community Alliance and an upcoming meeting with Green Sefton.

3205: Correspondence.

Cllr Baker reported on information circulated by the CPRE about an ongoing review of the National Planning Framework which is hoped to require development on brownfield sites as a priority over greenbelt.

The clerk confirmed that Cllr Todd's name had been entered into the selection ballot for this year's Garden Party.

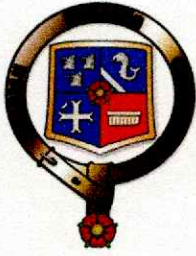
A Todd 12/3/2024

3206: Planning Applications.
None.

3207: Accounts paid and for payment.
RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

A Todd
12/3/2024



MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF MELLING
Held on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 6.45pm in Melling Primary School.**

**The meeting was chaired by Cllr Alan Todd (Chairman of Melling Parish
Council)**

- 1. To consider and approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held
on 14th May 2023.**

*Electors agreed the Minutes of the meeting, to be signed by the Chairman as
a true and accurate record.*

- 2. Chairman's report.**

The Chairman gave his report as attached.

Cllr Alan Todd

Chairman to Melling Parish Council

12th March 2024

Melling Parish Council Chairman's annual report 2023/24

This has been an important year which has seen the coronation of a new monarch and we have been pleased to be able to support the local community by providing grants to Melling Youth club and Melling Residents and Community Association towards the cost of the events held to celebrate the Kings Coronation in May 2023.

This year has also seen the addition of new christmas lights for the parish which replace the previous solar powered Christmas trees on the lamp posts. The new lights will be rotated around the different areas each year to provide different displays and this is a cost effective and sustainable solution for years to come. The Christmas lights proved to be a great success and we have received good feedback from residents and visitors to the area.

As in previous years grant applications were approved to Melling in Bloom for the upkeep of the village green and also to the Melling Leaflet to assist the publication getting back up and running after the lock down.

Following on from requests made in recent years we have contacted Metro Mayor Mr Steve Rotheram regarding the 345 bus service, suggesting that the 345 bus service could go to Kirkby town centre via the doctors surgery in tower hill, turn round at Kirkby town centre, and then head back to Liverpool through Melling. Our view is that this would improve the bus service for Melling residents.

A meeting was subsequently held with representatives from Arriva and Metro Liverpool City Region Combined Authority with a view to providing them with further information about residents wishes obtained from a survey that will conclude in the coming weeks.

Christmas gifts were again given to the children attending Melling Primary School, The Scout Groups, the youth Club, and the Melling Pensioners Club.

Sadly this year it has been decided that the GP surgery in Melling will not re-open. A meeting was held regarding new arrangements for healthcare and a representative from Melling Parish Council attended the public meeting about the closure of the surgery to maximise as far as we can the information available to residents about GP services.

Last year we installed a bench on the village green which has been widely used and we have recently commissioned an addition bench which will be installed on Station Road in the near future.

Finally, I am pleased to advise that with our new sustainable Christmas lighting we have been able to avoid raising the precept again this year.

Councillor Alan Todd

Chairman Melling Parish Council

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 14th MARCH 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Todd (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker and Harrison.

3208: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Fuller, Ledgerton and Rogers.

3209: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13th February 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13th February 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3210: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3211: Public participation.

Members of staff from Melling nursery attended to share their aspirations to be able to provide additional childcare places within the Parish on the site of the Wheeler Drive field.

3212: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies were noted.

3213: Location of bench.

It was noted that a bench had been ordered for the agreed location on Station Road.

3214: Reports of meetings.

None.

3215: Correspondence.

The clerk confirmed an objection had been submitted in respect of a planning application for an outbuilding on Prescott Road and that an official portrait of King Charles had been requested free of charge.

3216: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3217: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

3218: Exclusion of the press and public.

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded.

3219: Staff pension.

RESOLVED that the Initial Contribution Rate Summary Paper relating to staff pensions be agreed and the clerk to be joined in the Local Government Pension Scheme from 1st April 2024.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 14th MAY 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING**

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.

3220: Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ledgerton be elected as Chairman.

3221: Election of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ashburner be elected as Deputy Chairman.

3222: Apologies for absence

None.

3223: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3224: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th March 2024

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th March 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3225: Public participation

A resident attended to discuss closure of the footpath on Chapel Lane. Cllr Harrison advised that this was understood to be temporary while electric cabling work was carried out. Missed bin collections were also raised and it was advised that this needed to be raised with Sefton. It was also noted that there may be an issue with unauthorised parking in the church car park, however, this is a matter for the occupants to raise themselves if they wish to do so.

A resident attended to discuss the cost of paint used by another resident to paint the bench at the end of Station Road and Parish Councillors offered to cover the cost of the paint personally.

A representative from Melling Nursery attended to discuss aspirations for extending the nursery provision in the parish.

3226: Childcare provision within the parish

It is resolved that:

1. The Parish Council supports in principle the need for the additional provision of high quality childcare within the parish boundary; and
2. Should any party wish to submit a planning application to Sefton for the provision of childcare on the site of the Wheeler Drive field the Parish Council will publish such draft application and consider the content of the same at its next meeting and will sign any such application as the leaseholder of the field should it be required to do so, subject to any comments received from Melling residents regarding the substance of that application; and
3. Notwithstanding any such application for planning permission being signed by the Parish Council it reserves the right to make any comments or objections to that application subject to any comments received from Melling residents; and

4. In the event that planning permission is granted and subject to the timely commencement of building works the Parish Council will make a further resolution as to the surrender or otherwise of its lease on the part of the field required for the provision of the childcare facility.

3227: Lease of playing field.

RESOLVED that the ongoing lease of the playing field on Wheeler Drive be approved at a cost of £5.00 per year.

3228: Annual Governance and Accountability Returns 2023/24

RESOLVED that:

1. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24 be received;
2. Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 be approved; and
3. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2023/24 be approved.

3229: Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Batten Hughes be appointed as internal auditor to complete the Annual Internal Audit Report for the financial years 2024/25 and that their fee of £144 for the year be approved.

3230: Appointment of representatives

RESOLVED that:

1. A cancellation notice be submitted to LALC from the end of the current year and Cllrs Fuller and Rogers be appointed as representatives to LALC for the remainder of this year to make enquiries of the NALC/LALC executive to see whether the service can be improved to provide value for money in future years;
2. No representatives be appointed to MALC;
3. Cllr Fuller be appointed as representative to South Sefton Communities Alliance.

3231: Working groups

RESOLVED that this item be deferred until the next available meeting.

3232: Planning Applications

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3233: Reports of meetings

Cllr Todd reported on the Air Training Corps annual presentation which was well attended.

3234: Correspondence

Cllr Ashburner reported on information provided by residents involved in an accident on the HTL bus and having advised them to contact the company directly to report the problem.

The clerk reported on correspondence received that raised the same issues previously dealt with during public participation.

It was noted that there have been reports of deer being hit by cars on Brewery Lane and a request was made for deer signs in that area to warn motorists.

3235: Storage and correspondence address at Maghull Town Hall.

RESOLVED that:

1. The storage cupboard currently located at Maghull Town Hall be moved to the Alt Centre in Hightown;

2. The annual cost of storage and provision of a correspondence address at either Maghull Town Hall or Hightown be approved pro rata in the sum of £519.98 (inc VAT);
3. The cost of moving the cupboard be approved up to £50.

3236: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 11th JUNE 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ashburner (in the chair), Baker, Fuller and Todd.

3237: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Harrison, Ledgerton and Rogers.

3238: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 14th May 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th May 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3239: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3240: Public participation.

None.

3241: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that:

1. The casual vacancies were noted; and
2. The application received from Clive Greenwood be deferred to the next meeting.

3242: Grant application.

RESOLVED that:

1. The grant application received from Melling in Bloom for the sum of £650 for the maintenance of the village green ne approved; and
2. A representative from Melling in Bloom be invited to come along to a meeting later in the year to discuss the grant applications for next year.

3243: Reports of meetings.

Cllr Fuller reported on the last Alliance meeting.

3244: Correspondence.

The clerk confirmed that the storage cabinet had been moved from Maghull Town Hall to Hightown and that an official portrait of King Charles had been received and Cllr Todd will check whether the scouts would like it for Caunce Hall. It was also noted that the lock on the noticeboard outside the Bootle Arms was broken and this could not be accessed at the moment and would need to be repaired. Correspondence has been received regarding planning issues from the nursery school provider and they have been advised to direct any further queries to Sefton. Cllr Todd reported on information from residents about changes to the 345 bus service.

3245: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3246: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 9th JULY 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Greenwood and Todd.

3247: Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Harrison and Rogers.

3248: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 11th June 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th June 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3249: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3250: Public participation.

None.

3251: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that Clive Greenwood be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council.

3252: Bus Survey.

RESOLVED that the survey responses should be redacted and a proposal prepared from the notes of the working group meeting.

3253: Reports of meetings.

None.

3254: Correspondence.

A resident reported an overgrown footpath which has been reported to Sefton.
A resident reported the cancellation of the bus service when the school sports day was taking place as the bus could not get down Wheeler Drive because of all the parked cars blocking the road.

3255: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that:

1. Comments should be submitted in respect of the amended application for the Land East of Maghull in the same terms as previously set out;
2. The applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3256: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

Ledgerton
10.7.24

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 10th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Fuller, Greenwood, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.

3257: Apologies for absence.

None.

3258: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 10th July 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10th July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3259: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

3260: Public participation.

None.

3261: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3262: Bus Survey.

RESOLVED that the proposal following the recently concluded bus survey be forwarded to Arriva and Liverpool City Region with an invitation for representatives to attend the next meeting.

3263: Christmas lights.

RESOLVED that:

1. The quote of £1,280 plus VAT to put new switches into lamp posts on Prescott Road be approved;
2. The new switches to be put in lamp posts around the roundabout outside the garage and Alba pub and the roads leading to it; and
3. The agreed positions of all lights to now remain for the next 4 years before further review to ensure that the provision of the lights remains sustainable.

3164: Remembrance wreath.

RESOLVED that a donation of £50 in respect of a remembrance wreath be approved.

3265: Reports of meetings.

Cllr Fuller reported on information received from a meeting of the Asthma and Lung UK group regarding air quality and also an upcoming meeting between South Sefton Alliance and Sefton Council.

S. Ledgerton 8/10/2024 / 1

3266: Correspondence.

A resident reported on a collision with a deer on Waddicar Lane and it was agreed that a report would be sent to Sefton requesting deer warning signs in the area.

Cllr Baker reported on correspondence from Sefton planning confirming that no applications had been submitted in respect of Fox House Farm which is currently up for auction.

3267: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3268: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON 8th OCTOBER 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Harrison and Todd.

- 3269:** Apologies for absence.
Cllrs Fuller, Greenwood and Rogers.
- 3270:** Minutes of the annual meeting held on 10th September 2024.
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10th September 2024 be approved as a correct record.
- 3271:** Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
Cllr Todd declared an interest in item 10.
- 3272:** Public participation.
None.
- 3273:** Casual vacancies.
RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.
- 3274:** Melling bus routes.
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available meeting.
- 3275:** Melling in bloom.
Members received an update on the work of Melling in Bloom from 5 of it's members.
- 3276:** King's official portrait.
RESOLVED that the portrait of the King provided to the Parish Council be passed to the scout group to be displayed in Counce Hall.
- 3277:** Reports of meetings.
Cllr Harrison reported on a discussion with a representative of Rowland homes indicating that the footpath by the building site won't re-open for 6 months.
Cllr Ashburner reported on a discussion with a police officer who advised that very few incidents are reported to them in Melling and residents should be encouraged to report any concerns using the Mersey Police online reporting tool.
- 3278:** Correspondence.
Correspondence from Rowland homes to be passed to Cllr Fuller for consideration.
- 3279:** Planning Applications.
RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3280: Cashflow as at 30th June 2024.
The cashflow report was noted.

3281: Noticeboard repairs.
It was noted that the clerk had authorised repairs to the lock on the noticeboard at the Bootle Arms in the sum of £31 under delegated authority.

3282: Accounts paid and for payment.
RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

S. Ledger
12/11/24

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 12th NOVEMBER 2024 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Baker, Harrison, Fuller, Rogers and Todd.

3283: Apologies for absence.
Cllr Greenwood.

3284: Minutes of the annual meeting held on 8th October 2024.
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 8th October 2024 be approved as a correct record.

3285: Declarations of interest - Members were invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
No Councillor Declared an Interest

3286: Public participation.

3287: Casual vacancies.
RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3288: Canal and Rivers Trust update.
Suzanne Shooman from the Canal and Rivers Trust provided detailed information on the work undertaken by her staff and volunteers in maintaining and upgrading the towpath along the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. She mentioned that they are unable to provide rubbish bins as they do not have the means to empty them. One of the Cllrs. raised the issue of youngsters consuming drugs on the Canal where it goes under the M57 Bridge. Suzanne mentioned they tend to regularly cut back bushes and vegetation in order to keep the towpath safe for users and remove any graffiti, which tends to be mainly on bridges. She indicated that any fly tipping can be reported on 0303 040 4040. She also indicated that they are always looking for volunteers and can also provide Community Walks along the canal if required.

3289: Melling bus routes.
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available meeting.

3290: Delph Maintenance.
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available meeting.

3291: Christmas 2024
Following a lengthy discussions on the cost of purchasing Christmas gifts, Members resolved to agree to allocate £800 for the purchase of presents for various members of the community. The Chair Cllrs: Ledgerton agreed to contact ASDA to see if ASDA could provide any discount on the selection boxes to be purchased and Cllr. Rogers volunteered to provide any assistance required as per last year.

- 3292: Gifts for retiring/long serving Councillors.**
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available meeting.
- 3293: Reports of meetings.**
None.
- 3294: Correspondence.**
Cllr. Rogers indicated that she has received correspondence from Sefton Council stating that they were unable to erect any Deer warning signs on the Highway unless Sefton MBC agreed. The cost of doing so was £150.
Cllr. Ashburner stated that issues had been raised relating to over grown bushes along Tithebarn Lane that were causing obstructions for wheelchair users. Cllr. Ashburner agreed to investigate.
- 3295: Planning Applications.**
RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.
- 3296: Budget and Precept 2025/26.**
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available meeting.
- 3297: Meetings 2025.**
Members considered the proposed dates of Parish Council meeting for 2025 and resolved to agree them.
- 3298: Accounts paid and for payment.**
RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

M. Kundi – Locum Clerk to the Council.

S. Ledger
14/1/25