**7/8th February 2020 Public Open Events**

***Purpose:*** *To gather feedback and comments on all aspects of the proposed changes to the Melton NP for this current ‘refresh.’ Feedback was also sought on CIL spend ideas.*

43 resident attendees over the two events, plus additional attending Parish Councillors.

Online Survey also launched asking same questions.

All comments are written verbatim.

***A Climate Change State of Emergency***

Comments:

We need specific actions i.e. tree planting, EV charging, Renewables (planning permission).

The Government says Councils should NOT be building on flood plains – which has been happening consistently in Melton.

The most important issue of all – Catch 22 situation.

#1 (Personal Development Plan by SCC to cut carbon emissions) – needs 21st July.

Not sure if East Suffolk Council’s heart is in it given their weak “positive work” statement.

***Sizewell C update***

Comments:

Nuclear power is carbon!

Must not happen!

***Village Hall consultation***

Comments:

Time and money for upkeep if toilets are public etc.

Facilities for young people!

**Divestment of green spaces planned from ESC and identification of others**

Comments:

We need as many green spaces as possible to offset the huge amount of building / concrete and FLOODING.

Behind the even-numbered houses in Hope Crescent there is an area of ancient woodland which isn’t coloured green on your map. Please check it is included in the E.S.C.

**Ongoing issue with Hopkins Homes over the former bowling green and other community facilities at St. Audrey’s i.e. cricket ground**

Comments:

Bowling Green now has community asset value protection until 2024.

Green space use is viable. Community Orchard.

Bowls green was neglected for 10 years and made derelict through Developer actions and preparation for building.

Cricket club provides sporting and social opportunities for 100+ members, all ages, both sexes. It is a valuable community asset. Please support cricket club to secure its future.

Cricket ground is in fact a community sports facility run by St Audry’s Sports and Social Club offering football and cricket to boys and girls, women and men.

St Audry’s club has approx.. 100 social members, 150 junior cricketers, 30 women cricketers, 30 adult male cricketers and 5 football teams!

350 locals – such a community asset!

**Removal of hedgerows during development**

Comments:

Need to link green spaces deliberately.

Woods Lane hedgerow was removed as first action of Longfield development. Are they required to re-instate?

Agree as we all understood the green hedgerows should not have been removed.

HH removed 30 metres of 50 year old hedgerow as part of bowls green building site prep.

Re: Longfields development – Some new hedging has been planted near the Woods Lane roundabout but more is needed in the ‘social housing’ roadside area and continued to the end of the development along Woods Lane. This green planting would benefit the residents as well as shielding hard structures.

**GAH development noise issues**

Comments:

Will complete by Easter 2020.

Any major planning application should have a detailed proposed method of working including hours of work and noise levels!

***Yarmouth Road Application***

Comments:

This was a massive win.

**Mel4: Public transport**

Proposal: This policy to remain broadly the same but will be tweaked to include encouragement of any new Community Transport Schemes.

Comments:

More buses 800 P&R.

But we still need more co-operation from Highways/the County.

Community Transport Schemes are not cheap and need dedicated volunteers. Melton is already covered by Coastal Accessible Transport. A cheaper option might be to use CIL money to provide ‘top-up’ funding to enhance the existing bus services.

**Mel9: Village Hall**

Proposal: We will keep this broadly similar BUT re-word so that it is more generally about the provision of these facilities in whatever way possible and in terms of a new building could be EITHER a newly built Pavilion OR a Village Hall and so less specific on it just being a village hall.

Comments:

When?

Can we afford the upkeep?

Consider the needs to young people.

Refurbished existing pavilion with WC facility preferable to larger development near the car park.

Need to debate reference to retaining “where possible” protected trees. Generally needs to be a lot less prescriptive about the facilities provided.

Keep to the concept of the existing building and its facilities. Do not develop into a concept that nobody will use in the longer term.

Re-build a small discreet building on the current footprint. Keep the name ‘Pavilion’ but the current building was built in a time when changing rooms were essential for cricket and football teams. The new building should be a ‘facilities’ building, offering WC for parents and children using the play area.

Many Parish Councils in Cornwall have been forced to manage WC’s near beaches, following County Councils refusing to pay. The now use money operated locking door to control access. The cash taken does not fully fund the operation but contributes towards it and also offers a limited security aspect. The design should be low maintenance, eco-friendly and vandal proof. Plug in facilities for a pop up coffee / street food stall etc. Vendors pay MPC to use a pitch beside Pavilion. Keep car parking at the current location and size to maximise the football pitch sizes (2 x pitches for teenage players).

**Mel12: Protected green space**

Proposal: We will look at adding the former Bowling Green and Cricket Ground at St Audrys. We also need to engage with the public to check where there may be other green spaces we need to protect.

Comments:

Public footpaths?

Land at the back of Whitwell House / Hospital Grove. Protect the land in private land.

Land at back of Hospital Grove @ Whitwell House. Protect the private land.

St Audry’s Golf Course make sure it’s protected in private ownership.

Coastal Path – through Melton protection.

Please protect private land by hairdresser, opposite Hopkins Offices. (x 2 comments)

St Audry’s Churchyard protect the land all the land including to rear of Church.

Protect the shelter belt (N.W. Hospital Grove) Northwest Corner of Hospital Grove needs protection.

Chapel at St Audry’s.

Green Space on map marked next to St Andrews/Station Road – this is not listed but is on the map as a protected green space.

What about green space in St Andrews Close?

Need to include the divested spaces.

Melton Park – can we protect the woodland behind Whitwell House plus footpath.

Green space near St. Andrews Place.

**Mel15: Houseboats**

Proposal: We will slightly re-word this policy to include ‘commercial’ boats due to the fact that the Deben Bar on HMS Vale was given permission because our current policy only covers residential moorings.

Comments:

Can House boats count to housing target?

Deben Café is a good facility.

The Deben Café is a much needed local resource, not a problem!

**Mel20: Carter/Warburg allocation**

* Point 10 – we have asked Highways for a transport survey and written opinion for this site allocation. Highways have already said that they would object to any proposal for housing that did not include a direct link for pedestrians and cyclists to the station.
* We will add a new point about there having to be a Net Biodiversity Gain on site. Including planting of new trees, protection of hedgerows etc. We will seek advice from SWT on this.

**Non Land Use Issues:**

* Take out point 2 as now done
* Take out point 11 as now done
* Do we need Points 7 and 9?
* Points 3 and 4 in the Longer Term bit should be in the first section.

Comments:

There has been some strange activity on the site…. Dumping things – ploughing up – what are they up to?

Flooding a huge problem potentially.

What about the infrastructure to go along with this?

A pedestrian crossing near Melton Riverside/Wilford Bridge should be a high priority.

Hear, Hear.

Agree.

Agree – No to St Andrews Place access – ridiculous.

Is there anything we could include in the NP to try to protect (or encourage the protection of) existing mature trees?

**Additions to current Policies (not sure where appropriate) OR additional Policies:**

1. Proposal: New policy that requires a Construction Management Plan for all developments and reference things such as noise esp. in built up areas.
2. Proposal: Add back our section on St Audrys.
3. Proposal: A new policy which encourages renewable energy – small, local windfarms, solar energy fields – are there any suitable sites?

E.G a Policy like the following:

Proposals for individual and community scale energy from hydro-electricity, solar photovoltaic panels, local biomass facilities, anaerobic digestions and wood fuel products will be supported subject to the following criteria: • the siting and scale of the proposed development is appropriate to its setting and position in the wider landscape; and • the proposed development does not create an unacceptable impact on the amenities of local residents; and • the proposed development does not have an unacceptable impact on a feature of natural or biodiversity importance.

1. Proposal: A new policy which encourages Energy Efficient development – building materials used, eco energy generating devices installed etc?
2. Proposal: Green Infrastructure - Development proposals should seek to maintain and enhance the connectivity of all green corridors where possible. Identify opportunities for new tree and woodland planting in the parish. Protection of hedges.

Comments:

Encourage reasonably priced supermarket so residents don’t have to travel to Aldi or Tesco at Martlesham Heath.

Add Ground Source Heat Pumps

Refer to Sustainable Wood Fuel

Identify an ‘Environment’ MPC Councillor to co-ord all these ideas and liase with other councils etc Raise status.

Other General comments:

Melton Playing Field drainage – dredge the stream along the roadside which appears to have some plant growth which could soon block the flow. This may also help the boggy ground between the tennis courts and the Pavilion.

Footpaths in the Parish – various areas on some footpaths/bridleways always suffer from boggy patches. Could some re-surfacing or timber walkway be provided? (Love Lane / Waterhead Lane etc)

Riverbank cycle way – Woodbridge TC are keen to look at a cycle way from Wilford Bridge, via Woodbridge to Martlesham Creek. Can we work with WTC to try to overcome issues of pedestrian/cycle use.

What do Melton Primary School need?

**CIL Spend Ideas**

New Pavilion – replace current building.

Comments:

What is the pavilion for?

Pathetic that MPC is way behind villages such as Waldringfield, Coddenham, Henley and Westleton.

Without question the current pavilion either needs replacing or requires a major overhaul. It doesn’t need to be larger, keep to the same footprint. (x 3 comments)

Should be regarded as a community centre, not a pavilion or village hall.

Use CIL money for local amenity protection via St Audry’s Club and Bowls Green.

Sustainable as a pavilion?

Replace but keep footprint and its use the same.

Design of community centre should allow for future extension.

Replacement is needed but doubt we need changing rooms. Probably sufficient to have storage and a toilet. Needs to be robust and vandal proof.

New Pavilion – with public toilets, meeting facilities, café etc.

Comments:

Yes this is definitely needed.

No need for a meeting room, toilets definitely needed for summer time with kids.

Possibly re-site closer to car park for servicing access but please do keep any new building modest! Consider long-term financial implications.

Yes with toilets – not sure if a meeting room or café is sustainable. An outside (small) seating area would be great. A few quality benches and a small planted space would be an attractive enhancement.

Don’t we already have a meeting room?

Would a meeting room be used? MPC have a lovely meeting space which could be rented occasionally.

Could not the fabulous meeting room at the new council office be made available for hire or a public meeting room? If so would one in the pavilion be necessary?

Should base design on the floor area of the small hall at Lindos Centre which was well used.

Pavilion with toilets a minimum.

Would a café / community café draw more villagers – toilets too. This has huge potential.

(4 positive - mainly for café and WC. Meeting room less popular)

Road Safety Measure on Melton Road – refuges, pedestrian crossing, cycling and pedestrian improvements.

Comments:

Yes!

Busy Road much needed.

Definitely need new crossing for park from school.

Yes please. Very dangerous now…need double yellow lines by Hackney Road.

Only if research shows these measures are needed – otherwise no.

Pedestrians – family / Bury Hill crossing / Woods Lane / Leeks Hill – How can make this safer? Signs? Clearing?

A Pedestrian crossing at Wilford Bridge.

Yes – there certainly needs to be a safe crossing point.

Fence alongside pedestrian path on Woods Lane. Woods Lane paths feels unsafe for families – cars close!!

Extra 30mph signs on Woods Lane.

Crossing at Woodbridge end of Turnpike Lane. Very dangerous – no sight line and traffic exceeding speed limit.

Corner of Bredfield Road / Woods Lane is dangerous for pedestrians – a pathway is badly needed.

Definitely need a crossing near the playing fields.

From Family Zebra crossing across Melton Road rather than an island.

Improved pedestrian access to Woodbridge.

Yes but Woods Lane needs improved safety measures e.g. 30mph speed limit sign needs to be re-located. Footpath is too close. Close to speeding vehicles in downhill section.

Junction of Woods Lane and Bredfield Road needs improving for vehicles and pedestrians.

(9 positive / 5 comments about Woods Lane)

Security barrier at entrance to Melton Playing Fields to close park at night.

Comments:

Yes.

Definitely.

Yes.

Yes I think that is needed.

Yes. Although is people want to get in they will no matter how secure the barrier is!

Yes definitely.

Yes definitely – but decision must be made in tandem with re-siting Pavilion.

Yes definitely – especially is other ideas for the playing fields are progressed e.g. re-siting pavilion.

(All 8 positive)

Adult exercise equipment

Comments:

Great idea!

Yes!

Yes could be linked with other activities based in the pavilion e.g. slimming / fitness club

This is a good idea

Yes!

No bad idea! More junk on green space which needs maintaining and reduces open area.

This could be a target for vandalism.

This is rarely used elsewhere – no!

Most are not used elsewhere – think it’s a waste of money.

Research would need to be done on how well used this equip is on other sites – e.g. Bawdsey. If not would not be a priority as there are many other opportunities for maintaining fitness.

(5 positive / 4 negative / 1 neutral)

Skatepark / Scooter area

Comments:

No too dangerous.

Yes! Need things for young people.

Great.

No.

Yes!

How would this be managed – especially in evening / overnight. Lighting / access / insurance / security. More complex than the idea suggests.

Not a priority. Does the demographic composition if Melton (now and future) suggest this is a necessary project?

Yes. Woodbridge and Ipswich park is valued, as is Wickham.

Does not float my boat.

Yes! Must have amenity provision for teenagers.

Might be ‘last years’ thing for young people.

Skatepark keeps teenagers enjoying and off the streets.

This idea was proposed some years ago – not taken up due to many valid objections. The area around any such skate park would be churned up by the young people awaiting their turn, plus encouraging more meeting places for drug abuse etc.

(6 positive / 4 negative / 2 neutral)

Improved play equipment at Melton Playing Fields

Comments:

Yes, if the current equipment is well used.

Yes I support this. The current equipment appears well used.

Use existing equipment as well. Set up a tennis club aka Woodbridge TC. Children especially.

Yes and lots of it, very popular.

Enough money spent so far, apart from updates when it needs it.

Yes, present equipment well used.

Sufficient equipment at present. Even zip wire not used much.

Has been many recent improvements so not needed for some time.

What about the other areas which have nothing?

(5 positive, 4 negative, 1 neutral)

Running track at Melton Playing Fields

Comments:

Useful.

No – not in isolation. Would need a whole new site if used for competitive events. If it is not used for these events it would not be necessary.

No – would be better sited at St Audry’s Social Club / Cricket Ground.

No – don’t support this.

Yes – but will it be used?

Good idea even if like that distance markers like Ufford Park walk.

No would hardly ever be used.

No not needed. Too many dog walkers use playing fields.

Yes. Park runs are well attended and encourage all the family to join in.

(5 negative, 4 positive)

Full sized goal at Melton Playing Fields

Comments:

Would not be used.

Is there a need?

Waste of money and unnecessary.

Look at all facilities how used? Which football clubs already use for practice. Melton football club??? Needs selling up.

Improved Multi Use Games Area for netball, basketball and football – at Melton Playing Fields.

Comments:

Useful.

Lots of associated costs e.g. floodlights, changing areas of sufficient standard etc. Good to improve current facilities if long term implications are sensitively costed.

Yes. Opportunities to improve fitness badly needed.

Not suitable for the site – green area is more valuable.

Great – like this.

Looks expensive and intrusive.

Have 2 basketball hoops so can play a game.

Existing is sufficient. It is well used.

Think what we have is sufficient. Well used in summer. Rather keep fields as is.

Yes to netball and basketball – less intrusive than football.

(4 positive, 4 negative, 2 neutral)

Improvements to play area in Hall Farm Road

Comments:

Hall Farm site needs investment.

Yes

If residents in estate agree it is needed.

Yes, if people living on the Estate agree. This requires consultation with residents.

Community Garden at Hall Farm Road

Comments:

Yes

Yes

Wont be used

Yes we agree

High priority!

Yes supported! Should be run by residents themselves if wanted.

Excellent idea if there is a demand.

If residents in the Estate want it and it will be used.

Yes, if people living on the Estate agree. This requires consultation with residents.

This should be given HIGH PRIORITY. Encourages people outside in community projects – esp. school children and young people, proven to be high in value.

Allotments

Comments:

Yes!

Yes

Yes

Definitely

Yes good idea

Deffo yes

V Good idea

Good to have Parish Allotments rather than limited private ones

V good idea to have parish allotments – a good social and community point.

Yes excellent idea

Yes please – a brilliant idea

Fantastic idea

Yes great idea so long as they are properly serviced with water etc.

Are there any other CIL projects you think should be considered?

Comments:

Bus shelters

Sun or rain shelters at park

Best use of funds would be to support acquisition of St Audry’s Social club and land (x 5)

Rickshaw tuk/tuk travel

Move Melton Village sign further up Woods Lane so that the new development feels part of the village.

Benches.

Crossings. Cycle Paths. Cycle parks.

More quality benches (perhaps memorial) positioned in small groups around the playing field. Current provision is inadequate.

A professionally produced guide to walks in Melton and the immediate area (x 3)

More ‘About Melton’ boards like the one located on Melton station platform. One on the playing fields would be good.

A ‘quiet place’ on Melton playing fields with plants and benches etc. would need properly maintain but would be of value and could be planned / maintained with commercial partners. (x2) – similar to the ‘quiet space’ at the back of Notcutts.