

# Melton Park Management Company

## Summer Newsletter August 2020

### Annual General Meeting Thursday October 15th 2020

The AGM, subject to Covid-19 restrictions, will be held at **St Audry's Sports and Social Club** at 7.30pm, to receive the directors' report on the financial year 2019-20 and the budget for the forthcoming year 2021-22. Nominations for new directors can be received up to the week prior to the AGM - forms from the secretary - [alanmurraympmc@gmail.com](mailto:alanmurraympmc@gmail.com). There will be a presentation and discussion on the future management of the woodlands based on our ecology and management reports.

### **Roads Resurfacing**

In late June resurfacing of shingle roads was completed in Clements Road and parts of Scott Lane and Cages Way. The work, over some 5 days, caused many residents considerable disruption to their normal parking and your cooperation was greatly appreciated.

### **Woodland Signage**

New and updated signs at the main entrance points to our woodland have been erected recently and paths more clearly marked with woodchip surfaces. Unofficial paths have been blocked off. Some

refurbishment of the red way-markers may follow in due course.

### **Play Areas**

Our play areas at Garrod Approach and Scott Lane have remain closed due to the Govt Covid 19 advice, but with new advisory signage we aim to reopen these as soon as practicable.

### **Planning Application - Land off Yarmouth Road.**

"Care Village comprising an 80 bedroom care home together with 75 assisted care bungalows, cafe?/club house, bowling green, car parking, open space provision with associated infrastructure and access".

A new application for a care home and associated accommodation has been submitted by the same developer who withdrew their appeal in 2018 for housing at this location. The site is not supported for development within Melton's Neighbourhood Plan, has been opposed by Melton Parish Council and will shortly be considered formally by East Suffolk Planning. There have been over 200 neighbour and consultee responses. Progress on the application can be followed at East Suffolk planning, application DC/20/1521/FUL. The date

for the planning committee meeting is not yet published.

### **News from the St Audry's Sports & Social Club.**

The club is now open. The club management committee worked hard during lock down and with the help of a grant from East Suffolk Council, redecoration has been achieved. New tables and a glass washer have been bought. The Club is presently open Saturday from 1pm to 6pm and Sunday lunchtimes. All Melton Park residents are welcome to visit or join and sit in the sun to enjoy the cricket with a pint or a glass of wine. Membership is £15.00 per annum or £5.00 for those of retirement age. It is pleasant to stroll along for a drink and not worry about drink driving.

**A new Pilates Group** has started by Abi Darke (a local resident), on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Mornings- telephone and email :- 07715 575058 -abi@bestpilates.co.uk. Please contact her for availability.

**Ladies Soft Ball Cricket** is aiming to provide for a new venture on Friday evenings (with Prosecco) - please contact Mark Whitmore at :- mark@thewhitmores.net.

**Friday September 25<sup>th</sup>**; 11.00 MACMILLIAN COFFEE MORNING and Table Top sale

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Contact:- Lesley Sharman  
07872 601209 Email:  
[lesleysharman69@gmail.com](mailto:lesleysharman69@gmail.com)

Tables cost £5.00 for a small table /£10.00 for a large one. Donations of cakes are welcome for the coffee morning, please give Lesley a call.

**Advertising Hoardings** The club has the ideal advertising space to promote your business at £100 per year + £50 banner printing costs.

### **MPMC Woodland News**

Since taking over responsibility for the woods from Hopkins Homes we have been gradually improving the health and species diversity of the woodlands at the same time as ensuring the safety of residents using the woods for recreation. What this incremental approach has lacked is a longer term strategic vision for future decades. The prevalence of disease among several species of forest trees - ash die-back, acute oak decline and leaf miner in horse chestnuts - has brought the need for a more strategic approach into sharp focus. Unless we take action now we could lose many of our mature trees without successor trees to replace them. Following on from two professional ecological

assessments, last year we employed arboricultural consultants New Woods Forestry to draw up a Management Plan using the Forestry Commission template and guidelines. They have now completed their report and it has been approved by the Forestry Commission. This Plan provides us with recommendations for work over the next 10 years, and allows us to implement a programme of felling and replanting in line with these recommendations. It is worth noting that the Management Plan does not commit us to implementing any of the recommendations. Our approach to implementation is for the Board to determine, with approval from the AGM. The Management Plan is quite a technical, repetitive and rather bureaucratic document containing many charts, tables and appendices. We will shortly be producing a summary of the main points, recommendations for how we might respond and costings for implementation. These will be contained in the next MPMC Newsletter and also posted on the MPMC website along with a copy of the Management Plan. There will be a specific agenda item at

the October AGM which will allow residents to engage with the Plan and agree a way forward.

### **Access to woodlands from resident's gardens**

The Board's attention has been drawn to the increasing number of residents gaining access directly from their gardens, via gates into the woodlands and establishing new paths. We have previously aired the dumping of garden waste, which we actively discourage and have spent considerable amounts of shareholder's funds clearing away. Please DO NOT dump waste in the woods.

### **Email addresses**

The MPMC Secretary keeps a secure list of shareholder's email addresses in line with GDPR rules. Please make sure your latest contact details are lodged with the secretary via [alanmurraympmc@gmail.com](mailto:alanmurraympmc@gmail.com) Whilst we fully understand the need for privacy, email addresses for rapid communication have proved very useful, such as in the recent road resurfacing. We try to address shareholder's queries and problems as quickly as possible and email is best suited to this.

**Note for diary - AGM October 15th 2020 - 7.30pm St Audry's Sports and Social Club.**