

# MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**PRESENT: Councillors:** R James, G Slora, A Parry  
E Edwards, B Keavy  
C Monks  
**District Councillor:** A Parry  
**County Councillor:** A Parry  
**Clerk :** P Routly

4 members of the public

### **1. Public participation**

None.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Gordon

### **3. Governance**

#### **a) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

None.

#### **b) Freedom of Information**

No new requests.

#### **c) Code of Conduct - DPI**

No Updates.

### **4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Parry, seconded by Cllr Keavy, and unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

### **5. District Councillors' Report – Cllr Parry**

Cllr Parry presented her pre-circulated report:-

#### **Coronavirus**

SDC is working closely with Warwickshire County Council and Public Health Warwickshire regarding Coronavirus. All non-decision making internal and external meetings have been cancelled; all staff who can work from home will be working remotely. There is a fast-changing environment and the Leader is holding daily Cabinet updates/video conferencing calls to minimize meetings.

Recommendation from SDC is for ward members to liaise closely with parishes and ensure that the elderly and vulnerable residents are identified and where possible set up a group of community volunteers who can assist with the delivery of essential provisions and medicines to those living on their own or households needing to self-isolate. Larger parishes will have adopted Emergency Planning procedures already in place which they are implementing.

### **Budgets**

The Medium Term Financial Plan 2020/21 to 2024/25 was approved at Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> February and means that the Council Tax will increase by £5 for a Band D property to £144.12 and pro-rata for other bands. Whilst SDC is responsible for the collection of the Council Tax it actually receives less than 8% in terms of revenue.

The approved new budget includes a £500k allocation towards Climate Emergency and also funding for a Core Strategy Review.

The Council also agreed to support a campaign that shops and other retail premises should not leave their doors open – the ‘Close the Door’ Campaign.

The motion to defer the introduction of the green bin charges by six months was rejected and therefore SDC will join 70% of other local authorities to introduce a subscription charge for this discretionary service, which has been forced upon the council in view of the shortfall in government funding. Food caddies together with the grey and blue bins will continue to be collected and emptied as part of mandatory services. Information regarding the green bin charges will be sent out with the Council Tax notices.

### **Wellesbourne Airfield**

The Leader and members of the senior management team have had a meeting with Jeremy Wright MP and Paul Maynard MP the Minister for Aviation at Westminster in February to reinforce the importance and role that Wellesbourne Airfield provides through its flying functions across the district and regionally.

## **6. County Councillors’ Report – Cllr Parry**

Cllr Parry presented her pre-circulated report: -

### **Coronavirus**

In keeping with the national guidance, WCC is working with colleagues to keep schools open, and people coming to work. However, this is a fast-changing situation and so WCC recognises that things may change over the coming days and weeks, with decisions taken based on scientific evidence.

I wish to reassure residents that WCC and its Public Health Warwickshire team are working round the clock, but in a calm, strategic and proactive way, in close liaison with Public Health England for the people and communities of Warwickshire. WCC is also prioritising staffing resources towards safeguarding children and child-care, vulnerable adults, home care services and schools.

Warwickshire is also working closely with Coventry and Solihull, which follows the extensive Flu Epidemic Training all three areas and their multi-agency partners carried out together in December 2019, and as a result are better prepared than other regions to respond to Covid-19.

### **Full Council**

At the Full County Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February both the Council Plan from 2020 to 2025 was approved together with the Budget for 20/21 BS RGW 2929-2025 Medium Term Financial Strategy. The County Council Tax is to rise by 3.99% which includes 2% to be

ringfenced for Adult Social Care. This means that the budget for Adult Social Care will be increased to £182 million (receiving an extra £15m revenue) and £187 million for education and children (an extra £18m revenue) giving children the best possible start in life. WCC is also investing £27million in the fire service and also £50 million in improving the quality of our residents' roads.

WCC has allocated a budget of £7million over five years to implement Climate Change strategies and the county will include increased spending on flood defences, investing in its green fleet of cars and charging points for electric vehicles.

Another Full Council Meeting is being held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March which I shall be attending.

## **7. Warwickshire College Report**

WCC submitted the following report, which was read by Cllr James:-

### **Farm**

There are currently 430 head of cattle on the farm. The feed efficiency trials we are carrying out with Genus are going well and some interesting data is being collected. The data is not only used by Genus but also by our agriculture and animal welfare students as part of their studies. The viewing platform in the parlour has been reinstated for use as a classroom and a space to host external visitors.

The arable land is still extremely wet and we are hoping some of the lighter land dries up enough to plant some Spring Barley towards the end of March/beginning of April.

The ewes are now inside ready to start lambing on the 10th of March and were looking forward to welcoming the public to our lambing event on the 21st and 22nd.

### **Estates**

We have been busy since the severe wet weather in December exploring options to prevent stormwater from the fields flooding certain areas of the upper campus. A contractor has been deployed to construct a bund wall at the rear of the construction building, whilst further advice is sought from a Drainage Consultant to formulate a permanent plan to protect the building and area. There is also ongoing work to resolve various drainage issues around the site and on a staff property in Lime Tree Drive.

We continue to work to reduce our carbon footprint, working with the Students Union to raise awareness of the amount of waste created on campus, and with the students, we are exploring ways we can reduce waste and increase recycling. In addition, a water fountain without a cup holder and with an elongated dispenser suitable for bottles, has been installed in the Learning Resource Centre to encourage students to use refillable water bottles instead of disposable plastic cups or single use bottles.

### **Moreton Hall**

Landscaping apprentices from Pershore College have continued their work on the Italianate Gardens. In November the restoration work included pond maintenance and the cutting back of a large wester red cedar hedge along the edge of the garden.

### **Staff and Students**

#### **Florist Makes Worldskills UK Training Squad**

Hannah Beckley, who attends Moreton Morrell College, wowed the judges at the WorldSkills UK event in Birmingham in November last year with her intricate arrangements that demonstrated an elite level of flair and creativity. She will join the WorldSkills UK

squad, with the final team being selected to represent their country at the WorldSkills Europe event being held in Graz, Austria, later this year.

### Women's Football Launch

Moreton Morrell College and Leamington FC have joined forces to launch an innovative new women's football academy that will see learners split their time between the classroom and the pitch. The Leamington FC Academic and Sporting Excellence Programme at Moreton Morrell College, is open to female sports enthusiasts aged 16-18. Successful applicants will study for a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sporting Performance & Excellence which will allow young learners to pursue a career in the sports industry or higher education.

### Farrier Apprentices Celebrated

A total of 18 apprentices from the college were recognised at the ceremony held at the Royal Artillery Company in London. The farriers graduated with DipWCF, awarded by the Worshipful Company of Farriers which was founded in 1605 and is one of the livery companies of the City of London. Before the graduation at the Royal Artillery Company, the graduates were also involved in a service held at Wesley's Chapel in Islington. The farriery apprenticeship at Moreton Morrell College typically takes 48 months to complete

### Derrick Osaze visit

Moreton Morrell received a surprise visit from professional boxer Derrick 'Delboy' Osaze. The Nottingham-based fighter, who boasts a 10-0 record, put on a bootcamp for sports students to give them an insight into the life of a professional boxer. Around 50 sport students from the college were involved during the day.

### Lambing and Animals Weekend

Event preparations continue for 21st and 22nd March, when we hope to build on previous event successes by adding in a small 'farmers market' at the lower campus, allowing small local producers to sell their food, drink and other craft items. If any local producer would like to take one of the stalls available, please contact [marketing@wcg.ac.uk](mailto:marketing@wcg.ac.uk) for more details.

### January Open Event

Our second main open event of the year brought in 120 potential students with their families, from which we received 35 new applications on the day, slightly higher than this time last year. It means that our applications for our further education courses at Moreton Morrell continue to be higher than last year as we move into the final months of recruitment for 2020. Our next open event is Saturday March 28th.

Higher Education open events for potential degree students have gone very well so far with an increase in visitor numbers for our October, December and February events. Our final HE Open Event is planned for 25th April.

## **8. Sub Committee Reports and Updates**

- a) **Playing Field – Cllr Edwards lead**
  - i) **Removal of 4 wooden risk items quotes – Clerk**
  - ii) **Oak Tree Close access path - All**
  - iii) **Ongoing repairs - Committee**
  - iv) **Survey feedback – Cllr Edwards**
  - v) **New Equipment - Committee**

Cllr Edwards presented the following report:-

### **Playing field consultation.**

The full results of the recent consultation in the village relating to the playing field are attached to this report and have been compiled by Cllr Parry. The total responses received was 51, and these ranged from age categories under 16 years to 75 years and over. However, the bulk of the responses were in the 25 to 55 age group.

In analysing the responses, it was quite difficult to be clear which Items were the top priority and which were the least priority as looking at average scoring was misleading.

Adding the scores for the top three priorities the ranking was as follows;

Top Priority ( adding scores for top rankings 1,2,3.)

1. Multigym
2. Zip wire
3. Swing basket
4. Equipment for young children
5. Outdoor table tennis table
6. Refurbished skate board park
7. Additional seating benches
8. Small covered seating area

Lowest Priority ( adding scores for lowest rankings 6,7,8.)

1. Additional seating benches
2. Refurbished skateboard park
3. Covered seating area
4. Zip wire
5. Equipment for young children
6. Outdoor table tennis table
7. Swing basket
8. Multigym

Taking this into account it would seem that the equipment that was ranked the top priority and also had the lowest score on the lower priority rankings was as follows :

1. Multigym
2. Swing basket
3. Zip wire, outdoor table tennis table, and equipment for young children all ranked very similarly in relation to their high priority scores and had similar scores on the lower priority rankings.

The equipment which scored lowest on high priority and highest on low priority were as follows:

1. Additional seating benches
2. Refurbished skateboard park
3. Small covered seating area.

Clearly this survey has been useful to help inform the Parish Council in its decisions relating to updating the play area. However, caution needs to be taken as only 51 responses were received and may not be fully representative of the views of the village, although all had the opportunity to respond.

The analysis of the results by different age groups also changes these findings slightly although the zip wire, swing basket and outdoor multigym are popular across all age groups and likewise the additional benches, small seating area and refurbished skate board park are the least popular.

There was also quite a lot of support for some form of multicourt for basketball and/or netball etc , and a mention of lockable storage for sports equipment such as footballs, rounders and table tennis bats etc, which does seem a good idea.

### **Progress to date**

Visits to the play area have now been made by two equipment suppliers. Both suppliers will supply equipment and provide a free design service for the layout of the play area.

However, before we can proceed, we need to decide what equipment we wish to have on the play area and what budget is available.

I have made some tentative enquiries from a couple of sources regarding additional funding but we need a scheme agreed before we can progress this. We also have other issues on the play area which we need to address urgently which will affect the budget available for new equipment. These include removal/repair of unsafe equipment and making safe the access areas to the playing field.

The main access to the playing field currently is very muddy as it is no longer possible to use the driveway of the adjacent house . This matter is hopefully due to be resolved by Stratford District Council who own the land in the near future and it is hoped a new pathway to the main gate can be established at no cost to the Parish Council. The alternative access of the back road to the college / John Taylor way near the new fencing is also very muddy and slippery and needs tarmacking as soon as weather conditions improve, quotes have been obtained for this work.

### **Suggested Next Steps :**

1. The unsafe climbing frame and monkey bars are removed as soon as ground conditions enable this work to be carried out.
2. The skateboard park is removed again as soon as ground conditions enable this work to be carried out.
3. The Access to the playing field from John Taylor way is tarmacked when the weather conditions improve.
4. The two playground suppliers plus one other are asked to do a draft design and costing for a revamped play area to include a zip wire, a swing basket, and outdoor multigym and If possible a multicourt on the hardstanding currently used by the skateboard park which could be used for netball, basketball and maybe an outdoor table tennis area.
5. If funds allow additional equipment for younger children should also be included in the scheme preferably to include some form of climbing frame as this is being removed and at the very least the existing equipment should be cleaned/repainted.
6. Once quotes and the draft schemes have been received, these should be submitted to the PC and shared with the village and a preferred scheme and supplier chosen. If additional funding is needed the scheme should then be submitted to a range of funding agencies to try and get some additional grant aid for the scheme.

The clerk presented two quotes for the removal of the 4 wooden climbing items . One was for £475 and one for £595 . It was resolved unanimously to approve the lower quote, which included removal and make good with a license for disposal of the waste. *Clerk to arrange.*

It was also resolved unanimously based on the survey to remove the skate park (subject to subcommittee approval) . *Clerk to seek quotes in mean time .*

It was resolved to form a small committee including the interested parties in the village to move the new project forward . This would be communicated via the Villager. *Cllr Edwards agreed to lead.*

It was resolved not to tarmac the entrance from John Taylor Way but investigate lower cost solutions, as it was the wettest winter on record. *Committee to investigate.*

In terms of the access and path from Oak Tree Close it was resolved to continue to chase SDC to resolve with the owner of number 12.

**b) Planning – Cllr Parry**  
**i) Housing needs survey feedback and acceptance**

Cllr Parry reported on the Housing Survey outcome. There were 300 surveys distributed and 66 returned, a rate of 22%, which is normal for this type of survey, as only people who have a need usually respond.

The outcome was a need for :-

- 1 x 3 bed bungalow – for rent
- 1 x 2 bed house for shared ownership
- 3 x 3 bed house for purchase

Cllr Parry proposed approval of the report, which will mean the survey goes on record at SDC to inform future applications, this was seconded by Cllr Slora and passed unanimously. *Clerk to add to website and inform WRCC Housing.*

**c) Speed awareness / Road Safety – Cllr Gordon**  
**i) Update on speed gun training**

Cllr Gordon was not present, but the meeting was informed the pothole by the fountain outside the school had now been permanently repaired and a new drain installed.

**d) Village Appearance – All**  
**i) Village Sign – Clerk**  
**ii) Street Light 37 Oak Tree Close - Clerk**

The Clerk informed the meeting that despite requesting information from the police regarding the sign damage on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb they had not responded. *Clerk to chase.*

The Clerk reported that the streetlight outside number 37 Oak Tree Close had been damaged and WCC had been asked to repair. However, there was a concern it may have been hit by a car and we are waiting a report from WCC.

**e) Footpaths – Cllr Slora lead**  
**i) Update**

Cllr Slora filed and made the following report:-

The footpath committee have not had a formal meeting since January 2020.

Footpath SD110

Due to the persistent rain these fields have been under water for most of the last two months. There is a discussion to be had about hard standing on the second style.

Councillors Gordon and Keavy are continuing to get agreement about installing new gates between Little Morrell and Brook Lane.

The buddleia has now been removed from the new path between Brook Lane and Middle Town. The grass was sprayed and has now been mown. Chris Hall is available to price for cutting further footpaths as and when we agree.

**f) Village Hall and Church – Cllr Keavy lead**  
**i) Update**

Cllr James informed the meeting the hall roof had been repaired. There was nothing else to report.

**g) College - Committee**  
**i) Update**

Cllr Edwards informed the meeting she was still awaiting agreement on dates.

**9. Matters arising from previous meetings**

- a) VE day 75th (8/5/20) – All**
- b) Moreton Hall plans**
- c) Litter picking - All**

It was resolved that given the Coronavirus situation VE day on 8/5/20 would be cancelled.

There was no update on hall plans.

Cllr Slora reported that litter picking was conducted, and 10 bags of litter were ‘picked’. Cllr Parry formally thanked Cllr Slora for organising. It was resolved to write to the College to let them know how much litter was present and to ask the College students to keep the parish litter free . *Clerk to write.*

**10. New items**

- a) Coronavirus Measures**
- b) Approval of update risk assessment**

The Coronavirus pandemic was discussed, and the PC action plan discussed. It was agreed to do a leaflet drop and ask Cllrs to volunteer as a point of contact for help people might need. Cllr Parry to lead and all to help distribute an information leaflet in next few days . *Clerk to add to website.*

The Clerk pre-circulated a risk assessment, to support the internal audit. Cllr James proposed its acceptance, Cllr Slora seconded, and it was carried unanimously. *Clerk to add to website.*

**11. Planning**

**a. New Applications to consider at this meeting**

None.

**b. Decisions of committee since last meeting for information**

20/00345/LDE Unrestricted residential C3 dwelling - confirmation that no occupancy conditions exist on the property The Bungalow Fosse Way Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9DF . **No Objection**



**c. District Decisions for information**

20/00352/HHPA The construction of a single storey rear extension which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 4.4m for which the maximum height would be 3.5m and for which the height to the eaves would be 2.2m. Wilcox House Brook Lane Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AT - **Householder Prior Approval Granted**

**12. Finance**

**a) Approval of payments (to be circulated)**

The following payments were proposed by Cllr Slora, seconded by Cllr Monks, and approved unanimously.

1.	M Howarth Planters	£54.12
2.	EON Street Lights elec – Jan/Feb	£206.41
3.	Village Hall rent Mar Mtg	£15.00
4.	P Gibbins – Villager January	£100.00
5.	WCC Allotment rent	£180.00
6.	WCC Street light maintenance	£127.82
7.	P Routly Salary (2 months)	£725.26
8.	P Routly Expenses – Jan/ Feb	£198.11
9.	BT Hall wifi Feb/Mar ( P Routly)	£57.98
10.	PATA Payroll	£18.00
11.	Cllr A Parry survey exp	£42.00
12.	M Howarth – Plants	£60.00

**b) Receipts (to be circulated)**

There were the following receipts:-

1.	Allotment rent	£300.00
2.	VAT return ( TBC )	£1455.19

**13. Correspondence (most circulated by email but these particular items require short discussion)**

**a) Consultation day with Warwickshire County Council – Weds 1st April**

After discussion it was assumed meeting would be cancelled due to Coronavirus

**14. Matters of interest – future meeting agenda items**

Cllr Monks raised the issue of toads crossing and suggested signs may be required. It was resolved to identify where they cross and decide if measure are required.

**15. Any other business allowed by the Chairman as Urgent**

None.

**16. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will held in the Village Hall, Moreton Morrell on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020. (Subject to Coronavirus situation)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.