

MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16th November 2020

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

7 members of the public

Meeting held as Video Conference due to Covid 19

1. Public participation

Teresa Coles McGee from Glencoe Cottage informed the council that they had made an objection to SDC to the new build planning application by Moreton House. She explained they believed it would have a significant impact on their property. Cllr James explained it would be discussed later in the meeting.

Mac Howarth said he would like to raise some issues in the village appearance section of the agenda. Cllr James stated this would be Ok.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Monks due to illness.

3. Governance

a) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

None.

b) Freedom of Information – report on any new requests

None.

c) Code of Conduct / DPI

No updates declared.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 21st September 2020

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21st September 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 pre-circulated her report:-

Coronavirus

SDC's Environmental Health team is continuing to play a pivotal role in responding to the local outbreak plan especially in workplaces and is working closely with WCC and Public Health England to reduce the spread of Coronavirus. Please see my regular updates in respect of the number of cases across the district and the impact on hospitals.

Stratford on Avon District has been hit particularly hard by the impact of COVID-19 and currently has a deficit in the region of £4million due to its economic reliance on the tourism and hospitality industry. The Council Tax monies that SDC receives only accounts for 25% of its revenue and therefore it is having to review its modus operandi just like other businesses impacted this year. From a national perspective Stratford District is the fourth worst hit district council in the country.

On the proposal put forward by the Leader of the Council, all councilors voted against receiving any increases to their allowances until 2023 and in addition it was agreed not to receive the basic travel allowance until further notice either.

SDC is continuing to work closely with Warwick District Council in terms of developing the new waste contract and IT as part of improving efficiencies and reducing costs.

SDC is again extensively involved once again in dealing with both business grants and isolation grants over the next few weeks and therefore there is another opportunity for the Village Hall to receive additional financial help.

New Local Plan

SDC have joined forces with Warwick District Council to develop a joint South Warwickshire Local Plan which when adopted will replace the current Core Strategy. It is envisaged that as neighbouring districts there are many benefits to be achieved by working up a joint plan in addition to substantial cost savings.

Dog Fouling

The old Dog Control Order 2009 has now been replaced by the new Public Spaces Protection (Dog Fouling) Order 2020 which came into effect on 20 October 2020. This will enable authorized officers to issue fixed penalty notices for £100.

Site Allocations Plan

SDC has launched its public consultation for the Site Allocations Plan which includes proposed reserved sites for new housing development in Moreton Morrell. This is a supplementary planning document which when adopted in 2021 will sit alongside the Core Strategy and is designed only to be used in the event that the district falls below its designated housing numbers and in particular the Five Year Housing Land Supply which current stands at seven years.

6. County Councillors' Report – Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry pre-circulated her report:-

Pleased to advise and confirm that children in Warwickshire will not be going hungry over the school holidays. The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme run by Warwickshire County Council, which has already provided £450,000 of support to families through the Covid period, has announced that it is continuing to support our most vulnerable residents. Children who are registered for free school meals will continue to receive financial support through the school holidays.

The Scheme not only benefits those children eligible for free school meals, but also their younger non-school age siblings aged 2 years or above. And it's not just over this October half-term, but over all other school holidays as well. This initiative will be costing WCC in the region of £200k per week the scheme runs. Families wanting to apply for support through the scheme should call 0800 4081448 or 01926 359182.

School Transport

WCC is using funds from its Covid-19 grant to procure another bus to add to its Gaydon to Alcester route via Wellesbourne, which will be welcome news to many parents in the village. The vacant seat scheme is subject to availability and it is not within the policy to provide additional seats for fare paying passengers, as such, the service will return to its current state next academic year.

Coronavirus

See district report and regular updates issued, however I can confirm that Public Health Warwickshire are doing an excellent job and providing an invaluable role in spearheading the local Test and Trace initiative.

7. Warwickshire College Report

WCG submitted the following report:-

Farm

There are currently 400 beef cattle on farm with 60 calves being delivered in mid November. 515 ewes that were put with rams on the 9th October to start lambing in early March. Lambing weekend is provisionally booked for the 13th & 14th March 2021, however CoVID-19 restrictions may still be in place.

The weather last year created difficulty for the farm as it did for many others locally and nationally. We are therefore pleased that all the arable land on the lower farm fields and the fields opposite Moreton Paddocks has been planted with winter wheat, to be grown for milling. The Newbold ground fields have been planted with winter Barley which will be grown for animal feed.

To try and reduce the impact of any adverse weather in the future, drainage work has been continuing. The most productive arable land was mole drained and 1,800m of ditches cleaned out earlier this year with a further 1,500m of ditching completed in August with several land drains being repaired and two installed. A drainage plan has been created for the whole farm to reduce the risk of flooding and water-logged fields in the future.

Estates

During the initial lockdown period the Estates team continued to maintain and service all buildings on site. In June, preparations were made to ensure the site was COVID-19 compliant to enable students, who were required to attend college to complete examinations or assessments, to do so safely. Preparations continued throughout the Summer to welcome back all students to site in September, this involved reorganisation of classroom layouts, introduction of one way systems, access to hand sanitiser in all areas, and an enhanced cleaning regime.

Following the allocation of a building condition improvement grant from the Department for Education, plans are in place to deliver several projects alongside the existing long term maintenance plan to improve the condition of buildings on the Moreton Morrell site. The projects include; a new roof to the Floristry Building on the lower campus, a new heating

system and entrance doors to the Refectory, improved hot water distribution within the student residential buildings, improved underground drainage in the Equine facilities, upgrades to fire alarm systems, refurbishment of the toilet facilities and an upgrade of electrical wiring in the Cotswold Court building. Redecoration and carpeting works will also continue across the site.

Work continues to reduce our carbon footprint and an energy survey of the site has been commissioned to understand energy usage and to plan how we can effectively reduce the site's carbon footprint. In the meantime, internal workshop LED lighting upgrades are planned along with the installation of Building Management Systems to enhance the control of heating systems and to assist in managing our energy usage and ultimately meet our objectives of reducing our carbon footprint.

Moreton Hall

Due to CoVID-19, events and activities associated with Moreton Hall have been scaled back. However, in recognition of the impact of the pandemic, the National Heritage Lottery Fund have delayed the application date for Stage 2 funding for all projects, including Moreton Hall.

Staff and Students

Recruitment has been buoyant this year with a good increase in student numbers in Agriculture, Countryside management, Animal Welfare and particularly Equine and Farriery despite the uncertainty and disruption for school leavers this year. Countryside management students have been carrying out surveys of parts of the estate and are carrying out a number of projects on habitat improvement to increase the biodiversity on the college site with a particular focus on Fungi and Deer in recent weeks. Our work to build on the success in increasing Barn Owl numbers on the site and the local area will also be continuing.

The Floristry department continues to go from strength to strength with an excellent record of competition results, the department will be working with Moreton Morrell Church as usual to support a display for Christmas or Easter CoVID-19 restrictions permitting.

The Equine department were fortunate to hold successful horse trails at the end of September. The event was held over 2 days rather than the usual 3 to comply with restrictions in place at the time, further events will take place subject to restrictions at the time.

COVID-19

The College's response to COVID-19 has been based upon risk assessments, using Government guidance, and introducing measures to reduce the risk of the virus spreading. The measures introduced have been based upon the basic principle that social distancing is the most effective way of reducing the risks. To this end, we have continued to encourage staff to work from home, wherever possible. However, the requirement to deliver face to face education has meant that from September increasing numbers of staff have been required to attend college sites, including Moreton Morrell. To minimise the risks the college recognised that social distancing i.e. maintaining 2m+ distance is the best approach and wherever possible we encourage teaching and officebased activity to be undertaken in a socially distanced way. However, we recognise that not all teaching environments can be arranged in a socially distanced way and therefore advise other measures are used based upon the Government's 1m+ measures approach. These include; all desks facing forward, student-facing staff wearing face coverings, either a visor or a face mask, face coverings for everyone in communal spaces and staff maintaining social distance where possible. In addition, due to the increase in COVID cases throughout the Autumn term, we are now recommending that students wear face coverings in 'teaching spaces'. This is a recommendation and is a measure being introduced to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

An increase in students wearing face coverings will not stop the spread, but it will reduce the risk and hopefully help the College manage the impact of the pandemic on students' learning. To support this measure, we continue to provide face masks for free and will now provide face visors at cost price.

To allow the college to monitor the spread of covid-19 and its impact on learning, the college has introduced a tracking system to record each student who reports symptoms, a test being taken and the results of a test. It also tracks students who are self-isolating due to a recommendation from external sources. The tracking system is a live document, updated by the College Management team, which allows the college to respond to positive tests in an efficient and effective way. Individuals and/or course bubbles are asked to self-isolate, with their learning delivered remotely, to minimise the impact of the virus. The tracker also allows the college to track and trace potential contacts for each positive student case. The college has introduced a similar tracking system for staff which is cross-referenced to the student tracking system to allow track and trace between staff and students and between staff. The information is used to advise Public Health England (PHE), the Department for Education and either Warwickshire or Worcestershire County Councils' of positive test results. The college has been commended by PHE on its response to reported cases.

8. Sub Committee Reports and Updates

a) Playing Field – Cllr Edwards lead / Clerk

i) New equipment update- WALC Grant – Clerk

The Clerk informed the meeting the installation of the new equipment was progressing, and that she had been informed they had been successful in obtaining a £7770 grant from WALC (not yet in bank).

ii) New Path – SDC agreement – Clerk

The Clerk informed the meeting they had been successful in gaining SDC agreement for a legal license to lay grass matting on the Oak Tree Close access to the playing field. The legal costs would be £250. Cllr Slora proposed acceptance, Cllr Parry seconded, and it was carried unanimously. *Clerk to inform SDC.*

iii) Opening of new equipment

The opening for the new play equipment was discussed. It was resolved to have a soft opening and an official opening when Covid restriction allow.

iv) Additional Grass matting / Lengthman– Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry had spoken to the lengthman who had agreed to lay additional matting, circ 20m², in the old farm lane entrance. The Clerk stated she thought it would cost up to £300 for matting of the same quality as the other areas. Cllr Gordon proposed acceptance, Cllr Keavy seconded, and it was carried unanimously. *Clerk to find a supplier and order.*

b) Planning – Cllr Parry lead

i) Site Allocation Plan Response 18th Dec – Clerk

The Clerk explained SDC was consulting on reserve sites should the SDC 5 year land supply run out. Cllr Parry covered in her prior report and confirmed there were three sites in Moreton Morrell, the Triangle Field below John Taylor Way, and one site on each side of Brook lane as you exit the village by the telephone exchange. All parishioners were being consulted by SDC, but it was resolved that the PC would send the following response:-

‘Moreton Morrell Parish Council recognises the need for some new housing development in the village which reflects the local requirements as indicated in the Housing Needs Survey

undertaken earlier this year. However, our preference is for small-scale development with an appropriate and affordable housing mix in response to local need, as we are opposed to large scale development together with large executive homes. In addition, the importance of retaining all of our playing field for recreational and leisure activities is essential having invested over £40,000 in the installation of new equipment for both children and adults this year.'

ii) Local Housing need update – Sarah Brooke-Taylor

Sarah was not present, and subsequently sent apologies. Item to be added to the January meeting.

c) Speed awareness / Road Safety – Cllr Gordon lead

i) Parking by phone box – Cllr Gordon

Cllr Gordon informed the meeting there had been some parishioner discussion around the Brook Lane junction and Moreton House Cottage, where a combination of parked cars and narrow pavements were forcing people into the road. Additional white lines were discussed, but members of the public present raised concerns about the already limited parking. Cllr Parry agreed to consult with Graham Stanley at WCC. *Cllr Parry to follow up.*

ii) Uneven Pavements – Cll Keavy

Cllr Keavy informed the meeting there had been some parishioner discussion around several uneven pavements. Cllr Parry agreed to discuss with WCC, if Cllr Keavy could identify specifics. *Cllr Keavy to send details.*

d) Village Appearance – All

i) Update

Cllrs raised the subject of the stolen post box. Concerns were raised that it would not be replaced, and it was resolved for the clerk to write to the Post Office. *Clerk to follow up.* Cllr Edwards and Cllr Keavy also offered to post items for parishioners who could not travel to other boxes.

Mac Howarth raised an issue with the newly installed bin by the bus stop. Despite a lid and 'no dog waste' sign he stated it was still being filled with dog waste and smelt. It was agreed to remove again.

e) Footpaths – Cllr Slora lead

i) Update

The subject of overgrown footpath from Brook lane to little Morrell was discussed. Cllr Slora agreed to speak to Mr E Wiggins.

f) Village Hall and Church – Cllr Keavy lead

i) Hall discussion and next step

Cllr Keavy informed the meeting he had spoken to Mike Harwood and had an agreement that he was happy for the PC to seek new Hall committee members. It was agreed to advertise in the Villager and on social media. Cllr Parry also stated a new Covid grant was available, Cllr Keavy agreed to speak to Mike Harwood. *Cllr Keavy to follow up.*

9. New items

a) Coronavirus Update – All

Cllr Parry covered this in her report. Cllr Edwards explained the volunteers were still involved in collecting prescriptions.

b) Street Light Grant

The Clerk informed the meeting that they had been successful in securing a £500 grant for WCC to upgrade the streetlights, the cost of which was planned in the budget. The Clerk would now seek to progress the matter.

10. Planning

a. New Applications to consider at this meeting

20/02853/FUL. Demolition of existing garage serving Wishing Well Cottage and parts of boundary wall, erection of new garage/parking area for Wishing Well Cottage, erection of one local market dwelling and garage, and all associated works. Moreton House And Wishing Well Cottage, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, CV35 9AR.

After discussion it was resolved unanimously to send the following response:-

‘The Parish Council discussed this application on 16/11 after a previous site visit. Whilst the PC is not aware of specific legal planning reasons to support or object, it is now aware of a significant objection from a neighbour. Similarly is also aware there is also neighbour support . By the response deadline the PC has not been able to ascertain the validity of the objection or support, and given this is a significant development in the centre of the village the PC requests it goes to planning committee for full consideration’ *Clerk to respond to SDC*

20/02759/FUL Two storey rear extension and new detached garage. With solar panels to side facing roof slope. The Old Post Office Main Street Moreton Morrell CV35 9AL

After discussion it was resolved unanimously to send ‘no objections’ . *Clerk to respond to SDC.*

b. Decisions of committee since last meeting for information

20/02960/TREE T1 - ash – Remove. The Black Horse Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AR. **No reps sent**

20/02785/FUL Propose Expansion of commercial storage yard and erection of new building (revised design to that approved under 20/01497/FUL) to re-locate the covered storage/ office area and amend the roof) (part retrospective). Abbotscroft, Fosse Way, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9DF . **No reps sent**

c. District Decisions for information

20/02247/VARY Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 19/00232/FUL (date of decision 06/12/2019). To reduce floor area, height and overall volume of the house and amendments to window positions. To replace the approved drawings with those included within this application.

Land Opp Cedar House Moreton Paddox Moreton Morrell. **Permission with conditions**

20/01055/FUL Erection of rural worker's dwelling and associated external works
Centaur Biomechanics Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9BD **Permission with conditions**

20/02077/FUL Demolition of existing 3 car garage block to be replaced with a 2 bay car port with integrated gym room Ferndale Moreton Paddox Moreton Morrell CV35 9BT .
Permission with conditions

11. Finance

a. Approval of payments (to be circulated)

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

1.	Oriel glazing – skate park removal	£890.00 (paid)
2.	P Routly Salary	£725.26
3.	P Routly Expenses – Sept/Oct	£175.63
4.	BT Hall wifi Sept/Oct (P Routly)	£59.98
5.	PATA payroll	£12.75
6.	R P Hall grass cutting July-Oct	£1513.63
7.	Kompan – invoice 1	£25678.47
8.	PKF External audit	£240.00
9.	British Legion wreath	£25.00
10.	EON Street Lightselec – Sep/Oct	£209.85
11.	P Gibbins villager October	£100.00
12.	The Villager- 2nd instalment grant	£75.00
13.	MMPCC- 2nd instalment grant	£500.00
14.	MMCT Village events grant	£300.00

b. Receipts (to be circulated)

The Clerk reported the following receipts:-

1.	Allotment rent	£180.00
2.	Precept	£11500.00

c. External audit feedback

The Clerk reported the External Audit was complete with no issues.

d. Mid Year financial update

The Clerk had pre-circulated the mid-year report. Finances were healthy and no issues were raised.

12. Correspondence – all circulated by email

All circulated by email over the past 2 months.

a. Allotments update

The Clerk read an email from John Moverley informing the Council that all the allotments were full , and for the first time in many years there was a waiting list.

13. Matters of interest – future meeting agenda items.

None.

14. Any other business allowed by Chairman

None.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will a video conference via Zoom, unless Covid restrictions are lifted, and the hall can be made Covid compliant , the date is Monday 18th January 2021.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.