

# MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**PRESENT:**                      **Councillors:**                      R Morgan (Chair), J Cleeton,  
S Routly, B Keavy, P Jackson ,  
J Gordon.  
**District Councillors:** R Wright, D Kendall  
**Clerk :**                                      P Routly

Mike Bailey, representative of Warwickshire College,  
and x members of the public.

### **1. Public participation**

None.

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Routly declared a pecuniary interest in item 11a as his wife is the Clerk.

### **3. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Johnston and Cllr Hancock.

### **4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Keavy, seconded by Cllr Gordon and unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

### **5. District Councillors' Report**

Cllr Johnston filed the following report:-

#### **County Council Budget**

The agreed budget has protected school crossing patrols, secured a major investment in Safer Routes to school, and School Safety zones, and ensured no further Library closures. Children's centres are protected for at least three years, and £1million investment in LED lighting. We must ensure that this is made to benefit this area.

#### **Core Strategy delays**

There are further delays to the Local Development Plan, now not likely to be finished till April 2015. We are still at risk of opportunistic development until the District Council has resolved the issue. I remain against piecemeal development. Sustainable development must support local businesses and services.

### **District Council Budget**

The Council was asked to endorse an investigation into how best to invest in new houses for rent, which they refused. There continues to be a shortage of affordable housing. The Council also decided not to let local parishes have any of the Government's 'New Homes Bonus' grant.

### **Walking Guide**

The guide has been distributed to ( almost ) all houses in the area and to many businesses. It appears to be very popular. It has been suggested that we also produce a cycling guide. If you are interested in this, please let me know.

The official launch will take place at the Community Forum in Ashorne Village Hall on 6th March at 7pm. There will be an inaugural walk starting from the Stag's Head in Wellesbourne to Walton and return starting at 10am on 15th March.

Cllr Wright filed the following report:-

### **The Budget**

This was confirmed at Full Council on 24th February with the Council Tax remaining the same as last year, so nothing more to say on this matter.

### **Council Governance**

I have been involved with Governance of the Council in the Leaders Group and, its impact on the future of SDC, both internally and external. With the Council reducing to 36 members in 2015, the Group is looking at the make-up of the new arrangement combined with fewer councillors. While I will not bore you with some of the proposed changes under consideration - i.e. 'number of written questions raised by a member and, the same point on verbal questions to the Leader at Full Council' – the one change being considered is reducing Planning Committee to one in place of East and West that currently exists.

The new Single Committee would sit in the area were Part 1 applications particularly are being considered, I have said it essential that only members with previous knowledge of the area should determine applications, bearing in mind previous allegations by communities of councillors with no knowledge deciding applications. The members currently on East APC have a good knowledge of all areas that come before the committee, and I believe 'Status Quo' should remain.

Future service delivery with Good Governance is a new agenda for all Local Authorities when considering the unprecedented changes resulting from diminishing funding from Central Government. The dilemma facing all Local Authorities is how to reduce costs while retaining and delivering statutory services with a minimum level of staffing. SDC are in a 'Shared Service Partnership' with both South Northampton and Cherwell District Councils, and are committed to a programme of combined saving through 'Joint Working' arrangements.

The joint partnership is looking at further/new initiatives to reduce costs of operation to include Senior Management, IT, Legal/Democratic Services, and Building Control with increased resilience, there is a ceiling to which such savings can be achieved

The acute situation developing is when the three councils reduce staff beyond the critical level and bearing in mind SDC are already 'lean & mean' with its current staffing structure. Without joint working, council viability in deliverance terms are at great risk, it is to be hoped the current partnership can expand further in a managed way.

Cllr Routly raised the issue of the recent news that Wellesbourne airfield was a new proposed site for housing development. Cllr Wright stated it would only be considered by SDC if it had overwhelming benefits over the other 5 sites.

## **6. County Councillors' Report**

Cllr Kendall reported that WCC budget increase had been set at 1.99% and was the result of council having no overall control, spending was yet to be decided but libraries and school crossings to be protected. There was ongoing debate about a Unitary Council for Warwickshire

## **7. Warwickshire College Report**

Mike Bailey reported that the sale of Triangle Field was moving ahead and he expected David Wilson Homes to be submitting an application very soon. Despite rumours that Moreton Hall had not been sold, and the College had confirmed that it would only sell if the use was linked to education. The College was working with the Church to confirm boundaries and access in light of the Church progress on starting the meeting room, there are a few graves outside what was recognised as the boundary. The Equine Spa development is now complete. Pershore site has funding for new horticultural facilities and building in Leamington is almost complete. The Oak Tree from Pershore is on its way for the playing field. There was no lambing weekend primarily due to the wet weather, but there will possibly be a farm open day in June and the annual show is on 17<sup>th</sup> May. The College hosted a rural crime event, but it was not well attended.

Cllrs raised a few issues for Mike to take away, the culvert drain at the end of the playing field is possibly blocked. The footpath to Moreton Paddock, can it be relooked at with Cllr Gordon. Cllr Cleeting raised the issue of College students on the playing field during the day.

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

### **a) Playing Field – Cllr Cleeton**

#### **i) Approval for Entrance improvements**

Cllr Jackson had obtained a quote to hardcore the entrance from Central Surfacing for £1280. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried unanimously. Clerk was asked to check College are OK with the works. *Clerk to follow up.*

Cllr Cleeton ask what budget was remaining for new equipment, Cllr Routly said there was around £400p project budget unspent, it was resolved Cllr Cleeton would make a few proposals with the sub committee. *Cllr Cleeton to follow up.*

### **b) Planning – Cllr Hancock**

#### **i) Core Strategy Update – response to latest consultation**

Cllr Hancock was not present but the sub-committee had met with the following outcome and report to council:-

Recommendation to full PC that we apply for Village Green status for the Recreation ground. This was proposed by Cllr Morgan, seconded by Cllr Keavy and carried unanimously. *Cllr Jackson to lead with help from Cllr Cleeton.*

Recommendation to full PC to be put in the minutes that the current reserves are being held as savings towards a new community centre. After discussion it was resolved to leave in accounts as proposed in budget.

Recommendation to full PC to ratify our position as submitted to SDC re their latest draft local plan as circulated to the PC. The clerk submitted a response at follows:-

Question 1

Should core strategy cover the 20 years 2011 to 2031?

Yes

Question 2

Should SDC accommodate 10,800 homes between 2011 and 2031?

Yes

Question 3

Please indicate your preference for location of 2500 homes in order – 1 being most preferable 5 least

options	4a – Further dispersal- ie more in all villages	result	5
	4b- Gaydon / Lighthorne new town		4
	4c- Long Marsden airfield new town		1
	4d- SE Stratford ie behind Tiddington		3
	4e – North of Southam and Stoneythorpe		2

This was unanimously ratified

Planning Committee also discussed the continuing need for a Village Design Statement as a protection against unwanted development with the possibility of a Neighbourhood plan in the long term.

Cllr Jackson proposed we undertake to update the Village Design Statement , Cllr Gordon seconded and it was carried unanimously . *Planning Sub – Committee to advise next steps.*

**c) Speed awareness – Cllr Gordon**

Cllr Gordon informed the meeting the sub – committee had met and had the following report:-

Recommendation to full PC that Police be contacted to carry out speed checks on Brook Lane and in Moreton Paddock at 7-8am . After discussion , and suggestion from Cllr Routly it was resolved in the first instance to gather speed data using a road sensor . It was agreed to do this on the hill approaching the school. The costs of circ £300 were propose by Cllr Keavy and seconded by Cllr Jackson and carried unanimously. *Clerk to organise in agreement with Cllr Gordon.*

Availability and training of PC sub committee members in use of speed camera to be fast-tracked (sic) . It was resolve to escalate to Jim Butler in the police. *Clerk to follow up*

Recommendation to full PC that WCC (via Danny Kendall) be contacted to provide traffic calming islands at village entrance (to be combined with village entrance signs as above in Village Appearance) - PC to agree to help WCC fund if required, and to request village speed

limit of 20 mph, especially past the school, where extra protection is required to support the zig zags . This item was discussed and it was resolved that Cllr Gordon would follow up with WCC highways to ascertain costs. *Cllr Gordon to follow up.*

**d) Village Appearance – Cllr Keavy**

- i) Brook Lane verges and drainage –Letter from Patch Byrne**
- ii) Village signs**
- iii) Rubbish on roads**

The Clerk read a letter from Patch Bryne WCC Highway Officer . It was a report on flooding at the brook Lane / Fosse junction stating it was casued by a too small pipe and damage by 2 willow trees . He asked the council permission to increase the pipe and remove the trees. The issue was discussed and the Cllrs concluded this was not the main issue , they key issues were flooding and verge damage , and silting up under the Wilcox leys Culvert . it was resolve the Clerk should write to Patch and explain, and seek further action . *Clerk to write*

The village signs were debated and Cllr Cleeton handed Cllr Keavy some design proposals for him to follow up with the College – Richie West. There may also be an opportunity to link to traffic calming. *Cllr Keavy to follow up with the College.*

Cllr Keavy also raised the issue of regular fast food rubbish by Oakley Woods , and the B4100 layby . It was resolved to write to Bishops Tachbrook PC and WCC. *Clerk to write.* Cllr Keavy also proposed that he would organise a litter pick day.

**e) Footpaths and Trees – Cllr Morgan**

- i) Jubilee Tree update**
- ii) Old farm lane footpath- Cllr Cleeton**
- iii) Approval of works on School footpath**

Cllr Morgan stated that Mike Bailey had agreed to bring tree over in next few days and would communicate a planting date.

Cllr Cleeton reported a tree had fallen on old farm lane. It was resolved to follow up with the College , and also the rubbish on the land at the top of the drive . *Clerk to follow up.*

Cllr Cleeton stated the new walking map was great but there were still access issues at Brook Lane stables , all agreed this should be tackled as part of the proposed development . In the meantime Cllr Morgan to speak to Mr Wiggins about adding a sign to the electric fence. *Cllr Morgan to follow up.*

Cllr Jackson had obtained a quote to add steps to the road from the school footpath, the quote was £840 from Central Surfacing . It was proposed to be accepted by Cllr Routly , seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried unanimously . *Clerk to arrange works.*

**f) Village Hall, Church and College – Cllr Cleeton / All**

Cllr Cleeton stated she had no communication from the hall , but had heard the Church was to start work on the new meeting room , but need to raise more funds to complete inside.

## 9. New items

### a. VASA project request

After discussion it was resolved to suggest pub alley footpath as a small project. *Clerk to write to VASA.*

## 10. Planning

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

None.

However, it was resolved to write to SDC to ascertain the status of the Galileo farm application. *Clerk to follow up.*

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

13/03218/REM Application for approval of reserved matters relating to access, appearance, layout, scale and landscaping for the erection of one dwelling in association with outline planning permission 12/01505/OUT. Little Paddox Farm Fosse Way Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9BX. **Comments sent.**

14/00173/TREE G1 group of multi-stemmed horse chestnut (A, B, C) : fell. Moreton Manor Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AL . **No reps**

14/00174/TREE 2no. silver birch: fell. Holy Cross Church Moreton Morrell. **No reps**

14/00412/TREE G1: Chestnut x3: Fell - G2: Holly x3: Fell Moreton Manor Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AL. **No reps**

### c. District Decisions for information

13/03218/REM Application for approval of reserved matters relating to access, appearance, layout, scale and landscaping for the erection of one dwelling in association with outline planning permission 12/01505/OUT. Little Paddox Farm Fosse Way Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9BX. **Reserved matters approved.**

14/00173/TREE G1 group of multi-stemmed horse chestnut (A, B, C) : fell. Moreton Manor Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AL . **Tree works approved**

14/00174/TREE 2no. silver birch: fell. Holy Cross Church Moreton Morrell. **Tree works approved.**

## 11. Finance

### a) Approval of payments

The following payments were proposed by Cllr Cleeton seconded by Cllr Keavy, and approved unanimously.

1.	EON Street Lightselec – Jan/ Feb	£75.67
2.	Village Hall meeting rent March	£15.00
3.	WCC Street light maintenance	£125.33
4.	Warwickshire College Playing Field rent	£385.01
5.	P Routly Salary – Jan/ Feb via D Tonks DD	£696.04
6.	P Routly Expenses – Jan/ Feb	£86.80

**b) Receipts**

None.

**12. Correspondence ( new)**

None that had not been circulated by email

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

None.

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

None.

**15. Date of next meeting**

The next council meeting and AGM will be held in the Moreton Morrell Village Hall on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.