

MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18th March 2019

PRESENT: Councillors: J Cleeton (chair), J Ford
B Keavy, J Gordon.
Clerk : P Routly

6 members of the public

1. Public participation

Simon Hetherington raised a concern about reports of an aggressive dog loose near the footpath at Three Grates, also pollution in the brook. Cllr Cleeton suggested raising online reports with WCC footpaths, and Severn Trent.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Parry, Cllr Greetham and Cllr Slora.

3. Governance

a) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

None.

b) Freedom of Information

No new requests.

c) Code of Conduct

All documents complete and filed with SDC. No changes declared.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 21st January 2019

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21st January were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Ford, and unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

5. Special Item – Neighbourhood Watch – Jim Bacon

Mr Jim Bacon came from Studley Neighbourhood Watch, he explained there are many schemes both local and national, and a community can do as little or as much as it wants. There are about 50 schemes in Warwickshire and growing, it's all about sharing information about crimes, potential crimes and suspicious happenings within the community. This can be done with newsletters, or these days via social media like Whatsapp or Facebook. Online scams are also a significant factor. Jim left some flyers and Cllr Keavy volunteered to follow up.

6. District Councillors' Report – Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry pre-circulated her report:-

First of all my apologies for not being able to join you all on 18th March but I have a family funeral in Sussex tomorrow morning and am travelling down this evening.

District

The last month has all been focused on budgeting and at Full Council on 25th February it was agreed to increase the Council Tax by 1.5% which marks an increase of £2.05p for the year on a Band D property from £137.07 to £139.12. The Council Tax for Moreton Morrell in respect of Band D which includes precepts for Stratford District Council, Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police together with the precept for Moreton Morrell will therefore be £1866.78 per annum which is slightly less than Wellesbourne.

Wellesbourne Airfield

SDC is continuing to progress with a Compulsory Purchase Order for Wellesbourne Airfield and has set aside £1.25M for legal costs.

Medical Centre

I am delighted to see the opening of the new Hastings House Medical Centre in Wellesbourne which serves Moreton Morrell and Moreton Paddox become a reality from concept to completion and I attended the Official Opening by Jeremy Wright MP on Saturday 16th March.

7. County Councillors' Report – Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry pre-circulated her report: -

Warwickshire County Council has increased its council tax receipts by 4.99per cent with effect from April – 2% of the increase will be ringfenced to contribute towards increasing costs of Adult Social Care and Support. This will amount to about £5 extra a month or £60 for the year for an average Band D household before proposed increases from Warwickshire Police are also applied.

The county council is still facing large budget cuts and in the next financial year has to find savings of £9 million followed by an expected £16 million between 2019 and 2020. This is on top of the £100 million it has had to save since 2010.

Despite these cuts, the authority will use some of its £370 million budget to invest £5.7 million into children's social care services and £1.3 million into additional adult social care and support – just over £153 million is now being allocated to adult social care. The council will also spend £2.5 million on a digital transformation programme to make it easier for people to access its online services and help it to become “an enabler for residents to help themselves.

Other investments include £200,000 into digital fibre optic hubs to enhance communications in communities and £330,000 to convert six school-based children's centres into specialist provision for pupils with special needs, £100,000 to expand its transport planning team to “maximise the funding received from developers to deliver the infrastructure requirements for associated housing and business growth across the county. An investment of £108,000 will be made into maintaining the council's library network including Sunday opening while £150,000 will go towards a joint project to integrate those for those in need of support due to mental health issues, homelessness and drug abuse.

The council will also invest £1.4 million into home to school transport and invest £500,000 into Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service to reduce the service's savings target.

In total, this 4.99 per cent council tax increase is equivalent of an increase of £1.25 per week for a Band D dwelling.

Warwickshire Police has increased its precept by £24 per annum following its public consultation and the increase is being used to recruit and train an additional 100 more staff.

Cllr Parry also emailed with the following comments:-

(this note was sent on confirmation that Cllr Greetham would not be standing in forthcoming elections, and could not make this meeting)

Chairman

Firstly I would like my thanks to be recorded during the meeting for the excellent work that Cllr Elizabeth Greetham has done not only as chair but throughout her time as a Parish Councillor, in particular for her work and contribution in respect of Moreton Morrell College and the 100th Anniversary of World War I commemoration. We are losing an outstanding councillor who was very hard working and committed to her role.

8. Warwickshire College Report

WCC submitted the following report:-

Farm

In the next few weeks, Moreton Morrell College will be opening its gates to the local community for our annual Lambing Weekend. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the first lambs of spring and hopefully witness one being born. Following the success of the Moreton Morrell Lambing event last year (despite adverse weather) the event will be happening again this year on 23rd & 24th March, please do book tickets through our WCG events page .

We are pleased to have again provided the Parish Council with some tickets to distribute free of charge to village residents.

We aim to have 505 ewes put into lamb this year and Lambing is due to start in early March. The students start their lambing duties on 11th March. The Animal Welfare Centre will also be open to visit and meet all the other species to include Meerkats, Porcupines, Raccoon Dogs, Reptiles, furry mammals and many more.

Beef Unit

The parlour conversion was completed in February and cattle are now housed in this facility. Future investment is being sorted to improve the building viewing platform to make this a suitable area to host talks and lectures. Currently we have 366 cattle on farm with space for another 80 due to the refurbishment of the parlour.

Estate

We have recently invested in our field boundaries and replaced some of our equine and sheep fencing to ensure it is safe for livestock. In addition to this we have ensured that access routes to our estate are safe which includes the gateways in order to allow easy access for our Livestock, staff and students.

Memories of Moreton Hall Campaign

We are keen to hear from former students, staff or anyone within the community who has great memories of life at our beautiful WCG Moreton Hall. Please do get in touch by emailing us at pr@wcg.ac.uk

Staff and Students

We are enormously proud of our HE floristry lecturer Laura Leong and colleague Jane Benefield who will be representing the UK at the Interflora FTD World Cup 2019 in the USA this month. Laura, who teaches on the Master Diploma in Professional Floristry course, secured the opportunity to represent the country after she was crowned the UK's Interflora Florist of the Year in 2018 after a tough competition at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show last summer.

Huge congratulations to our land-based service engineers at the AGCO (Massey Ferguson). Academy at Moreton Morrell College. This cohort is the first in the country to go through EPA (end point assessment) in their sector and a number of them achieved merits and distinction grades.

Our level 1 Land Based students have been on a Land Rover safari to check on our bird of prey boxes. The students were looking for clues that the boxes had been used as overwinter roosts. The Kestrel box had scratch marks around the entrance, which indicates that a bird had been perching there, and possibly using the box. The students also checked that the boxes were in good repair ready for the next breeding season. Hopefully it will be a successful year for our local birds of prey.

Sports students organised a local school's basketball tournament as part of their "organising events" module. The competing teams were from over Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, namely Shrubland Street, Moreton Morrell, Clapham Terrace and Holy Trinity. The students did the tutors and college proud and the event was finally won by Holy Trinity.

Congratulations to Rebecca Herriott, Olivia McCallum and Charlotte Smith on passing their British Horse Society Stage 1 exam held here last month. As 1st Year Level 3 Horse Management students, they already develop the skills and knowledge required for the BHS Stage 1 and 2 exams as part of their course. Therefore, as we are a BHS exam centre, students are encouraged to enter these exams during their time with us to give them additional qualifications to improve their employment opportunities.

The Level 2 Agriculture & Countryside students have been making the most of the recent nice weather. They have started ploughing as part of their machinery unit. These valuable skills are preparing the students for the workplace and providing them extensive practical experience to support their qualification. Our Level 2 Countryside and Environment students have been busy creating habitat piles this month as part of their Habitats unit. The students used logs, sticks and vegetation to create safe resting places for a wide range of animals from beetles to hedgehogs, snakes to birds. Great work everyone!

Our Level 3 Wildlife and Countryside Management students are currently studying Water vole populations as part of their unit in Wildlife Populations and Conservation. In March, the group were given a talk from Peter Sanders, the Warwickshire County Recorder for Water Voles and Otters. During the talk, the students learned about the changes in populations of Water vole across the UK and in Warwickshire. They were also made aware of the threats to the species, and action that is taking place to conserve them.

During March Moreton Morrell has welcomed 146 Japanese students to participate with Animal Health and Training & Behaviour lessons.

Open Events

The Moreton Morrell bi-annual Horse Trials are set to take place on the 1st, 2nd and 5th May.

Our next open event is taking place on the evening of Wednesday 10th April where prospective students will be given the opportunity to speak to specialist staff and tour our extensive resources.

For Higher Education and Veterinary Nursing courses potential applicants are invited to visit Moreton Morrell on Saturday 13th April.

Moreton Morrell welcomed many Year 11 students on the 18th February to our Discovery Day to provide them with an insight of what they could study at college in the future and excite them about potential careers in the Landbased/Construction sector. Pupils discovered a range of exciting activities in subjects such as Animal Welfare, Blacksmithing, Bricklaying, Carpentry and Horse Care.

9. Sub Committee Reports and Updates

- a) Playing Field – Cllr Cleeton**
 - i) Lease Update - Cllr Gordon**
 - ii) Safety Audit repairs – Cllr Cleeton**

Cllr Gordon informed the meeting WCG had agreed a lease and a draft copy was with our solicitor for review.

Cllr Cleeton filed the following report:-

Playing Field

I contacted SDC, Parks & Recreation to get advice on contractors for investigation of the trim trail posts, no reply from SDC. I also asked Sovereign who Cllr Greetham and I met with last year, again no reply, also John Connor Ltd declined to quote. Marmax, Ltd, Tanya Fletcher, has been holding a bench & possible tractor for us & has contacted me every 4 weeks. I would recommend getting quotes for new equipment from Boxcrap for sunshine gym fitness equipment which we could install on concrete, as the skate park will soon be at the end of life.

It was resolved to seek feedback from the villagers on the type of equipment required. *Clerk also to seek repair contractors.*

- b) Planning – Cllr Parry**
 - i) Update**
 - ii) Letter on Old Stables development , Brook lane**

Cllr Parry filed the following report:-

As you all know I spoke to Ed Wiggin re the playing equipment on the field and he was fine about removing the items as he was unaware of the restrictions ... in response to the email from his neighbour – which I have not responded to ... as the owner of the field, Ed is perfectly entitled to keep machinery on it and it is probably being kept there for works to his extended garden area. I view the matter is now closed.

- c) Speed awareness / Road Safety – Cllr Gordon**
 - i) Update**

It was agreed Cllr Gordon would investigate what can be done about cyclists speeding.

d) Village Appearance – Cllr Cleeton

- i) Old farm drive corner.**
- ii) Commemorative Oak Tree Plaque**

Cllr Cleeton reported she has identified the owner of the land on old farm drive. It was resolved the clerk would write about the ‘mess’. *Clerk to write.*

Cllr Cleeton reported the water trough by the school looks like it’s been damaged by a vehicle, we will need a quote for repair.

Cllr Cleeton stated she would get quotes for the tree plaque for the next meeting.

e) Footpaths and Trees – All

- i) Moreton Paddock to Moreton Morrell proposal - All**
- ii) College right of way / footpaths - Clerk**
- iii) Rights of Way ‘restoring the record’ – Cllr Parry**

Cllr Gordon, Keavy and Slora filed the following report:-

Footpath SD110

Following on from the agreement to replace the two styles with livestock proof gates, Councilor Slora has received consent from Jilly Lavin and Sara Birks of Manor Lodge. Councilor Gordon can now request the gates from SDC.

Councilor Slora spoke to Sara Birks of Manor Lodge about the fallen tree and state of the footpath near the metal gate. She confirmed that Henry the college farm manger was going to sort both these issues out before the sheep arrived for lambing. When he spoke to her on the 13th this had not been done but she said she would chase it.

Councilor Keavy has been asked to discuss the option of changing the styles between Middle Town and Little Morrell to livestock proof gates.

The electric fence with the exposed wires has been made safe.

The step from Brook Lane to new path has not yet been altered.

Next Meeting to happen May 2019.

Cllr Keavy raised the issue of access to College land and (footpaths), stating he thinks the villagers wants assurance the PC is still interested. All agreed once playing field lease is resolved, this matter should be discussed with WCG again.

Cllr Parry had emailed to say due to personal events no progress had been made on ‘rights of way’.

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

- i) College Update Report – Cllr Greetham**
- ii) Village Hall new windows update - Cllr Keavy**

Cllr Greetham was not present, and Cllr Keavy confirmed the hall windows and doors had been done.

10. Matters arising from previous meetings

- a) Lengthmanship scheme – Cllr Parry
- b) Table Tennis Club update – Cllr Ford
- c) Lengthmanship scheme – Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry was not present. Cllr Ford stated the table tennis club was running again on Thursday. Responsible adults should supervise their own children.

11. New items

- a) Election forms and dates - clerk
- b) Village hall entrance drains - clerk
- c) Additional gritting - clerk

The Clerk handed out election forms.

Cllr Cleeton reported she had spoken to Severn Trent twice about water coming up in the road above the old PO & below VH drive. They had confirmed it is not a burst pipe, but purely down to blocked drains above by school gates & two by VH drive. She reported she had put bollards on VH drains so that highways can do these, must ask highways to clear 2 by school gates. *Clerk to chase highways again.*

Cllrs were asked to consider whether any extra gritting was needed.

12 . Planning

a. New Applications to consider at this meeting

19/00513/TREE -T1 chestnut: Pollard at approximately 7 metres above ground level. -T2 cherry: reduce crown on Moreton House side (south side) by 3.5 metres. Moreton House Moreton Morrell Warwick CV35 9AR

After discussion it was decided unanimously to make no objection. *Clerk to reply to SDC.*

b. Decisions of committee since last meeting for information

19/00301/FUL Single storey side extension, installation of a new rooflight in existing roof and removal/modification to existing chimney. Manor Stables Main Street Moreton Morrell CV35 9AL . **No Objection.**

19/00232/FUL Construction of a single storey dwelling with associated boundary treatments and external storage. Land Opp Cedar House, Moreton Paddox, Moreton Morrell. **Objection.**

An objection was sent as follows:-

The Parish Council objects to this application having completed a site visit for the following reasons:-

- 1) Despite there being a variety of designs of dwellings in Moreton Paddox , this design is out of keeping, especially with mirrored walls, its too industrial.
- 2) There is only shrubbery separating the proposed dwelling from immediate neighbours , and the external mirror walls will cause reflections and constant nuisance to both ground floor and upstairs rooms. There are calculations in the proposal but we do not see how they can take account of all angles of sunlight.

c. District Decisions for information

18/03458/FUL Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension. Middlemarch Brook Lane Moreton Morrell CV35 9AT . **Approved with conditions.**

18/02720/FUL Change of use of land to residential garden serving plots 2 and 3 granted under application 16/02951/VARY. Orchard Stables Brook Lane Moreton Morrell . **Approved with conditions.**

13. Finance

a) Approval of payments (to be circulated)

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

1.	CJ Carpentry (sign advance)	£1500.00 (Paid)
2.	CJ Carpentry (Hall doors)	£966.00 (Paid)
3.	Pinsent Mason	£434.40 (Paid)
4.	EON (Feb / Mar)	£189.00
5.	Village Hall rent – 2 mtgs	£30.00
6.	E Greetham expenses 100th ann	£38.60
7.	WCC Allotment rent	£180.00
8.	WCC Annual street light maintain	£125.76
9.	Oriel Glazing (Hall Windows)	£1244.00
10.	P Routly Salary	£708.03
11.	PATA Payroll	£18.00
12.	P Routly expenses Jan / Feb	£66.23
13.	P Routly BT Hall wifi -2 months	£71.20

b) Receipts (to be circulated)

The Clerk reported the following receipts:-

None.

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

a) None – all circulated

15. Matters of interest – future meeting agenda items

The editing of the ‘Villager’ was discussed, it was agreed this should be a paid role and would be advertised in the next issues.

16. Any other business allowed by the Chairman as Urgent

None.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting including Annual Parish Mtg and PC AGM will be held in the Village Hall, Moreton Morrell on Monday 20th May 2019.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.