

MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22nd January 2024

PRESENT:

Councillors:	D Slora (Chair), A Parry, R James B Keavy, D Butler, J Gordon, E Edwards
District Councillor:	A Parry
County Councillor:	
Clerk :	P Routly

8 members of the public

1. Public participation

Mrs Cleeton raised the issue of huge tractors from the College Farm damaging the verge by the old phone box. Cllr Edwards agreed to raise with the College.

Mrs Peckham spoke further of the closure of the slaughter house at Long Compton, and said she was still considering a future planning application for Galileo Farm, to add a small facility on site.

Mr Jones ask a question about the Triangle Field proposal as could not attend the planning event. Cllr Parry said he could still comment.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr O'Donnell due to work

3. Governance

a) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr Parry due to an expense's payment.

Cllr Edwards due to grant application for the gardening club.

b) Freedom of Information – report on any new requests

None.

c) Code of Conduct / DPI

None.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 20th November 2023

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th November were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Edwards and unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

5. District Councillors' Report – Cllr Parry

Cllr Parry filed and read out the following report:-

Upper Lighthorne Community Hub and Healthcare Facility

SDC's Cabinet has given the go ahead in principle for the undertaking of a joint project with the NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Warwickshire Police for the development of a Community Hub and Healthcare Facility at Upper Lighthorne. The ICB has advised that a decision in this respect will also be taken on 24th January. In terms of timescales, it is unlikely that these new facilities would be up and running until 2027 at the earliest, unless the ICB will reconsider a temporary facility for GP services to be operational before this date.

The developers are funding the construction of the building through a Section 106 agreement but the ICB will have a significant role in the appointment of GP's and the funding that will be required to deliver the GP services.

Alternative Fuel (HVO) for Refuse Vehicles

SDC's Cabinet has committed to spend an extra £1million over the next five years on using HVO fuel instead of diesel for the refuse vehicles as part of becoming a net zero carbon council.

This is being questioned by opposition councillors as to whether this brings added value to the council tax payer and is the best resource of funds in the Climate Change Budget or whether for example the provision of EV charging points in towns and villages would be more beneficial to residents in terms of need and value.

The debate on HVO is likely to continue as further research on its merits in terms of where HVO comes from is required.

Council Tax

Budget proposals to be agreed at Full Council in February are likely to see an increase in SDC's element of the Council Tax by £5. In order to meet the increased cost of services and additional expenditure SDC will need to use its General Reserve Fund over the next five years which will see this reduce from £10,758 million to £3.079 million.

Forecast increases by Warwickshire County Council are expected to be 4.99% with increases proposed by Warwickshire Police.

On a positive note Stratford on Avon District Council is in a financially stable position, unlike many other district and borough councils in England.

Flooding in Warwickshire

As you will be aware following Storm Henk, between 2 and 5 January 2024 there were flooding issues which affected the whole of the County.

The Government is developing a scheme which could financially support residents which were impacted by flooding actually into their properties (water must have entered the house or the resident was prevented on gaining access to their house for at least 48 hours due to the flooding). It is expected that the support would relate to Council Tax and a payment of £500 to households affected.

However, in order for an area (County Council) to be eligible for this funding, evidence is required that at least 50 properties were affected in this way across the whole of the Warwickshire County Council area. At present, we are not yet at that threshold and therefore at present none of our residents would be eligible for funding.

If your property was flooded during Storm Henk (2-5 January), it's important that you report it to Warwickshire County Council and to your insurance company. Reporting flooding to the County Council may help secure Government funding to help you recover from the effects of the flood, and will help local authorities plan future flood prevention measures.

6. County Councillors' Report – Cllr O'Donnell

Cllr O'Donnell was not present but sent the following report:

Report it: Flooding and drainage issues

If you spot any issues with blocked drains or gullies in your local community, please report it at <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/reportit> and click on report flooding or drainage issue.

We need your feedback:

Public rights of way consultation

Warwickshire County Council is seeking views on all aspects of the county's rights of way as part of a new consultation exercise.

Have your say today: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/warwickshire-rowip/>

A public right of way is a right by which the public can pass along linear routes over land at all times. Although the land may be owned by a private individual, the public have a legal right across that land along a specific route. Rights of way in Warwickshire are broadly split into four categories: footpath, bridleway, byway and recreational unclassified road.

There are around 1,700 miles of public rights of way across Warwickshire. These are found in locations that are both rural and urban and are important for a range of activities from exploring the beauty of the county to travelling to work or school on routes that are, generally, away from major roads.

The Council is calling upon all residents to take part in a new consultation exercise that aims to inform an improvement plan for these routes.

For residents who use Warwickshire's public rights of way, the Council wants to hear about their experiences and how important they are in their daily lives.

For residents who do not use public rights of way, the Council wants to know what prevents you from doing so.

Cold Weather alert.

With colder weather forecast over the coming days, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is asking residents to prioritise safety for both their wellbeing and the wellbeing of others.

Anticipating temperatures dropping below freezing in Warwickshire this week, there is an increased risk of ice, making driving more challenging. Drivers are advised to exercise caution and drive to the weather conditions, as stopping distances on icy roads can be ten times greater than on dry roads.

It's also important to keep warm as the temperatures drop, but not at the expense of safety. If you have an electric blanket, make sure it is in full working order before use and there's no signs of damage such as frayed cables or scorch marks.

For those relying on open fires for warmth, the installation of a fire guard is recommended to prevent sparks from hot embers. Electric heaters should be kept away from curtains and flammable materials and should never be used for drying clothes.

During this period of colder weather, check in with elderly or vulnerable family members or neighbours to make sure they are safe and warm. Staying warm is a vital part of keeping well particularly for older people, the young and those with chronic illness.

Health guidelines advise maintaining room temperatures at 18°C to avoid health complications, such as heart problems, hypothermia, or exacerbation of existing medical conditions. However, the escalating costs of energy bills make it challenging for many to adequately heat their homes.

To support those struggling with energy costs or feeling vulnerable, several locations, including libraries, record offices, and community-led warm hubs, are available across the county. Residents are welcome to attend alone or with family and friends to have a safe and

warm place to spend time. Further information can be found at [Warwickshire libraries set to offer a warm welcome this winter – Warwickshire County Council](#).

Have your say and also ask YOUR questions :

Warwickshire Communities given extra chance to learn more about the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Consultation

New consultation information event added for Shipston-on-Stour.

For those residents based in the south of the county, Warwickshire County Council has added an extra date in Shipston-on-Stour to a series of information sessions which will share details about the ongoing Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service consultation.

As the Fire Authority, Warwickshire County Council is running the public consultation to give residents, businesses, community groups and public sector partners a say on the way in which Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service manage their resources.

In addition to the existing information sessions being held across the county which will start next week, an additional event in Shipston-on-Stour has been added to the calendar. The full list of events now includes Stratford upon Avon (17 January), Kenilworth (24 January), Bedworth (29 January), Atherstone (8 February), Southam (27 February) and Shipston-on-Stour (5 March). There will be representatives from Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service at each event and attendees have an opportunity to either submit questions in advance, or on the evening itself.

Each event starts at 6.30pm and will finish at 8.00pm. Places are limited so anyone wanting to attend must [book a ticket](#). These are allocated on a first come, first served basis, though if an event is fully booked, there is an opportunity to join a waiting list.

The public consultation is open until 10 March 2024, giving everyone a chance to view the details of the proposal and give their feedback.

Councillor Andy Crump, Warwickshire County Council's Portfolio Holder for Fire and Rescue and Community Safety, said "The public consultation gives everyone a chance to have their say on our proposals, but we're also keen to give people a chance to hear from us in person and to ask any questions they may have. No decisions will be made until the consultation is over, so we hope our residents will take this opportunity and join us at one of our information sessions to find out more."

The public consultation and a link to the information session booking page is available at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask. Anyone needing a paper copy of the survey, an alternative format or language, or who would like to book a place at one of the information sessions by telephone, should call 01926 410410.

Public Health.

This year's annual report from Warwickshire's Director of Public Health, Shade Agboola has been published.

The theme for 2023 was domestic abuse and the report entitled 'Breaking the silence' shines a spotlight on the emotional, physical and mental impact of abuse on individuals, their families, communities and wider society.

The report was shared for the first time at the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 10 January with members and partners who have key roles in health improvement across Warwickshire. At the meeting Dr Agboola introduced the report which portrays the devastating impact of domestic abuse through the story of a character named Mia and her experience of abuse, told through the accounts of those surrounding her, and the services involved. Whilst the story is fictional, it reflects real-life experiences, and is intended to highlight the harm and long-lasting, far-reaching effects of this crime.

Warwickshire Director of Public Health, Dr Shade Agboola said:

"Domestic abuse negatively affects physical, mental, emotional, sexual and reproductive health, not only for victims and survivors but other family members too, including children. Young people can be victims in their own right and growing up in a household where abuse

is taking place can have an enduring and detrimental effect on their health and development.

“Whilst reading this story, I urge you to reflect upon the role in which we can all play in preventing all types of abuse, whether it be from a personal perspective, that of your service, or within your community. Victims and survivors are predominantly women and children, but any gender can be affected, and we must ensure people are able to get the help they need to break the cycle and seek support.”

The latest report is available to read online at warwickshire.gov.uk/DPH-annual-report

If you or someone you know is affected by report, there is support available.

Visit www.talk2someone.org.uk for more information. Alternatively, you can call the Warwickshire Domestic Violence Service on 0800 408 1552 to speak to a support worker. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, ring 999. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have any speech impairment, please dial: Minicom/Textphone 18001. If you’re worried a friend, family member, neighbour or colleague might be at risk you can report your concerns anonymously to Crimestoppers online here: crimestoppers-uk.org/keeping-safe/personal-safety/domestic-abuse.

Bus services in Warwickshire

Trust the Bus.

Buses are a safe, reliable, and stress-free way for your children to get to and from school.

This can help them become more independent and confident, too!

Find out more about bus timetables, routes, and more on the website:

<http://warwickshire.gov.uk/buses>

7. Warwickshire College Report

Mr Peter Husband was not present but sent the following report:-

Farm

As planned the tups have been separated from the ewes. At the end of January the ewes will be scanned to determine which are in lamb and how many each will be expecting. Lambing is due to commence on the 8th April this year. The ewes will therefore be housed nearer the end of February.

All of the winter drilling has now been completed. We have planted 32ha of Ambassador Oil Seed Rape and 49ha of Skyfall Winter Wheat. Currently, we have no plans to drill spring crops this year. This may change depending on the weather and how the current crops respond.

The beef Approved Finishing Unit continues to maintain high husbandry and welfare standards. The number of animals on the farm has increased and we are working closer to our maximum capacity. We are expecting another batch of new calves on the farm in the coming weeks.

All of the hedge cutting is now complete with the hedges looking tidier and with increased visibility for road users.

Estates

We continue to carry out general repairs and maintenance to the site, roofs, heating systems, site drainage and grounds. We also continue to progress plans for the new DfE T Level funded Animal housing building project.

Events

Saturday January 20th will see the next Moreton Morrell College open event taking place from 10am to 1pm. We anticipate seeing 300 or more potential students with their parents

attending who will be considering both full-time courses for 16-18s and also our degree programmes.

Facilities regular hire - Weekdays - Term Time

Mondays & Fridays - Vaulting training

Tuesdays - Stoneleigh RC Jump & Flatwork Training

Wednesdays - Warwickshire Hunt Pony Club

Thursdays - North Warwickshire Hunt PC Mounted Games Training

Fridays - Warwickshire Hunt Pony Club MG Training

Staff and Students

One of our Moreton Morrell carpentry students competed in the National Skillbuild competition at Milton Keynes in November and came fourth, which was a fantastic achievement as he was competing against the best carpenters from colleges all around the country.

The Carpentry department has been working with Moreton Morrell Primary School to construct and install a wellington boot storage unit. They are now liaising with the school on future projects which will include constructing raised planting beds. Bricklaying students will also be involved in this project, as the planting beds will be constructed from both timber and brick. The Carpentry students have also been involved in creating simple bird house kits for the primary school students to put together.

There was further success for our floristry students as Emma Rochford won a bronze medal in her first ever national final. Emma came third in the floristry section of the World Skills UK National Finals - an annual competition which recognises excellence in apprentice and technical education with over 400 students competing across 43 categories.

A Moreton Morrell alumni, Nik Spencer, was awarded a Fellowship at our graduation ceremony in the autumn. Nik was a student in the 1980s at the college on a Youth Training Scheme, and his experience at college set him looking at ways to develop new businesses. Since graduating from the college, Nik has forged a successful 30-year long career founding and leading recycling management companies across the Midlands and is currently working on project HERU, a hybrid heat pump that turns standard household waste into energy for heating water.

8. Sub Committee Reports and Updates

a) Playing Field – Cllr Edwards lead / Clerk

i) Update – Clerk

Cllr Edwards reported there were no issues, and the last inspection report was low risk.

Cllr Parry stated that only 3 of the 5 entrances to the playing field had ‘keep dogs on leads’ signs. As a result, some people were allowing their dogs to run free. It was resolved unanimously for the Clerk to order two more signs. *Clerk to order signs.*

b) Planning – Cllr Parry lead

i) Parish Plan Public Consultation Feedback

ii) Triangle Field Next Steps

Cllr Parry gave feedback from the parish plan event. Approximately 36 villagers attended, and there were an additional 18 feedback forms. Marriott planning was also in attendance and presented an outline planning scheme for the Triangle field. There were issues raised by the public concerning the number of proposed properties being 24 versus the parish plan of 20. Others were concerned about the financial benefits to the village, the lack of public transport and walking rights around the college land. Cllrs confirmed there was no planning

application , and could only be approved with village support. *Councillor Parry to incorporate the feedback into the parish plan*

c) Speed awareness / Road Safety – Cllr Gordon lead

- i) Update**
- ii) Twenty is Plenty discussion – Cllr Butler**

Cllr Butler reported on speeding around the village, and the use of 20 is plenty signs in other villages. Whilst not supported by Warwickshire County Council it was proposed by Cllr Butler to purchase several signs, this was seconded by Cllr Keavy. The council voted 6 to 1 in favour . *Clerk to order signs.*

d) Village Appearance – All

- i) Update**

Cllr Keavy stated there were no updates. Cllr Slora suggested a litter pick in the spring. The date of the 24th of March at 10:00 AM was agreed, meeting at the village hall.

e) Footpaths – Cllr Slora lead

- i) Update**
- ii) Old farm Drive/ Chestnut Grove Footpath discussion**
- iii) WCC Footpath Map – Next Steps**

Cllr Gordon reported that they work to the stiles and bridge had been ordered and would be done when the weather improves. Cllr Slora said the footpath committee looked at the old farm drive and agreed professional contractor was required . *Footpath committee to seek quotations.*

Mr Whyte from Chestnut Grove offer to help at.

Cllr Parry suggested meeting on the 29th of January at 6:00 PM with the footpath committee to discuss the map.

f) Village Hall and Church – Cllr Keavy lead

- i) Update**
- ii) Hall Structural Report – next steps All**

Mr Harwood presented the structural report that the hall committee had commissioned. He indicated that the report stated the issues could be classified as maintenance, but had no costs. He also alluded to other issues that he did not expand upon. He handed a copy to the parish clerk for circulation amongst Cllrs. It was resolved to discuss at the next parish council meeting.

g) College Update

- i) Update**

Cllr Edwards had no updates on the college.

9. Matters arising from previous meetings

a) Website update

b) Oak Tree Close complaint to Orbit

Mr Routly had circulated a document on the on an update on the new website . The company that the council placed an order with in October (2Commune) were unable to fulfil their obligation as their software supplier had withdrawn services. Mr Routly recommended moving to a supplier called Parish Online who had offered to take over the contract at no cost. He recommended that the council went with a large company rather than a single individual to ensure continuity of service. The council agreed unanimously to move to parish online and implement a .gov.uk website. *Mr Routly to set up website*

The Clerk informed the meeting she that she had a response from Orbit after 6 months. They requested that any complaints were directed to them by the tenants directly. Cllr Parry agreed to pass details to the residents .

10. New items

- a) **WCC Consultation Fire and Rescue**
- b) **WCC Consultation Footpaths**
- c) **WCC Consultation recycling centre**
- d) **New Biodiversity Duty on Parish Councils from 1/1/24 - Policy Approval**
- e) **Grant Request Gardening Club- £250**
- f) **Grant Request Wildlife Group – possible £5000**

The Clerk informed the meeting there were three consultations from Warwickshire County Council. It was resolved Cllr Parry would respond on Fire and Rescue as there were implications for Wellesbourne station. It was resolved the footpath committee would respond to the footpath consultation. It was resolved that Cllr Edwards would respond to the recycling centre consultation.

The Clerk informed the meeting there was a new obligation for parish councils to have a biodiversity policy. She had drafted one and circulated for approval. This was proposed for acceptance by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Keavy and carried unanimously. The Clerk indicated that a biodiversity survey was required and would circulate the link for volunteers. Mr White offered to help. *Clerk to circulate link*

Cllr Edwards made a request for a grant for £250 for the gardening club, this was proposed by Cllr Keavy, seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried unanimously. *Clerk to add to budget.*

Cllr Keavy read out a letter (that had been circulated) for a proposal for the wildlife area behind the church this was supported by Sarah Eden from the school and several villagers. He indicated there was a plan to create a wildlife area and the total project could cost as much as £20,000. He said there may be a future request for a donation from the parish council for £5000 but the group was not asking for this now. It was agreed unanimously to reserve £5000 in the budget. *Clerk to add to budget.*

11. Planning

a. New Applications to consider at this meeting

None.

b. Decisions of committee since last meeting for information

23/03002/FUL Erection of building to house animals for educational purposes. Moreton Morrell Campus Land Off John Davis Drive Moreton Morrell Warwick. **Support Sent.**

c. District Decisions for information

23/02776/FUL Proposed garden wall. Old Garden House Moreton Paddox Moreton Morrell Warwickshire CV35. **Permission with conditions.**

23/02737/FUL Demolition of existing buildings and erection of replacement detached dwelling and associated external works including repositioning existing drive (using existing highway access). Hales Farm Fosse Way Three Gates Moreton Morrell Warwickshire CV35 9DF . **Permission with conditions.**

23/03002/FUL Erection of building to house animals for educational purposes. Moreton Morrell Campus Land Off John Davis Drive Moreton Morrell Warwick. **Permission with Conditions.**

12. Finance

a. Approval of payments (to be circulated)

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

1.	The Room (Planning event)	£42.00 (paid)
2.	Kompan (Playing field audit)	£159.00 (paid)
3.	P Routly (Goal wheels)	£165.19 (paid)
4.	SDC (Uncontested election)	£100.00 (paid)
5.	Creative Folks (Planning event)	£532.80 (paid)
6.	The Room (Planning event)	£12.00 (paid)
7.	P Routly Salary (inc Back Pay)	£1131.20
8.	P Routly Expenses – Nov/Dec	£97.59
9.	BT Hall wifi Dec/Jan (P Routly)	£68.60
10.	Npower Street Lights elec – Nov/Dec	£130.89
11.	P Gibbins The Villager	£100.00
12.	A Parry Expenses for planning event	£16.38

b. Receipts (to be circulated)

The Clerk reported the following receipts :-

1.	Table Tennis table sale	£350.00
2.	Allotment rent	£180.00

c. 2024 Budget Approval

The Clerk had pre-circulated the proposed budget, after discussion Cllr Keavy proposed the budget be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried unanimously.

d. Precept Approval

Cllr Slora proposed the Precept of £24970 as highlighted in the budget, a 2% increase , this was seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried unanimously . *Clerk to inform SDC*

13. Correspondence – all circulated by email

All circulated by email over the past 2 months.

The Clerk had received a letter forward from Cllr Parry from the Wellesbourne Flood Group, with a request for further support to implement more flood alleviation measures. Cllrs discussed the proposal and agreed that whilst the measures would not directly help Moreton Morrell, it was water from the parish that was causing potential issues in Wellesbourne. Cllr Parry therefore proposed a new grant of £500, this was seconded by Cllr Slora and carried unanimously. *Clerk to add to budget and communicate.*

14. Matters of interest – future meeting agenda items.

Village Hall, and Village event on 2024

15. Any other business allowed by Chairman

None

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 18th March 2024 in The Room

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.07 pm.