

MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
26th September 2022

PRESENT:

| | |
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| Councillors: | G Slora (Chair), E Edwards, C Monks and A Parry |
| District Councillor: | A Parry |
| County Councillor: | P O'Donnell |
| Clerk: | A Parry (in the absence of P Routly) |

Five members of the public were in attendance

1. Public participation

Matters of interest in respect of the footpaths were raised by members of the public during the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr R James, Cllr B Keavy, Mr P Husband and Mrs P Routly

3. Governance

a) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest raised by attending councillors.

b) Freedom of Information – report on any new requests

None.

c) Code of Conduct / DPI

Cllr Parry to contact both Cllr James and Cllr Keavy to return their outstanding forms.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 25th July 2022

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25th July were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr James, and unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

5. District Councillor's Report – Cllr Parry

123+ Waste Collection from 1 August 2022

The new service was successfully launched on 1 August 2022 and as anticipated in delivering to over 130,000 households, there have been a few hotspots where food caddies hadn't been delivered. However, myself and other Cabinet members went out delivering to homes which had been missed, as they may have been hard to find by the contractor, or the household had recently moved into the area. In the event that anyone has still not received their caddies please contact the Streetscene Team or myself. The service was also hit by high absenteeism amongst the crew due to heat exhaustion during the heatwave, which has caused a few issues on missed bin collections, but is now starting to settle down with 99.5% of collections being administered on schedule.

Residents with smart phones are reminded to download the App and register their address to receive timely reminders of which bin/s to put out for the following morning. This can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play by searching www.stratford.gov.uk/app

I have also reported the issue of household waste being dumped beside or put into waste bins in the village and have reported issues from a concerned resident who have two young children in nappies plus cat litter to deal with which causes an overflow on their three weekly grey bin.

MRF

The new Multi-Recycling Facility is scheduled to be fully operational next summer. It will have the capacity to process 175,000 tonnes of waste although it will operate initially at around 125,000 tonnes with some of the capacity being sold to other local authorities and private companies at premium rates.

Oaktree Close

Inconsiderate parking continues to be an issue in Oaktree Close and this has been reported to both the Safer Neighbourhood Team and Orbit Housing. It has involved cars being driven across the green to park outside a few properties. As a result, Orbit are planning to install bollards to prevent such activity to ensure the safety of children and adults using the footpaths.

Cabinet Reshuffle

There has been a slight reshuffle of Cabinet and I am now portfolio holder for ICT, Transformation and Tourism – which also includes culture and the markets. This means I have been appointed to the Board of Stratford-upon-Avon Bid and shall be moving back onto the Planning Committee.

Solar Farm Granted

The application for a solar farm was granted at Newbold Pacey, despite significant local objection in terms of its impact on the character of the landscape at the gateway entrance into the village and concerns to its impact with regard to the ancient track – E6982 and in view of its close proximity to the Newbold Road with the inevitable distraction and dangers to passing motorists. There are no energy benefits from this solar farm to villagers or residents in the district and whilst solar produced energy is cheap and clean it is still recharged at the rate set by Ofgem.

The Cost of Living Payment

The first tranche payment should have been received by now. In total, eligible households will receive £650 in two tranches – next one is in October.

Healthcare

The Minor Injuries Unit at Stratford is now opening at weekends as it can be staffed and there is a need. SWFT has continued its commitment to the Ellen Badger Hospital and will be

building the Wellbeing Hub. This will contain all the remote services such as health visitors, district nursing, clinics and wellbeing work.

The media has been reporting about ambulance issues, but Warwick Hospital (or indeed UHCW) rarely have more than two ambulances waiting. The flow through them is good. The real problem with West Midlands ambulances is Birmingham – where they get backed up - which of course has a knock-on effect to the response rate.

Awaiting an update from Cllr Andy Smith on the situation regarding primary care in Upper Lighthorne and the knock-on consequences to GP practices in Wellesbourne and Kineton.

Community Safety

Delighted to advise that PC Catherine Morgan is back on patrol with the Wellesbourne Safer Neighbourhood Team and she and her colleagues need to know about any ASB issues and any other issues in and around the village. County Lines remains a key priority for the Community Safety Team across their patch with numerous interventions led by the Team.

Moreton Paddox

Members of the parish council joined me to view The Invisible House last month which has now been completed. This is an impressive and innovative new dwelling, which I can confirm has been built in accordance with the granted planning permission.

6. County Councillor's Report – Cllr O'Donnell

I do hope this finds you well as Autumn is certainly upon us.

Wellesbourne Chairs meeting October 10th 6.30-7.30 with Portfolio holder Cllr Heather Timms re recycling centres. All members of you Parish Council are invited and Zoom invites will be shared.

Year 6 secondary school places

Parents and carers of children starting in Year 6 this week are being asked to apply for their child's secondary school place by the deadline of 31 October 2022.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3238/warwickshire-year-6-children-are-invited-to-apply-for-their-secondary-school-place>

Memory Awareness month.

I am sure ours is not the only household where, as time goes by, more lists are made on a daily basis rather than storing everything in the mental calendar. Everyone forgets things from time to time, but sometimes it can be more serious. Globally, dementia is one of the biggest challenges we face.

World Alzheimer's Month, which also covers all other forms of dementia as well as Alzheimer's, is recognised annually in September, and this year Warwickshire County Council wants to help people learn more about dementia, how to spot the early signs and what support is available for those diagnosed with dementia.

Early signs of dementia can include:

- memory loss, such as remembering past events much more easily than recent ones
- problems thinking or reasoning, or finding it hard to follow conversations or TV programmes
- feeling anxious, depressed or angry about memory loss, or feeling confused, even when in a familiar environment

Many physical and mental factors can impact our memories, including stress, anxiety, depression, infections, certain physical illnesses and thyroid deficiencies. However, if your memory is getting noticeably worse, or if it is starting to affect your everyday life, please book a GP appointment to get an assessment. Almost half of Warwickshire residents with dementia are undiagnosed, meaning they cannot access additional support and treatment that would be available to them.

There are two key routes to finding out about dementia support services in your local area:

1. Dementia Connect in Warwickshire service - access to support from a Dementia Advisor who can provide a range of support as well as information on all the local services in your area – by phone on 0333 150 3456 or by email.
2. Warwickshire's Living Well with Dementia website – a resource with a range of information about dementia, a map of services at district and borough level with details of all the services in the area.

Cllr Parry and I are working with the Dementia café in Wellesbourne to see how we can support as elected members to make the whole journey less challenging for families and those with dementia. I am meeting with Rt Hon Jeremy Wright at the Dementia Cage tomorrow to highlight the challenges faced by residents with dementia and their families who are often their full time carers as well.

Great Big Green Week.

Residents are encouraged to find out how Warwickshire County Council is facing the challenges of climate change as part of Great Big Green Week 2022.

Great Big Green Week runs from Saturday 24 September to Monday 2 October 2022 and is the UK's biggest ever celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect the natural world.

Across the week (Monday 26 to Friday 30) Warwickshire County Council will cover the following key areas of activity:

- Active Travel
- Biodiversity
- Waste
- Energy
- Transport

This content will be shared on the [Warwickshire Website](#), the [Warwickshire Climate Emergency website](#) and across social media channels such as [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Find out more about Big Green Week here: <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

Find a local Big Green Week event here: <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/find-an-event/>

Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund.

Green Shoots Fund Application Extension Don't Miss Out!

Community and voluntary organisations with ideas for climate-friendly projects now have until Monday 3 October to get in their applications to the Green Shoots Climate Change Fund.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3274/applications-to-the-green-shoots-community-climate-change-fund-have-been-extended>

Tree Planting a tree for every resident!

Warwickshire is set to get a lot greener as WCC Cabinet approve the business case for a tree nursery in Snitterfield to meet the county's tree-planting needs.

The Cabinet paper on the Tree Nursery business case can be found here: [WCC Cabinet Thursday 8 September, item 8: Tree Nursery Business Case](#)

It is great news for the environment and Warwickshire County Council's tree planting aspirations as its Cabinet today (Thursday 8 September) approved the detailed business case for an extensive tree nursery that will service the county for generations to come.

Warwickshire County Council has ambitious tree planting plans for coming years that will see a tree for every resident planted across the county. This tree planting has been strategically planned to restore parts of forests and wooded areas that have been long lost to time, such as the ancient Forest of Arden, which once covered most of the county and beyond into Staffordshire and Worcestershire. It is hard to imagine such a vast area of woodland!

County Councillor Grant Fund now open.

A Warwickshire County Council-funded grant scheme, is once again accepting applications from local organisations and voluntary groups.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3241/supporting-our-communities-county-councillor-grant-fund-now-open-for-applications>

High Sheriff Events

David Kelham, Warwickshire's High Sheriff, seeks support from local businesses as he shares some of the events that he is looking forward to throughout the Autumn and Winter months. Lots of really interesting events to apply for.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3251/the-high-sheriff-of-warwickshire-looks-ahead-to-a-bumper-second-half-of-his-tenure>

Recognising Community Heroes.

David is still looking for nominations for the annual High Sheriff Awards. Do you know someone who deserves the recognition? Find out more and make a nomination here: <https://highsheriffwarwickshire.co.uk/high-sheriff-awards>

7. Warwickshire College Report

Farm

The 2022 harvest went well producing good wheat yields with the majority meeting the specifications suitable for milling/bread making. This year we are planning to grow winter barley and winter beans and these will be planted within the next 2 weeks.

The flowers and wild bird mixes that were planted to improve the biodiversity on the farm are growing well, now that there has been some rain. Some of these can be seen at the end of box field, in taplins which is opposite box field, and on the college side of Suggett spinney. The flowers take a year to establish so they will be in full bloom next spring.

The ewes will be sorted into their tupping groups shortly and moved on to some new pasture for flushing. The rams will then be put with them mid-October.

As mentioned previously, we have been working with the Wellesbourne & Walton flood action group to identify measures that can be introduced to alleviate flooding. The original plan was to introduce either slatted leaky dams and/or natural log dams to provide Natural Flood Management. However, after wider consultation, we are creating a wetland in one of the farm fields with the aim of this is to slow the water in high rainfall incidences. The water from the brook should flood into the field and then slowly return to the brook as the water level goes down. It will also create a diverse habitat for wildlife the rest of the time.

Estates

The Estates department has recently completed bathroom upgrades and general refurbishment works to Feldon student residential accommodation block. We are pleased to announce that in August we commenced a project on lower campus to build a new single storey building to house the Canine Hydrotherapy unit to support our Higher Education students using grant funding from the Office for Students. The new facility will house a Hydrotherapy pool and water treadmill to enable students to be trained in these canine rehabilitation techniques.

On upper campus we are using grant funding from the Skills Development fund to build an external construction facility in the rear compound of our Construction building. This facility will enable adults and young people to be trained in Construction Ground works.

We have also completed internal classroom redecoration works to the Gatherum building.

Staff and Students

Carpentry students at Moreton Morrell College decided to use their skills to make products to raise funds for a charity appeal which is supporting those living in Ukraine throughout the last summer term.

The students made sample products, such as bird tables and planters, and promoted these at the lambing weekend and through social media. They then used the college facilities and the skills they had learnt to produce the products. At the final count they had taken orders for over £1200 which is a great achievement.

Owen Shaw, a bricklaying student at MM College represented the college at the national finals of the annual Guild of Bricklayers competition and although did not finish with a place he was highly commended for the work he produced. We are also proud that Moreton Morrell College will be hosting the Guild of Bricklayers regional qualifying event in 2023, dates will be confirmed in the new year.

Carpentry and bricklaying students from Moreton Morrell College competed in the annual Skillbuild competition and secured first and fourth place within the carpentry competition along with highly commended within bricklaying. George Clarke, who won the carpentry event, will now represent Moreton Morrell College in the national final to be held in Edinburgh in November this year.

As construction is now underway on the new construction facility at Moreton Morrell College, we are now planning new exciting courses within the construction department including PASMA tower scaffold training, abrasive wheels and a general construction operations course amongst others as part of the Skills Development Fund initiative to help train construction workers for the future. We are busy upskilling our construction staff to enable delivery of all these new programs.

As the Agriculture and Countryside students return with healthy numbers to Moreton Morrell College the planning will begin for the siting of our wildflower and bird mix field margins that you may see throughout the site over the year. We are also embarking on creating a tree planting plan for the site as this is a new module in the Countryside course this year. The students and staff are keen to plant a range of native species in various locations around the estate.

The Animal Welfare students have returned from a 10 day study tour to Greece, where they undertook conservation work towards the country's Loggerhead turtle conservation. A very successful trip which has made a lifelong impact on the students who were lucky enough to snorkel with these magical creatures.

The sport and football academy students were recently inspired by a visit from Charlie Fogarty MBE, who had a promising footballing career until he suffered a catastrophic brain injury following on from a road traffic accident. Charlie beat the odds and tirelessly worked to be able to walk, talk and play football again. He has regularly represented Ireland in the cerebral palsy world cup and has completed his degree in Sport Science. The students were fascinated and moved by his story and we hope it has helped motivate them to realise anything is possible.

A new training facility has been laid at Moreton Morrell College, in partnership with RMF Group, to help develop the next generation of skilled individuals to keep the country's trains on track. The track gives learners the chance to perfect their track maintenance skills while

working effectively as a team and preparing for a promising career in the rail industry. The new teaching facility has cost more than £78,000 and has been funded by the Department for Education through the Skills Accelerator Development Fund.

WCG and Taylor Wimpey Midlands are creating a training facility for apprentice bricklayers at Moreton Morrell College. As part of the partnership an area has been provided to enable bricklayers to practice their building skills.

A Warwick student who swapped a career in marketing for floristry has been named Student of the Year at Moreton Morrell College. Amanda Stagg, 48, enjoyed a successful career as a marketing director for more than 20 years but decided to switch careers and pursue her passion of floristry. She has now completed a Level 3 Floristry course at the college and been named the college's top student in the process.

Peter Husband

MM College Director and Principal & COO

8. Sub Committee Reports and Updates

a) Playing Field

Cllr Edwards advised that there were no known issues with the equipment but asked that the new handyman carry out regular visual checks as part of his maintenance duties.

b) Planning

i) Local Plan

Cllr Parry advised that she and Cllr Edwards had met to discuss a preliminary Action Plan which would be included in the draft Local Plan for initial comment for the SDC team to review prior to being brought back for a public consultation with villagers.

Council members discussed the following report submitted by Cllr Edwards which was in response to the findings of the survey carried out earlier this year and reflected key strategic issues which affect the future of the Parish.

Introduction

Following on from the village survey earlier in the year a draft village plan is being produced for consultation based on the key findings and issues raised.

In order to progress this further and produce a detailed Action Plan, a steer from members of the Parish Council is required on certain key strategic issues which affect the future of the Parish .

1) Car Parking /Electric charging points:

Lack of car parking was raised by many respondents and is becoming an increasing problem throughout the village particularly near the pub and school. In the future as more people

switch to electric vehicles, charging points will also be an issue particularly for those without driveways.

Thought needs to be given to address these . Ideally a car park near the school with electric charging points if any land could be found and/ or converting lampposts to charging points throughout the village should be explored. Grants maybe available to achieve this.

Could a feasibility study of available land within the Parish be commissioned to try and facilitate improvement in car parking? Other thoughts?

2) The future of the Village Hall:

Despite attempts to encourage more use of the village hall and the resurgence of the management committee, interest from residents to attend events has been poor.

Respondents to the survey cited the smell, dampness, unhygienic toilets, lack of parking as reasons not to use and preferred the room except for larger functions.

Funds exist to upgrade facilities at the village hall to make it more welcoming and install cinema equipment etc but the basic structure particularly in relation to the damp problem must be properly investigated before any decision on its future and any further investment made. It is suggested the PC needs to meet with the trustees to decide on a way forward and no further funds from the PC are allocated until a way forward is agreed.

Action (Clerk, BK, EE):

It was agreed that the PC to request that a structural/damp survey be commissioned by the Trustees of The Village Hall at the earliest opportunity with the report provided for discussion at the next PC meeting on 21 November. No further grants to be considered for The Village Hall until an assessment of this report can be made by the PC.

3) Improving Communication:

It is becoming more apparent that communication throughout the Parish needs to be improved and the profile of the PC needs to be raised. The villager is cited in the survey as the means by which the majority receive information but as this is only bi monthly it is not suitable to get urgent information out . The PC website really needs updating and promoting and use of other social media Facebook/ Nextdoor expanded to aid communication. Another notice board near the phone box and/ or at the Pub when it reopens are other considerations and all were considered good ideas to progress.

Action:

Cllr Parry has requested a quote for a new website from a local website developer in Wellesbourne, Mick Stallard Creative; and Cllr Slora would also obtain a quote from another local website designer currently producing a new website for the Black Horse. A decision on a new website to be taken at the next PC meeting.

Higher visibility and accessibility of Councillors was requested in the survey with articles in villager on each of us and the areas we cover suggested.

Action:

Cllr Monks to expand upon the information provided in The Villager on parish councillors.

4) Village Footpaths

A much-valued asset in the Parish with only 3% never using them. However, comments on condition of some and lack of knowledge of routes need to be addressed. The planned footpath and bridleway map needs to be commissioned and property owners identified and contacted where routes need to be cleared / improved.

Action: *Website designer appointed to also produce footpath map and Cllr Parry to liaise with Stephen Bolton at NPAPC on the footpaths map they have produced. Resident Malcolm White offered to help Cllr Slora identify and define correct footpath route on blocked area between Moreton Morrell and Wellesbourne within the Staplehill area as he has access to the Ordnance Survey digital mapping system on his phone. Cllr Parry to forward Malcolm White's contact details*

5) Play Area / Lack of facilities for teenagers:

Again a much valued asset and PC needs to consider continued investment including providing a shelter as agreed for young people to meet safely. How much more investment do we want to make in the Play Area and what should be the priorities?

Action:

It was agreed to submit an application for the new WCC Community Grants for a contribution towards a new youth shelter. Clerk to action on her return from holiday. It was noted that an application towards a youth shelter had also been submitted to SDC's CIL grants. (Clerk)

Draft Local Plan to include strategy for future of the playing field which also reflected the renewal of its lease with WCG. **(EE, AP)**

6) Lengthsman / Village handyman:

The upkeep of the appearance of the Parish to ensure it is a safe and pleasant environment to live was considered a very high priority. The PC needs to clarify what duties can be carried out by the Lengthsman and action these and also employ a handyman to carry out a range of duties to ensure the safety and upkeep of village facilities including play area, planters, bus shelter, bins, footpaths etc. Money should be placed in the budget to ensure this can be implemented and an appropriate person recruited. This was agreed.

Cllr Parry provided a list of the duties which can be undertaken by the Lengthsman at the meeting which was only Highways related.

Action:

It was agreed to appoint the handyman to carry out a list of jobs around the parish which required to be quoted for at an agreed rate of £15ph. In addition, the list of activities which can be undertaken by the Lengthsman was to be determined by Cllr Slora and Cllr James and provided to Cllr Parry so that she can request his services via The Clerk at Wellesbourne PC.

7) Ageing population / Housing Needs/ School intake

These issues are all linked and the PC needs to take a view on suitable development in the village which will meet the needs of an ageing population but also ensure young families are attracted to the Parish to keep a thriving community and school. This is critical as new developments like Triangle Field are proposed. Also views on what to invest any funds from CIL as a result of any development. This area will need further development but is to be included in the draft Local Plan

Action Required:

The PC needs to discuss these issues and suggest a way forward on each area above in order that a preliminary action plan can be produced to include in the draft Village Plan.

Cllr Monks asked for thanks to be recorded to Cllr Edwards and Cllr Parry for their work in respect of the Local Plan.

c) Speed awareness / Road Safety

Awaiting response from SNT in respect of training for the volunteers.

d) Village Appearance

i) Brook Lane works

Cllr O'Donnell to follow up with Highways and obtain timetable schedule

ii) Parking issues 14 and 15 Oak Tree Close

Covered under Cllr Parry's District Council Report

e) Footpaths

Cllr Slora to retrace the footpath to Wellesbourne and check signage together with resident Malcolm Whyte who kindly offered to help.

f) Village Hall and Church

Covered under Cllr Edwards' report

g) College Update

Farm Drive hedge/ verge cutting

Correspondence has been received by Moreton Morrell College to advise that this work is in hand and Cllr Edwards advised that she would chase this matter up in view of the urgency. The problem was highlighted by residents in Chestnut Grove who had previously raised the issue and which was discussed at the previous PC meeting.

Cllr Edwards is in regular contact with Peter Husband who would have attended the meeting on 19th September but was unable to attend on 25th September. However he hopes to attend the next meeting in November.

9. Matters arising from previous meetings

a) Handyman/Lengthsman

It was agreed to appoint the handyman to carry out a list of jobs around the parish which required to be quoted for at an agreed rate of £15ph. In addition, the list of activities which can be undertaken by the Lengthsman was to be determined by Cllr Slora and Cllr James and provided to Cllr Parry so that she can request his services via The Clerk at Wellesbourne PC.

10. New items

a) Wellesbourne Flood Relief Grant

It was agreed to award the Wellesbourne Flood Relief Forum a grant of £1000 to support the works being undertaken to alleviate flooding impacting on Wellesbourne and improve localised drainage. Proposed by Cllr Parry seconded by Cllr Slora and supported unanimously.

11. Planning Applications

- a. New Applications to consider at this meeting
There were no new applications to consider.
- b. Decisions of committee since last meeting for information
None.
- c. District Decisions for information only
None.

11. Finance

a) Approval of payments

Proposed by Cllr Monks and seconded by Cllr Edwards. Cllr Parry had requested another password verification code from Unity Trust Bank and would authorise the outstanding payment on receipt. Cllr Slora and Cllr Parry co-signed the cheques.

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| 1. | P Routly Salary inc tax back | £963.84 |
| 2. | SDC bin emptying | £295.20 |
| 3. | R Frogley fencing (allotments) | £360.00 |
| 4. | C D Irvin (allotment gates) | £150.00 |
| 5. | P Routly Expenses – July/Aug | £94.00 |
| 6. | BT Hall wifi Aug/sept (P Routly) | £59.98 |
| 7. | PATA Payroll | £18.40 |
| 8. | Npower Street Lights elec – July/Aug | £64.26 |
| 9. | Kompan inspection | £150.00 |
| 10. | PKF Littlejohn external audit | £240.00 |
| 11. | WCC allotment rent | £180.00 |

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| 12. P Gibbins villager | £100.00 |
| 13. Hall rent | £15.00 |

b) Receipts (NA)

The following receipts were reported:-

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|---------------|-----------|
| 1. Eon Refund | £21.98 |
| 2. Precept | £12000.00 |

c) External Audit feedback

The audit of accounts for Moreton Morrell Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2022 have been completed and there were no issues arising as reviewed by PKF Littlejohn LLP. The Council recorded their thanks to The Clerk for her diligence in this respect.

12. Correspondence

None received

13. Matters of interest – future meeting agenda items.

- Village Hall Survey
- Local Plan Draft

14. Any other business allowed by Chairman

- The Clerk to chase John Moverley regarding the Allotment repairs to the hedge and gate
- Councillors were advised that there had been a robbery of gardening equipment at a property in the village which was a concern and that villagers need to be made aware.

15. Date of next meeting

21st November 2022, Village Hall, Moreton Morrell, 7.30pm

Cllr Anne Parry

Acting Clerk for the Meeting