# MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillors: A Parry (Chair),

J Gordon, G Slora, B Keavy, J Cleeton

**District Councillor:** A Parry **County Councillor:** D Kendall **Clerk:** P Routly

No representative of Warwickshire College and 8 members of the public.

# 1. Apologies for absences

Cllr Greetham, A Cropley (Warwickshire College Group)

# 2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2015 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Cleeton and carried unanimously as a true record of proceedings.

#### 3. Chairman's report

The Chairman Cllr Parry made the following report:

# MMPC Chairman's AGM Report - May 2016

The last 12 months have proved a steep learning curve for me as a new parish councillor and chairman, and firstly I would like to thank our clerk Pam Routly for her excellent work, expertise and terrific support in guiding me through the maze and process.

My thanks are also extended to all the parish councillors for their brilliant support and contribution in what has been a particularly busy year, dominated by matters emanating from actions taken by Moreton Morrell College.

The commitment given by all councillors highlights the passion for the village and the villagers, and reflects the dedication and hard work of this council.

#### **Moreton Morrell College**

The Parish Council is continuing its dialogue with the college regarding access issues and it is hoped that an appropriate compromise will arise which meets the needs of both the college and the villagers. Several meetings have been held with the chief executive and senior management team in attempts to resolve the situation and this is ongoing and a

separate working party with the College has now been set up to develop a solution by September 2016.

In addition, MMPC has sought advice from Pinsents, a top UK law firm and continues to be in liaison with Warwickshire County Council, Jeremy Wright QC MP regarding matters. The parish council also consulted widely on the issues with villagers through the development and analysis of an online survey which gained over 165 responses. Discussions regarding the Playing Field Lease and the Sports Hall have also been ongoing.

My thanks are extended to David Edwards for his time, enthusiasm and involvement in working with councillors on this matter.

# Village WiFi

The installation of FREE Wifi in the Village Hall will hopefully be extensively used by villagers and encourage greater use of the facilities. My thanks to both Steve and Pam Routly for their help with this project and for resolving issues with BT.

#### Welcome Pack

My thanks to Cllr Jane Cleeton in particular for her work on updating the Welcome Pack which is available on the website.

#### **GLH**

Traffic related issues set to impact on the village and villagers from the proposed new GLH settlement have been expressed to WCC Highways and Stratford on Avon District Council. As chairman I shall be continuing to raise a concerned voice on behalf of villagers as this issue increases over the coming months with anticipated planning permissions. It is important that MMPC is actively represented as an adjoining parish.

#### Medical Centre

I am delighted to report positive news has now been received from Hastings House Medical Centre in respect of Warwickshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group agreeing to funding. The practice will now be focusing on finalising the architectural plans and building specification for Full Planning Permission so that construction can begin 2016/2017.

# **SD311 Footpaths**

Some progress has been made over the last 12 months regarding the two footpaths to Moreton Morrell from Wellesbourne via Newbold Road and Kineton Road. I am continuing to work closely with the working party in this respect as the representative for Moreton Morrell to ensure both these routes are incorporated onto the WCC Definitive Map. Evidence of usage from Moreton Morrell villagers is required to support this case.

# **Dog Fouling**

The implementation of a Dog Fouling Campaign has helped to educate and reinforce the importance of eradicating this anti-social behaviour amongst a few irresponsible dog owners. MMPC invested in the production of an educational leaflet which was delivered to every household in the parish together with some dog poo bags to get the message

over. Armed with pink chalk spray a team of volunteers led by Cllr Cleeton also highlighted the issue and additional dog bins were installed at prominent dog walking places.

This is an ongoing campaign, and a serious matter that I have raised at a district level. Villagers are requested to report incidents and provide evidence if possible of the dog owner culprits in order to progress a prosecution.

#### **Planning**

Planning is always a contentious topic and as a category 4 Local Service Village Moreton Morrell is designated to take up to 32 new dwellings over the Local Plan period from 2011-2031, in line with SDC Core Strategy policies and the National Planning Policy Framework.

An application for 35 houses off John Taylor Way was refused by Stratford on Avon District Council on the grounds of design and scale of the development in 2015, resulting in a Public Inquiry Appeal held earlier this year which I attended as a witness. The outcome of this Appeal is still awaited, but is anticipated within the next few weeks.

My thanks to the planning committee for their work and help in determining the official response from MMPC to various planning applications across the parish over the last 12 months. This involves making difficult and often unpopular decisions which have to be in line with official planning policy.

# Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum

I have attended the Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum meetings over the last 12 months and the next WKCF is scheduled to take place on Thursday 2nd June, when the medical centre will be at the forefront of the agenda.

#### The Villager

Alison Gregory has done a wonderful job as editor of The Villager which provides an invaluable communication tool between the parish council and villagers. My thanks are also extended to everyone who has contributed.

Finally, I would like to thank all villagers for their kind support over the last 12 months, which has been a busy, but enjoyable experience (most of the time!).

#### 4. Finance

# i. Approval of the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013

The Responsible Financial Officer (Clerk) presented the accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

I am presenting the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016. The balance carried forward from last year was £49259. Total receipts for the year amounted to £22166.

Total payments for the year amounted to £14833 resulting in an excess of receipts over payments of £7333.

The end of year reserves amount to a total of £56592 with £15392 allocated to the general fund, £30000 to the project fund, £10000 to the planning fund and £1200 to the election fund.

The accounts will be subject to internal and external audit in the coming weeks. I will request the accounts are approved and the Statement of Accounts is signed in the main Parish Council meeting.

# 5. County Councillor's report

#### Cllr Kendall reported

County Council passed a budget with slight increase, also there will be cuts, but some increase in budget for social care.

School safety zone funding was obtained, and flashing sign installed, the lines are being repainted. Cllr Gordon challenged location, but Cllr Kendall said it was only place WCC would agree to, a second one requested is at Duffus hill bus stop.

Living in Warwickshire survey is online, please complete

The County Council is taking interest in the college footpaths situation.

Cllr Cleeton says footpath committee need to walk footpaths as some are blocked. Cllr Parry stated that the WCC right of way officer would visit college in May.

# 6. District Councillor's report

Cllr Parry filed and read out the following report:-

The last 12 months have predominantly been preoccupied with matters concerning the Core Strategy, Medical Centre, Planning and Housing related issues which impact on villagers throughout the Parish of Moreton Morrell.

An update on activities is highlighted below:

# **Core Strategy**

The consultation of the updated Core Strategy with its modifications is well under way and it is anticipated it will be declared sound and adopted by SDC in July.

#### **Medical Centre**

Delighted to report positive news has been received from Hastings House Medical Centre in respect of Warwickshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group agreeing to funding. The practice will now be focusing on finalising the architectural plans and building specification for Full Planning Permission so that construction can begin 2016/2017. I have been extensively involved in this project throughout 2015/2016.

# **SD311 Footpaths**

Attending the next meeting later this month to progress matters regarding the two footpaths to Moreton Morrell via Newbold Road and Kineton Road. I am continuing to

work closely with the working party in this respect as the representative for Moreton Morrell to ensure both these routes are incorporated onto the WCC Definitive Map. Evidence of usage from Moreton Morrell villagers is required to support this case.

# **Dog Fouling**

I raised the matter of dog fouling across my ward at Full Council last month and whilst SDC take the issue of dog fouling extremely seriously they are requesting members of the public to report incidents and provide evidence if possible of the culprits in order to progress a prosecution.

#### **Moreton Morrell College Access**

I continue to have dialogue with Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Leader of Warwickshire County Council regarding this matter and also with Jeremy Wright QC MP.

#### **Planning**

The outcome of the John Taylor Way Appeal is still awaited but is anticipated within the next few weeks. Over the last 12 months I have been extensively involved in the Appeal and represented SDC as a witness during the Appeal.

#### GLH

I will be attending a meeting next Wednesday 11th May regarding traffic related issues with WCC Highways.

# Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum

The date of the next WKCF is scheduled to take place on Thursday 2nd June, when the medical centre will be at the forefront of the agenda. Venue to be confirmed.

#### 7. Community representative's report

#### i. Warwickshire College

Mr Andrew Cropley was not present but filed the following report with respect to questions at the last PC meeting:-

Lambing - due to staffing issues in the farm, we would have had to pay money to bring an external member of staff into the college for the day to work with the school. We were simply passing on this cash cost to the school. We will look at both the lambing set up and the wider school offer for 2017.

I have spoken with the manager of our reception team and have asked to ensure that complaints of this nature are handled sensitively and that details are passed on to the senior manager on site and the Customer Services Manager.

John Taylor Way - as I said at the meeting, we have no specific plans for this access, however, we are mindful of the potential hazards and are exploring options to improve things both for our own students and the public using the right of way as a footpath.

# ii. The Villager

Alison Gregory who has been editor for 12 months reported she was pleased people are doing regular features. She asked for more articles from all villagers and had a recent submission from the school. She would like more for the village hall. She stated she needed a volunteer from council to interview for next month. Cllr Keavy volunteered. It was agreed to put a few copies in the church. It was only outlying settlements do get a copy delivered. Cllr Cleeton added it's even better than before, thanks to college for printing, the Ford family given up delivery job, recruiting a new person, balance of fund is £150.

# iii. Village Hall

Mike Harwood could not attend but filed the following report:-

Firstly we thank the PC for their valuable financial support which has been used to assist with our running costs.

We also thank you for installing and maintaining the Internet connection which we hope will provide a valuable addition.

We have installed two storage heaters and we are monitoring their contribution.

We have recently installed a new cooker using the generous grant from the Cadbury Trust.

There have been two successful fund raising events and the new tables purchased in 2014 were appreciated by the organisers.

The Hall has been used for more events in the last year, which included:

School Discos

**Birthday Parties** 

Community Café

Harvest Luncheon

Golden Age Lunch

Fund raising events

Christmas Carols

We will need to consider further maintenance to the exterior and the flat roof.

This covers our main activities and we hope the Hall will continue to be used by the village community.

#### iv. Community Café

Jo Boulton thanked the Parish Council for the grant and stated there were about 8-15 regular attendees, and they met every fortnight apart from school holidays.

# v. Moreton Morrell Parochial Church Council

John Moverley filed and read the following report:-

Here are just some highlights from the last year for your church:

Our first Barn Service was held and proved a great success. It was informal and aimed at being a community event. It is being held again this year on Sunday July 1th at the Moreton Morell College campus.

Our new Church Room is progressing well. There have been a number of unexpected challenges and delays, some of which have proved costly. We have sufficient funds raised for the external build but are still actively seeking support to complete the internal finish. Once completed, we hope this will be a real community asset complementing activity in the village hall and in other areas.

Links to the Village School are very strong and we have been delighted to host events on the church on a number of occasions.

The Village Fete was again very successfully - a joint effort in organizing by the Church and School. This year's fete is on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A new group for young people has been established, the Kids Zone, meeting monthly in the village hall.

Our churchyard we hope is seen as important to the village and we are very grateful to the Council for the grant made to help defray costs of its maintenance. Last year we added more bulbs to provide colour and are keen to add more bulbs and plants going forward. We are always keen to hear of those who may have some to offer?

Four other points:-

It has been of some sadness to us that our church has had to be locked during the day over recent months. This has been linked to the building work. We hope very soon to return to unlocking during the day to allow visitors and local residents' access when they need it.

The other exciting news is that we are welcoming our new curate, Rachel. She will be a great addition to our work and her enthusiasm is quite infectious. She has already got involved with developing the chaplaincy to Moreton Morrell campus.

After many years in the role, Tom Cox has stood down as churchwarden and Nick Benbow has taken his place. Hilary Williams is also our new PCC Secretary.

The Bishop of Coventry will be visiting the village on the 2th June and there will be a confirmation service on that evening.

I hope this report gives an insight into our activity. We believe the church is an important part of our community and always seek ways to further develop this.

# **8. Matters of Interest**

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.