

MORETON MORRELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 15th MAY 2017

PRESENT:

Councillors:	A Parry (Chair), J Gordon, G Slora, E Greetham B Keavy, J Cleeton, J Ford
District Councillor:	A Parry
County Councillor:	A Parry
Clerk :	P Routly

No representative of Warwickshire College
and 9 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absences

Jo Boulton.

2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th May 2016 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Cleeton, seconded by Cllr Gordon 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 2017

The last 12 months have continued to provide new challenges to the Council 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.

Queen's 90th Birthday

A key event during the last year was the village's street party held to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday and my thanks are extended to Cllr Cleeton and her team of volunteers who worked so hard to make the event such a great success.

Family Fun Day

The Family Fun Day held over the May Bank Holiday Weekend was well attended and my thanks are extended to Cllr Cleeton as well as fellow parish councillors for their help and support to make the event such a great success.

Defibrillator and Telephone Kiosk

The Parish Council has now officially adopted the telephone kiosk in the centre of the village and the defibrillator courtesy of the British Heart Foundation has been developed. I am currently compiling a list of volunteers interested in undertaking training which will be facilitated by our resident doctors in the village.

Moreton Morrell College

The Parish Council is continuing its dialogue with the college regarding the renewal of the playing field lease and access issues remain at the forefront of our agenda. It is still hoped that an appropriate compromise may be able to be developed 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. Details about the new Sports Hall and community access is still awaited.

My thanks are particularly extended to Cllr Elizabeth Greetham as our college representative and for her diligence and help in progressing matters in respect of the playing field lease and access issues.

Church Hall

The PCC need to be congratulated on the success of developing the new Church Hall and we are looking forward to putting it to good use for our own meetings and events.

Village WiFi

The installation of FREE Wifi in the Village Hall appears to be put to good use and will continue to be funded by the Parish Council.

Welcome Pack

The new welcome pack has been well received by villagers and we still hold a small stock of printed copies for newcomers and villagers wishing to update their information.

Medical Centre

Construction on the new medical centre in Wellesbourne is scheduled to start in July following full planning permission and agreement by the practice with Walton Estate in respect of the land in Dog Close. The build programme is scheduled for 12 months which means the new medical centre is expected to open in Summer 2018.

Dog Fouling

The Parish Council remains concerned that Dog Fouling continues to be a problem fuelled by a few irresponsible dog owners. 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 the last 12 months have remained busy with applications for extensions and new developments. This also included the outcome of the Appeal for 35 houses off John Taylor Way which was dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

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, however the Parish Council is not against development or the opportunity for people to extend their home, providing it doesn't cause substantial harm to neighbours or the character of the area.

Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum

I have attended and chaired the Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum meetings over the last 12 months and the next WKCF is scheduled to take place on Thursday 22nd June,

The Villager

Alison Gregory has yet again done a great 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.

4. Finance

i. Approval of the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016

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

I am presenting the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017.

The balance carried forward from last year was £56592

Total receipts for the year amounted to £25006 including a Transparency Act IT grant of £766.

Total payments for the year amounted to £21766 resulting in an excess of receipts over payments of £3250

The end of year reserves amount to a total of £59842 with £17876 allocated to the general fund, £30000 to the project fund, £10000 to the planning fund, £1200 to the election fund and £766 to the Transparency Act IT 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 Parry thanked all for her support in her recent election. She stated it will be a challenging 4 years and is going for induction soon. The first full council meeting is on 23rd May. She has already been appointed to the Adult and Social Care Committee

6. District Councillor's report

Cllr Parry filed and read out the following report:-

The last twelve months have proved particularly busy across the ward, with matters relating to planning and developments continuing to dominate the agenda. The Planning Inspectorate's green light on the district's Core Strategy following the Examination in Public earlier in the year, and its adoption by Stratford-on-Avon District Council in July 2016, was particularly welcome news.

The benefits of having the Core Strategy in place, together with a five-year housing supply, means there are policies in place to prevent new development, which are not in line with community need.

A draft Stratford Area Transport Strategy is now a major focus and is being developed setting out Warwickshire County Council's and Stratford on Avon District Council's shared transport strategy for Stratford-upon-Avon and the town's immediate environs and key strategic links. Further information will be released later this year.

Safeguarding vulnerable adults and children is another serious priority being addressed by Stratford District Council and we are consequently encouraging everyone to report any incidents of abuse or neglect within the community to its Safeguarding Advisors in Martin Cowan (children on 01789 260849) or Nick Cadd (adults on 01789 260841). Your help in being the ears and the eyes in the community is much appreciated in this respect.

Construction of the new medical centre in Wellesbourne will soon be starting, which provides much needed new health facilities to the surrounding villages. However actions by Stagecoach to put a stop to the bus routes along the Newbold Road into Wellesbourne from June 2016 have undoubtedly had an impact to villagers in need of a public transport lifeline to accessing local services and facilities.

As chairman of the Wellesbourne & Kineton Community Forum I have welcomed the input from PC Catherine Morgan of the Wellesbourne Safer Neighbourhood Team who reports on the police activity in and around the villages, in terms of crime, traffic issues and anti-social behaviour. The Forum meets three times a year and members of the public are very welcome to attend, contribute to the discussions and debate topics of local interest including crime, traffic and transport, education and health services.

7. Community representative's report

i. Warwickshire College

No one from the College was present but they sent the following email:-

We note that a Moreton Morrell College update has not been placed on the agenda, and so on that basis, will not submit an electronic report, as has been the case for recent meetings.

We would like it noted, and I am sure it will be discussed, that we are awaiting feedback on the terms of reference supporting the creation of a working group formed of representatives from the College and the Parish Council.

We would also like to record our congratulations from the College to Anne Parry, upon her successful appointment as a Warwickshire County Councillor.

ii. The Villager

Alison Gregory made the following report:-

Thanks those who submit material, Cllr Anne Parry, John Moverley, MM primary school, Warwickshire College, Steve Harvey for nature watch. The Village choir has slot and BMM are advertising for a small fee. Village articles always welcome. Thanks to Pete Gibbins at college for printing, and Jane Cleeton for arranging distribution, and Pam for uploading to website. I received a laptop from WCC, but no software, so fee paying ads such as BMM are covering software costs. It's also been agreed local ads with be £12 per year. Cllr Cleeton thanked Alison for her work, the PC for the grant and thanked those who distribute it.

iii. Village Hall

Mike Harwood and Diane Coleman made the following report:-

It's been a quiet year, we appreciate PC support, but costs are going up and income is not going up. The last insurance demand was £1400, but it was negotiated down to £1000. We appreciate broadband support. We have tried to address the heating, the storage heating helps to counteract the damp. We have asked the immediate neighbour to tackle the vegetation on the garden side of the hall, and there was a water leak but that got repaired. We have problems with Eon and meter reading resulting in stupid bills.

The hall is steadily used for village events. Car parking is an issue that sometimes gets raised, but generally not an issue. Still might have a problem with damp on the roof .

Diane Coleman stated a sign writer is making a sign to commemorate the donation that funded the renovations. She also enquired about a sign outside in the road to mark the hall presence.

iv. Community Café

Jo Boulton could not attend but sent the following report:-

The community cafe continues to be well attended. There were 9 of us there today, we normally expect at least 7.

We are keen to continue and are very grateful to the parish council for their grant, and would be very pleased if you would be able to continue with this.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting on Monday, however Diana or Jane will be able to answer any questions that you might have.

With regard to the grant amount, £250 would be sufficient annually to cover our costs as we have decided to reduce our hall time to 1 hour.

v. Moreton Morrell Parochial Church Council

John Moverley filed and read the following report:-

We welcome the opportunity to present this report.

It has been a very busy year for your church and here are just some of the highlights:

Our new room at the church is now completed and open for use. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of so many which allowed us, despite a number of setbacks, to complete. We are very grateful also for so much voluntary help in painting, fitting the kitchen and more. Now we have to make full use of it to complement activity in the Village Hall. There are many ideas including links to the school. Alison Gregory has agreed to take responsibility for bookings and we intend it to be a real community asset.

Links to the Village School are very strong and we have been delighted to host events in the church on a number of occasions including a standing room only Carol Service. We were delighted when the school gained an outstanding grade in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools.

Despite very wet conditions, the Village Fete was again very successfully – a joint effort in organising by the Church and School. This year's fete is on July 1st

We have welcomed our new curate, Rachel, who combines the role with a Diocesan one, and lives at Charlecote. She is a great addition to us . She is also leading the chaplaincy to Moreton Morrell campus.

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. We are grateful also for the opportunity to salvage some plants from the village planters before they were taken down. We now have some landscaping to do given the new room so any assistance very welcome.

There is more but I know time is limited. However if I may, I would like to mention three forthcoming events:

We will be holding an informal family friendly Barn Service again, this time at Chesterton Fields Farm, just off the Fosse and close to the village. It is on June 18th, Father's Day, and part of a series of nationwide events bringing communities together, as the "Great Get Together" in memory of Jo Cox MP. We want this to be a truly community event, open to all whatever faith or none.

The church is hosting a European Floristry School in August - Friday 18th to Sunday 20th. This is a high profile event and we hope to arrange for the displays in and outside the church to be open to visitors after the School is finished.

The Bishop of Coventry will be visiting the village on the 3rd July and there will be a confirmation service on that evening.

I hope that this report gives a brief 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

John Moverley asked about state of Brook Lane, Cllr Slora spoke and stated it had been followed up with WCC. Cllr Parry stated she might have more influence in County Cllr new role.

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