

Total receipts for the year amounted to £20955.

Total payments for the year amounted to £13750 resulting in an excess of receipts over payments of £7205.

The end of year reserves amount to a total of £42699 with £10499 allocated to the general fund, £20000 to the project fund, £1000 to the playing field entrance , £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 Kendal was not present and filed no report.

6. District Councillor’s report

Cllr Wright reported :-

‘This will be my last meeting , I am stepping down after 22 years , but will still be around to offer advice, it’s been a pleasure, to represent the Parish , I was born and raised locally in Ashorne. I am sure with such an active Parish Council I am leaving the Parish in good hands.

I will continue to follow up on the outstanding planning issues over the next few days’.

The number of council members elected next year in all out elections would reduce from 56 to 33. There will be one for Moreton Morrell, but he hoped both Wellesbourne ward members would co-operate.

The Parish Council all thank Roger for his advice, hard work and support over the last 22 years and made a small presentation of a gift and card from Council members and the Clerk.

Cllr Johnston pre-file a report :-

Core Strategy delays –The District Council agreed by an overwhelming majority to accept the Cabinet recommendation that the site at Gaydon / Lighthorne Heath to be adopted by the Council last Monday. I think that this gives no benefit to this area. I believe traffic problems will become worse as our roads are used by commuters still, and no commitment to improve the buildings at Kineton School have been made. I believe that the proposal for Long Marston which includes a Western Relief Road for Stratford would have provided some relief to the traffic generated from South Stratford avoiding the Clopton Bridge. Both Roger Wright and myself voted against this, along with both Kineton and both Harbury ward councillors. The direct route for cars from this settlement which with Lighthorne Heath will be as big as Wellesbourne, will be through our lanes.

Walking Guide – The Guide has been distributed within the whole area and to many local businesses. I have very few left and will need more to top up businesses before the May Bank Holiday.

We have sufficient funds to provide different coloured way markers for each walk. We need to walk each route to finalise the numbers required.

Interest has been expressed in producing a cycling guide. I am bringing together a different group in July to take this forward.

Cllr Johnston also thank Roger for his support and advice, and stated he was disappointed in Cllr Kendall voting for the GLH option, as there was no local benefit, he stated he thought FORSE would bring forward a legal challenge.

7. Community representative's report

i. Warwickshire College

Mr Mike Bailey reported the following:

It's been a busy few months; the Equine Spa is complete and was opened by Zara Philips recently. Increase funding had been agreed to improve horticultural facilities at Pershore. The Leamington site facility improvements were close to completion.

The Moreton Morrell site is hopefully next in line for improvements, including roads and buildings , as they are falling behind other Colleges.

The sale of the Hall and triangle field were the next two big items on the horizon.

The recent horse events and annual show at the weekend very well attended. The lambing weekend was however cancelled this year.

The government funding was being reduced further for the college and there would be cuts and job losses.

In response to questions Mike stated the Hall was not sold, despite website stories, but negotiations were in place to complete a deal. Cllr Cleeton was disappointed that developments had not been discussed at the village liaison meeting, but Mike pointed out its sometimes difficult to share sensitive information. Cllr Cleeton also stated it would be nice to see more Senior College reps at the meeting.

Finally Mike handed a statement to the Parish Council about the Hall sale that will soon be circulated publically.

ii. The Villager

Jane Cleeton reported that she was grateful for the donation for the running of the Villager, which paid for its distribution. She was happy to co-ordinate the Parish Council input from each Committee.

iii. Village Hall

Diane Coleman reported:-

The Hall Committee were very pleased with the refurbishment, there had been well attended Burns night and New Years eve parties and they had booked for future years, bookings overall were up. The heating and damp were still an issue and this was going to be looked into as well as looking at providing disabled toilets. She thanked the Parish council for the donation, there had also been a recent grant that was allowing equipment to be purchased for kitchen. New chairs and table would be ordered soon.

iv. Community Café

Irene Ash thanked the Parish Council for the grant and stated she had about 8-10 regular attendees. She stated that the vicar sometimes attends; they also went out to lunch as a group and had a few younger people coming.

v. Moreton Morrell Parochial Church Council

Sara Lawton gave a short report and again thanked the Council for the Churchyard grant. A new lawnmower had been purchased, and they had a few hands on events to tidy up the churchyard with a party of volunteers. The wall on the right hand side was being re-built at a cost of £6000. John Parker the vicar was establishing good links with the school, and the Fete had been a success. The new meeting room is going out for tender an £150k had been raised. Other community groups would be invited to use the facility.

8. Matters of Interest

Alison Gregory for WRCC introduced herself and the Warwickshire Oil and LPR syndicate. They had achieved 48.9pph in May and had 13 members in Moreton Morrell. She requested that the syndicate be promoted in the Villager and on the notice boards / website.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.