



**Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at the Village Hall, Mentmore at 8.15pm.**

Present: Councillors; Jonathan Langley (Chairman), Simon O'Shea (Vice Chairman) and Peter Brazier.  
 District Councillor Peter Cooper  
 Mrs L Byrom, Clerk to the Council  
 5 members of the public

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| <p><b>1. Attendance and Apologies</b><br/>         There were none.</p>  |
| <p><b>2. Public Question Time (10 minutes)</b><br/>         There were no questions from the members of the public present.</p>  |
| <p><b>3. Disclosures of Interest on items pertaining to the agenda</b><br/>         Cllr Langley declared an interest under planning, to apply for permission to remove the trees/shrubs by the former telephone box as they were opposite his house and he considered their removal to be a benefit.</p>  |
| <p><b>4. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b><br/>         It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>  |
| <p><b>5. Neighbourhood Action Group/Police Matters</b><br/>         The Police did not report at the meeting as they had attended the Annual Meeting of the Parish which immediately preceded this meeting and gave their report at that meeting.</p>  |
| <p><b>6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors</b><br/>         Cllr Peter Cooper thanked Marc Sharman for taking on the Chairmanship of the Parish Council at a difficult time and for getting things back on an even keel.</p> <p>Cllr Cooper reported that in Aylesbury, planning permission had been granted for a new Sainsburys in Gatehouse Road with a petrol station.</p> <p>A planning application had been submitted for a new crematorium in Berton/Rowsham. This would be owned by three District Councils – Aylesbury Vale, Wycombe and Chiltern. A consultation on traffic would have to take place. It was hoped that if the crematorium went ahead that the County Council would insist that a roundabout or refuge with bollards would be installed on the main road. It was envisaged that there would be a maximum of six funerals a day.</p> <p>In relation to the appeal against the removal of the shed at 10 The Green, Mentmore, Cllr Cooper reported that the appeal had been dismissed and therefore the refusal of planning permission</p> |

remained. The owners of the shed would be required to remove it within two months.

## **7. Village Hall**

(a) Diane Armson had prepared a report on the activities at the Village Hall which was presented by Cllr Langley.

Ideas on how to spend the Section 106 Monies of just over £30,000.00 would need to be discussed as it had to be used by 2017. Options could then be put to the Parishioners for their comments. Cllr Langley was asked to put the matter on the Agenda for the next Village Hall meeting.

## **8. To receive**

- **Clerk's Report**
- **Items for Action**
- **Correspondence**

All matters were dealt with on the Agenda.

## **9. Finance**

- **Accounts and Expenses for Payment**  
The accounts were agreed.
- **Balances**  
The Clerk had not prepared a budget review as very few payments had been made.
- **Cheque Signatories**  
The Clerk reported that the signatories for the Council would need to be updated. It was agreed that this would be done once all the new Councillors had been appointed.
- **To approve end of year accounts in preparation for audit**  
The Clerk had circulated the completed forms to be sent to the external auditors. It was agreed that there would be an additional meeting in June to discuss planning matters and appointment of new Councillors and the accounts would be approved at that meeting.

## **10. Planning**

### **(a) To receive details of planning applications received and decisions received.**

In relation to the planning application for a Solar Farm at Oakwood Farm, it was noted that this would be going to committee on 18<sup>th</sup> June and the Parish Council would have the opportunity to give a three minute presentation to give its views – this would need to be in terms of planning considerations. The Parish Council would have the opportunity to write to Aylesbury Vale District Council to state that it had changed its views, if this was the decision, but it could not be guaranteed that the comments would go in the report. A petition had been received against the Solar Farm signed by 20 parishioners and another 7 individual responses against the proposed Solar Farm had been received. Cllr Cooper advised that Government Policy was moving towards Solar Farms and that a similar application had been made near Ivinghoe where there were similar issues. Cllr Cooper It was agreed that a meeting would be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014 to discuss the matter further.

### **(b) Appeal - 10 The Green, Mentmore, Bucks – Replacement of shed at front garden (retrospective).**

Cllr Cooper had previously reported that the appeal had been dismissed and that the shed would have to be removed.

### **(c) To discuss planning permission for the removal of the bush/trees that used to block the phone box**

Cllr Langley reported that he considered that the shrubs/trees where the telephone box had been would best be removed and suggested that planning permission be obtained for their removal. Cllr Cooper advised that planning permission should not be required if the diameter of the branches was less than 7cm but to check with them. Cllr Cooper also suggested that Cllr Langley speak to the Conservation Area Officer to obtain his comments.

## **11. Items for Discussion**

### **(a) MVAS Units and Speeding**

Cllr Langley reported that the data was still being obtained but that more volunteers were needed. One of the main issues was large lorries and Cllr Cooper advised that the Council liaise with County Councillor Avril Davies on this issue.

### **(b) Removal of Mentmore's Telephone Box**

There was nothing further to report and the removal of shrubs/trees had previously been discussed.

### **(c) Section 106 Monies.**

This had previously been discussed.

### **(d) New Notice Board for Ledburn**

Cllr Langley reported that a new notice board for Ledburn, similar to that installed at Crafton would cost £950. It was therefore agreed that Cllr Langley would investigate the cost of having the old one renovated.

### **(e) Ledburn flood risk management proposed improvements**

It was noted that the documentation had been received, but no further action was required.

## **12. Consultation Documents**

### **(i) Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan: Consultation on the scope of the new Plan**

It was noted that the documentation had been received. Cllr Cooper advised that the original plan, which had been rejected contained plans to build 6,000-12,000 new homes in the Vale of Aylesbury over 25 years. The new proposals were to build 25,000-35,000 in and around Aylesbury Vale including the villages of Wendover, Aylesbury, Winslow, Buckingham and Haddenham. Villages would take much of the development particularly the 20 biggest villages in Aylesbury Vale. The aim was to complete the new plan within 12 months but it would be unlikely to take effect before 2017. The old plan which had been approved in 2002 was out of date and had very little affect. Several applications for 3,000-4,000 house developments had been received from builders. Developers were looking at land around Wingrave and there was the possibility that land around Mentmore Towers could be developed.

### **(ii) Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

It was noted that the documentation had been received. The Councillors considered that a Neighbourhood Plan for Mentmore would be a good idea but at a possible cost of £10,000-£12,000 and the amount of hours and work involved in preparing a Parish Plan it was not an option at the present time. Cllr Cooper suggested that if the Council did consider a Parish Plan then they speak to the residents of Chilton which was a village very similar to Mentmore to discuss how they went ahead with their plan.

## **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014