

# Mentmore Parish Council

Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held at Mentmore Village Hall on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023 at 7.00pm.

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## **PRESENT:**

Councillors Robert Fletcher (Chairman), Tracey Waring-Mundy (Vice Chairman), Peter Brazier, Iain Butler and Caroline Horgan.

Mentmore Parish Clerk Bridget Knight.

Ten members of the public.

### **C/073/23 Chairman's Welcome.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **C/074/23 Apologies and Attendance.**

None.

### **C/075/23 Disclosures of interest on items pertaining to the agenda.**

None.

### **C/076/23 To approve the minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

It was agreed that the minutes were true and accurate. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

### **C/077/23 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).**

Councillor Brazier reported that the Community Board Meeting is being held on the 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm online.

### **C/078/23 Public Question Time.**

A discussion took place about the Solar Farm Application 23/02313/APP and questions were asked about the renewable energy targets and a question about the renewable energy options. A resident confirmed that Buckinghamshire Council has declared a climate emergency.

### **C/079/23 Two Casual Parish Council Vacancies.**

Two vacancies exist following the resignations of Jonathan Langley and Hannah Wrathall, two residents expressed interest.

### **C/080/22 Planning Applications:**

23/02313/APP | Installation of a renewable energy generating solar farm comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays together with substation, tower connection, transformer stations, switchroom, site accesses, internal access tracks, security measures, access gates, other ancillary infrastructure and landscaping and biodiversity enhancements | Land East Of Ledburn Mentmore Buckinghamshire

A vote took place with one Councillor abstaining the majority vote was objection.

Objection PROPOSED BY Councillor Brazier and SECONDED BY Councillor Mundy-Waring.

Recent decisions by Buckinghamshire Council:

22/A3262/DIS The Stud House Ledburn Road Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QE. Approved.

22/04154/VRC Stable Cottage Stable Yard Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QG. Refused.

**C/081/23 Village Hall, Village Green and Mentmore Parish Events.**

Village Green litter bin emptying – this has been emptied by Councillor Horgan recently. George Fletcher has offered to empty the bin as part of his Duke of Edinburgh voluntary service and the council welcomed this.

Village Hall tables are very heavy, and the Vice Chairman is investigating lighter tables and will report with costings at a future meeting.

Village hall soap dispensers – it was agreed to purchase new soap dispensers.

**C/082/23 Footpaths, Bridleways, Trees and Playgrounds.**

Stile by cricket pitch MEN/3/1 will be replaced by a Kissing Gate and Ascott Estates will contribute towards the donation of £500 to Ripple.

Village gates – no update.

Speedwatch it was agreed to purchase memory cards and a clicker at a cost of £45.

**C/083/23 Devolved Services inc Grass Cutting Tender.**

This was deferred to the next meeting.

**C/084/23 Mentmore Parish Insurance.**

It was agreed to renew the insurance at a cost of £1108.24 and enter a three-year agreement with Hiscox Insurance PROPOSED BY Councillor Brazier and SECONDED BY Councillor Horgan and carried unanimously.

**C/085/23 Finance and Accounts for Payment.**

PKF Littlejohn has completed the external audit.

The following payments were approved for payment:

Payee:		Amount
Octopus Energy	VH Elect - July	£50.75
Octopus Energy	VH Elect - June	£45.44
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	£252.00
Bucks Council	Dog Bin	£347.52
Ltd Odd Jobs (J Langley)	VH Jobs	£148.79
B Knight	Clerk's Expenses - July	£24.70
Ivinghoe PC	Phone Share	£15.00
SLCC	Subs Share	£111.33
Anglo Dutch	Payroll Services	£36.00
Majestic Trees	Crafton Coronation Trees	£894.40

Lloyds Bank	Card Fee	£3.00
N Power	Streetlight Elec	£195.51

<b>Received:</b>		
Table Tennis	VH Rent	£135.00
R Phillips	Donation	£200.00
P Brazier	VH Rent	£25.00
S Johnston	VH Rent	£20.00
Bucks Council	Community Board Grant - Trees	£775.00

<b>Balances:</b>		
Mentmore PC Current Account		£14,182.83
Mentmore VH Current Account		£19,565.16
Total:		<b>£33,747.99</b>

### **C/086/23 Clerk's Report**

The Phillips family were thanked for their kind donation of £200 to the Parish Council following the wedding of their daughter where guests were permitted to park on the Village Green. The village archives will record the number of international guests to the wedding and the Phillips family thanked the Chairman for his grass cutting at the church.

Remembrance Sunday – it was agreed that Carol Cox will present the Parish Council wreath.

### **C/087/23 Clerk's Hours**

This will be discussed confidentially.

### **C/088/23 Meeting Dates:**

4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The meeting closed 8.23pm.