



Minutes of Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2015 at the Village Hall, Mentmore at 8pm.

Present: Peter Brazier, Jonathan Langley, Elizabeth Dack and Faye Medler
Mrs Deborah Martin, Clerk to the Council
2 Parishioners

122. Appointment of new Chairman

Councillors resolved to appoint Councillor Peter Brazier as Chairman and Councillor Jonathan Langley as Vice Chairman

123. Attendance and Apologies

To note attendance and receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from County Councillor Avril Davies.

124. Disclosures of Interest on items pertaining to the agenda

Councillors to declare any interests.

None disclosed.

125. Public Question Time (10 minutes)

To receive any questions from members of the public.

No questions.

126. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 February 2015

Copies previously circulated.

Councillors resolved to approve the above detailed minutes.

127. Police Matters

No police present.

128. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Report from District Councillor Peter Cooper

-S106 – Councillor Cooper offered assistance with S106 claim and working with Jo Houston from AVDC. The Parish Council had already done some investigation. Due to the elections Councillor Cooper assistance may be limited until after the election.

-Meeting dates of Parish Councils – Councillor Cooper is keen for dates to be done differently in order for District and County Councillors to attend as many meetings as possible. Once election is over Councillor Cooper will advise of dates, meetings are likely to remain on Wednesdays although Councillor Cooper to confirm which ones would be preferable.

-Reflections for next 4 years, £6.3million to be saved over the next 4 years, AVDC Council had approved to move to a unitary council. Investment had been allocated to put arrangements in place. Likely transition period will be 2 years. A major change in the Council after election could change the decision but unlikely. Councillor Cooper wants to see parishes have much more of an influence. AVDC looking to use more technology to be more efficient. They are also exploring the possibilities of mini businesses, for example, broadband business as a broadband provider to cover areas missed out by other companies. With the aim to make money and also improve network.

- It was raised that the PC needed advice on the point of improvements to the Village Hall. The Village Hall is not listed but it is in a conservation area. It was suggested by Councillor Cooper that probably best way forward was a pre application meeting with planners cost involved of likely to be in the region of £300.

-Councillor Cooper hopes to see the Parish Council after the election.

129. Village Hall

(a) To receive a report from the Committee.

Report received from recent meeting of 4th March, copy to be held in minute file. Clerk reminded committee members present that the current electricity deal had come to an end and a new deal should be looked into to potentially save money. Clerk to confirm to committee what information is needed in order to complete end of year accounts. Councillor Dack asked for clarification how the village hall accounts were incorporated into parish accounts, clerk confirmed that the figures are included but are highlighted separately to ensure distinction between PC Village Hall funds and general PC funds.

130. Planning

(i) **To receive details of planning decisions received.**

N/A

(ii) **To discuss planning application no's.**

N/A

(iii)

Pre-Submission Wingrave with Rowsham Neighbourhood Plan, does the PC wish to comment

Councillors resolved that as the Plans would have limited impact on the Parish not to comment.

131. Progress report from Pedestrian/Road Safety working group

In addition to update provided in Clerks report, the group is still trying to engage Transport for Bucks (TFB) Road Safety Team in order for them to make the necessary recommendations for problem areas. Response is extremely slow, assistance has been sought from County Councillor. Councillors were shocked to learn that when accidents happen that even if police attend they do not need to log all instances. Councillors agreed to continue pushing TFB and County Councillor for a meeting and action.

132. Parish wide Volunteer Litter Pick

Councillors agreed in principle to the idea. Councillor Dack will organise and advertise through Parish Newsletter. Councillors agreed to approve expenditure £10 high visibility vests and pickers £12 each . Councillor Langley to contact AVDC initially before any purchases made to see what equipment such as bags, litter pickers etc can be borrowed. Clerk has also contacted Aston Abbots PC who had just completed a similar task to see if any equipment can be borrowed.

133. Potential survey of roads in the parish to monitor potholes/water leaks and other potential dangers to road users.

Councillors Langley and Dack to set a date for reviewing whole of parish. Clerk raised that in other Parishes regular 6 monthly meetings with Local Area Technicians would happen to go through outstanding issues on site. Agreed that when County Councillor Davies next attends meeting to cover service received from LATs.

134 Devolution update

Councillor Brazier proposed to Councillors to accept and sign agreement provided by Bucks County Council (BCC) as there was now a much better understanding of what was involved and the financial consequences of not doing it and the anticipated reduction in service provided currently by BCC. It was also clearer from information received from BCC how it would work on a day to day basis. It was confirmed that the Parish Council can withdraw decision at any time. Councillors resolved to sign agreement. Under the agreement the Parish Council are responsible for ensuring the appropriate insurance is in place, Clerk to confirm with insurers and inform them of the Parish Councils decision to proceed with Devolution. Clerk will also need to ensure that monies are accounted for separately on accounts. Due to tight timescales, Councillors agreed to extension of existing maintenance agreement, to then be reviewed next year. Councillor Brazier would put together a specification of work to be discussed at the next PC meeting.

135. Best Kept Village Competition, does the PC wish to enter

Councillors agreed not to enter the current year's competition.

136. Repairs for Notice Board for Ledburn

This still remains ongoing, the notice board is ready to put in place, however, a well had been found where notice board was going to be placed. Councillor Langley working on resolution.

137. Section 106 proposals

Update from Councillor Brazier included in Clerks Report.

138. Equipe Velo Cycling Road Race Sunday 5th July 2015

The PC does not have authority to grant permission, it was agreed to make following response "thank you for making Mentmore Parish Council aware of the forthcoming cycle event in your recent email. We look forward to receiving your confirmation of arrangements and we assume the necessary legal requirements and advice has been taken"

and Tour de Vale water station request 7th June 2015

Councillors agreed to the Green, Mentmore to be used as a water stop. The Village Hall was also available if they wanted to hire it.

139. AVDC Survey of Listed Buildings

Noted, no comments.

140. Finance

- Accounts and Expenses for Payment

Councillors resolved to agree to payments listed within Clerks report.

- Balances

Information supplied in Clerks report and noted by Councillors.

- Increase in EON street lighting costs

Councillors agreed for Clerk to review and make necessary steps to ensure a more cost efficient deal.

- General update

Clerk confirmed that 3 essential reference books, Local Council Administration, The Parish Councillors Guide and The Local Council Clerk guide would need to be purchased as she no longer had access to these after leaving Wingrave with Rowsham PC as Clerk. Total cost in region of £100. Councillors agreed that as essential books recommended by Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils that the PC should purchase, Clerk to arrange.

141. To receive

- **Clerk's Report**

Councillors reviewed ongoing items.

-Councillor Medler to take ID into bank and then pass forms to Clerk

-Electricity Costs, to be updated to Clerk reviewing in lights of further increase in costs

-Clerks contract to be updated and approved at next meeting.

Councillors approved remaining content of report.

Meeting ended 10.15pm