



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting

held on 14th January 2010 @ 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: T Shorrock (Chairman), R Barker, P Blagden, P Challis, S Clark, A Colaço (7:35), D Ives, N Kiley (7:35), M Lock, J Morden, D Morsley, A Philips, A Smith and the Clerk.

Apologies: Councillor: K Davies

Declaration of Interest: None

10/01 **Minutes and Matters Arising:**

Minutes: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 10th December 2009 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:

09/180 Re Parish Council Office. The Clerk reported that a subsequent communication had been received from West Berkshire Council who state that they will not be renewing the Lease which is due to expire on the 29th March 2011. This has been forwarded to Finance and General Purposes Committee.

09/165 The Clerk reported that a meeting for the formal acceptance and adoption of the Parish Plan refresh had been arranged with West Berkshire Council for the 3rd February. Cllrs Shorrock, Morsley and the Clerk are to attend.

09/168(iii) Quotation for an electricity supply to the Fairground. The Clerk confirmed that she has chased the quotation.

09/183 The Clerk confirmed that a brief analysis of the traffic flows survey report will be circulated prior to the meeting to members of the Roads, Footpaths and Commons Committee.

10/02 **Planning:** Cllr Morden reported that the Planning Committee had met once since the November meeting on the 21st December 2009:

09/02292/FUL Mortimer Village Hall, 22 West End Road. Porch extension. No objection subject to brickwork matches existing.

09/02302/HOUSE 62 The Avenue. Refurbishment of existing granny annex and new roof extension. No objection.

09/02436/FULD Land adjacent to 29-30 The Bevers. 2 storey building to accommodate eight 2 bedroom duplex units. No objection to proposed development but any approval MUST be subject to the applicant entering into a legally enforceable S106 agreement for developer contribution of £78,103.

09/02396/
COMIND AWE Aldermaston. Replacement facility and handling of enriched uranium. No objection based on the assumption that the new building will incorporate letter safety measures than the existing facility.

The following decisions have been received from the Officers at West Berkshire Council under delegated powers.

09/02005/HOUSE 31 Groves Lea. Two storey and single storey rear extensions, conversion of garage to accommodation. Approved.

09/02046/HOUSE 48 West End Road. Kitchen extension with pitched roof. Approved.

09/02073/HOUSE 28 The Avenue. Two storey and first floor single storey rear extensions. Approved.

The following application has been withdrawn:

09/02163/FUL Little Park Farm Retrospective change of use of agricultural barn to vehicle repair.

10/03 **Roads, Footpaths and Commons Report:** Cllr Ives reported that the committee had not met.

10/04 **Fairground, Trees and Amenities Report:** Cllr Blagden reported that the committee had not met. He did report that there was a successful planting session of the hedge in Hammonds Heath during December. A vote of thanks was offered to Cllr Smith who kindly agreed to temporarily plant the spare saplings in his garden. Thanks were also offered to the CROW volunteers. Further hedge planting is to take place on the 4th February by the BTCV volunteers. Further to Minute Number

09/168 (ii) the cleaning of the surface of the tennis courts has been carried out.

- i. **Monthly Play Area Inspection Report:** Cllr Smith reported that the play area has been snow bound but is still being used.
- ii. **consider that the fee for the hire of the Fairground on 2nd to 4th July 2010 for the Fun Day is waived.** Proposal withdrawn.

10/05 **Cemetery:** Cllr Clark reported that he had met with the contractor to discuss the agreed tree maintenance.

10/06 **Update on Community Policing:** Cllr Ives reported that the scheduled bi monthly meeting with the PCSO had been cancelled and re-scheduled to the 19th January. The latest crime figures show that crime is down in the village. The Police Office is open for one day a week (Fridays) but requires more volunteers to man it.

10/07 **Report from Burghfield and Mortimer NAG Meeting 5th January 2010:** Cllr Morsley could not attend the meeting due to the inclement weather so report held over until the February meeting.

10/08 **AWE Local Liaison Committee Report:** Cllr Ives tabled the AWE report. A copy will be held in the Parish Council Office.

10/09 **Report from District Councillors:** Cllr Mollie Lock reported that West Berkshire Council (WBC) had unanimously passed a resolution to reduce the Council's carbon emissions by 10% in 2010. A review of WBC senior positions is being carried out with a number of Heads of Service posts being discontinued, redundancy costs are estimated at £500,000 with annual savings estimated at £750,000 per annum. The Countryside and Environment Service is being abolished and incorporated under the Planning Service. Cllr Lock gave an update on WBCs salting regime during the recent bad weather. They have been asked to carry out a complete review of the Winter Service Plan and to look at future snow clearance at Heathfield. Cllr Smith asked Cllr Lock to find out why the snow plough had cleared the area around Windmill Court but did not plough anywhere else e.g. Windmill Road. Due to the bad weather she also gave an update on the waste collection services backlog programme for Mortimer and the Clerk was asked to put this information on the Parish Council website. An offer of thanks was made to the parents of St Mary's school for clearing the pavements of snow on The Street.

10/10 **Finance - To agree accounts for payment for January:**

In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations all items for payment were considered together. Cllr Clark proposed that these be paid; this was seconded by Cllr Ives and carried by 12 votes to 1 abstention (Cllr Smith).

- i. Clerk's Salary
- ii. H M Revenue & Customs (Tax and NI)
- iii. Clerk's Expenses
- iv. Custodian's Salary
- v. RBWM BACS Payment (Pension)
- vi. Stewarts of Mortimer Ltd (Mortimer Link) £900 inc VAT.
- vii. Pipex Homecall Ltd (telephone Parish Office) Direct Debit £28.04 inc VAT
- viii. Co-Operative Bank Visa Direct Debit £9.45 (McColls £9.45 and £2.00 Service Charge)
- ix. Burghfield Village Hall (invoice for rental for NAG Meetings for 2010) £60.00
- x. West Berkshire Council (annual payment for West End Road Car Park) £10.00
- xi. West Berkshire Council (photocopying charges for quarter ending December 2009) £48.99 inc VAT
- xii. West Berkshire Council (dog bin emptying) £460.08 inc VAT
- xiii. Mortimer St John's Hall Management Committee £74.00 (payment for hall hire TV Police £32.00, MVP Book Club £21.00, MVP Theatre Group £21.00)
- xiv. British Telecom (Line Rental Parish Office) Direct Debit £61.62 inc VAT

10/11 **Correspondence:** None

10/12 **Minor Matters/Future Agenda Items:**

- Cllr Challis asked for an up-date from West Berkshire Council regarding the condition of the public footpath from Longmoor Lane to Brewery Common.

- The Emergency Plan Working Party were asked to look at bad weather contingencies when it next meets.
- Cllr Smith asked for an Agenda item for the February meeting re charitable use of the Fairground and use of the Fairground by local schools.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11th February 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.