



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

held on 9th February 2017 @ 7.30 pm

at Mortimer Methodist Church, West End Road, Mortimer

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. M. Dennett (Chairman), Cllr. J. Earl, Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. A. Butcher, Cllr. N. Carter, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr M. Johnson, Cllr. L Jones, Cllr. N. Kiley, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. M. Lock, Cllr. A Richardson and Cllr P. Wingfield.

Clerk: Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Parish Clerk

Public/Press: There were 5 members of the public, no members of the press and District Councillor G. Bridgman present.

16/574	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Mrs. D. Morsley – Raised that the Council Minutes are not up to date on the SMPC Website.</p> <p>Ms. K. Miles of ProVision on behalf of T. A. Fisher – Commented on T. A. Fisher's involvement in the Mortimer NDP and highlighted WBC's DPD that sets 110 houses for Mortimer.</p> <p>She then commented on all aspects of the 110 houses issue and the risk of the Mortimer NDP not being robust and spoke about the MOR006 and MOR005 sites proposed 75 – 35 split that they are putting forward.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Bridgman – Commented that the WBC DPD is 100 dwellings.</p> <p>Mr. S. Whittaker – Commented that the Examiners report proposed 60 houses not 110.</p> <p>In reply it was made clear that this whole matter was under review with WBC.</p>	
16/575	<p>To receive any apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr. P. Blagden and Cllr. P. Challis</p>	
16/576	<p>To receive any declarations of interest and dispensations</p> <p>Cllr. D. Ives declared a personal interest in any discussion of MOR005 as his house backs onto the site.</p>	
16/577	<p>To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 12th January 2017</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett proposed, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl to approve and sign the minutes, as a true record of the meeting, which was AGREED unanimously subject to the followings amendments being made:</p> <p>16/553 – 5th para 2nd sentence changed to read ...Cllr. P. Wingfield said...</p> <p>16/561 – 2nd para changed to read ...amendments and should agree that the NDP proceed to referendum.</p> <p>16/563 – 4th para changed to read ...Boundary changes and was...</p> <p>16/568 – 1st para changed to read ...regarding the Parish Council handling...</p>	
16/578	<p>To receive Clerk's Financial Report December 2016 Financial A/Cs</p> <p>The December 2016 Financial Report was received and noted.</p>	
16/579	<p>To receive Committee Meeting minutes of:</p> <p>1 Planning Committee – 24th January 2017</p>	

	<p>2 NDP Implementation Committee – 9th January 2017</p> <p>3 Finance & General Purposes Committee – 10th January 2017</p> <p>All minutes were received and noted.</p>													
16/580	<p>To receive planning decisions and information from West Berkshire Council</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Application</u></th> <th><u>Address</u></th> <th><u>Decision</u></th> <th><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>16/03179/HOUSE</td> <td>46 St Johns Road Mortimer Common RG7 3TR SMPC had no objections</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>19/01/17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/03254/HOUSE</td> <td>1 Railway Terrace Mortimer RG7 3PA SMPC had no objections</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>17/01/17</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Received and noted</p> <p>Cllr. A. Butcher then gave a brief update of the 1A King s Street application.</p>	<u>Application</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Date</u>	16/03179/HOUSE	46 St Johns Road Mortimer Common RG7 3TR SMPC had no objections	Approved	19/01/17	16/03254/HOUSE	1 Railway Terrace Mortimer RG7 3PA SMPC had no objections	Approved	17/01/17	
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16/581	<p>To receive an update on Mortimer Library</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett advised that there has been very little progress. Requests have been made regarding confirmation that the SMPC payment of the expected share to cover the shortfall of funding needed to maintain Library Services would be on the commitment that such funding would be for the benefit of Mortimer Library only. No answer had been received yet.</p> <p>A meeting of Volunteers has been arranged by WBC in the Library but no information has been given SMPC.</p> <p>There has been a positive response to the call for volunteers in the Parish Newsletter.</p>													
16/582	<p>To receive an update on the NDP</p> <p>To then approve the motion that:-</p> <p>“The Parish Council recommends that the West Berkshire District Council rejects the Examiners recommendation as set out in his report dated 25th October 2016 and formally agrees that the Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan proceeds to referendum following the analysis of the further evidence submitted by the Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Planning Group”</p> <p>To then approve the motion that:- “The Parish Council requests that West Berkshire Council make a decision regarding the Examiner’s Report into the Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan by 10th May 2017 (in accordance with Reg 17A (4) & (5)(a) and 24A (4) & (5)(a) of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016) to allow time for full consideration of the recommendations and issues raised in the report.”</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett summarised the purpose of the resolution.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield then spoke on the general conformity of the Mortimer NDP with the WBC DPD and the fact there were 2 years to show that this was being or would be achieved by the NDP.</p> <p>The three options were then summarised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Proceed with recommending the Mortimer NDP to WBC with the examiners recommendations on changing “110” to “up to 110” and other minor modifications. ii. Abandon the NDP and rely on WBC on future planning. 													

	<p>iii. Revise the NDP, resulting in new consultations and a new examination to give the full 110 dwellings on one or more sites.</p> <p>In the view of the NDP Steering Group one site in the Village is the preferred option.</p> <p>Cllr. N. Kiley commented that up to 110 houses could well be achieved by in-fill site development.</p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson questioned whether it is 110 or 100 dwellings.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield commented that NDPs are not absolute plans that must be met and also commented that T. A. Fisher had already submitted plans for 110 houses in an old application.</p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson noted that the MOR001 Monkey Puzzle Field appeal had now been put back to July 2017.</p> <p>Cllr. A. Butcher commented that he felt the Landscape Study used for the Mortimer NDP was not fit for purpose.</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis expressed his concerns about the numbers being quoted.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock raised the new housing whitepaper, which is looking to ensure the right housing in the right areas with buildings times for developments being stated in the permissions given.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield, in answer to earlier questions advised that the examiner had recommended not to go ahead with NDP, but had also stated that up to 110 houses would be acceptable giving SMPC & WBC justification to go ahead. The statement about 60 houses by the examiner was put forward as a question by the examiner and was not a recommendation.</p> <p>Cllr. N. Carter stated that in his view, the wording of up to 110 won't necessarily change the need for 110 on site and could not support the motion.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock advised that refill sites would be acceptable to meet the numbers.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Earl pointed out that the 90 metre contour line is not followed elsewhere in the Village so why here.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett, in answer to earlier comments, advised that it would not be possible to revise the NDP in the short time scale need.</p> <p>The first motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and was AGREED by 11 votes for, 1 vote against and 1 abstention.</p> <p>The second motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and was AGREED by 12 votes for and 1 abstention.</p>	
16/583	<p>To receive District Councillors' Reports and ask questions</p> <p>Both Cllr. M Lock and Cllr. G Bridgman had submitted written reports, which were received and noted.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Bridgman advised that windfall sites for the NDP would only be considered if they were within the Settlement Boundary.</p> <p>He also advised that the Ward Boundary review would be looking to aim at contiguous boundaries with Polling Districts.</p> <p>He also advised that the Padworth Waste Site development had been put back 5-6 months.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Johnson commented on the successful Parish Plant Grant by Padworth for tools to keep their footpaths and bridleways clear and was advised that SMPC could also bid for a Parish Plant Grant. This to be placed on Agenda of next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>In answer to a question from Cllr. C. Lewis about whether WBC could get</p>	

	<p>a similar “sweetheart” deal to that which Surrey CC appear to have received from the Government to support Adult Social Care, Cllr. Bridgman replied that it was highly unlikely.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock commented on her report and was requested by Cllr. J. Earl that it would be helpful if Councillors could have sight of her report earlier in order to be able to digest what was being said.</p>	
16/584	<p>To receive Clerk’s Update (for information only)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Presented SMPC’s Precept request for 2017 – 2018 to WBC. 2 Completed December 2016 A/Cs. 3 Contacted WBC Library Service Manager – Mike Brook to discuss criteria needed to be agreed regarding SMPC contribution towards meeting the part-costs for Mortimer Library. 4 Delivered, as instructed, SMPC’s response to the Planning Appeal Reference APP/W0340/W/16/3162905 – Ref: The Monkey Puzzle Field, to the Planning Inspector and WBC Planning. 5 Worked with British Legion and builders to arrange access to Garth Hall. 6 Contacted the Local Government Pension Scheme fund manager to confirm that SMPC are no longer part of the scheme, now that we have no employees in the scheme and there were no recovery liabilities now that we have left the scheme, which was confirmed. 7 Attended meetings with T.A. Fisher, regarding their Community open meeting on their planning application plans for Mortimer, and with West Berkshire Council regarding the Stratfield Mortimer NDP. 8 Posted items on Website and Facebook. 9 Wrote budget item for SMPC Newsletter 10 Dealt with day-to-day public enquiries 11 Managed all the papers for Parish Council and Committee Meetings <p>The report was received and noted.</p>	
16/585	<p>Garth Hall</p> <p>The Clerk advised that the date of visit to inspect condition of Garth Hall had been fixed for Friday 10th February.</p>	
16/586	<p>To receive an update on the request for support for the Burghfield & Mortimer Handybus</p> <p>To then consider the motion that:- “The Parish Council agrees to support the Burghfield & Mortimer Handybus with S137 Grant funding to cover, based on their proportionate usage, Stratfield Mortimer’s share of their shortfall in funding needed to provide their bus service facility for the residents of Stratfield Mortimer for the year 2017 – 2018.”</p> <p>The written update provided by the Clerk was received but discussion ensued in which:</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield made it clear that he did not agree, on principle, with this proposal and the basic approach presented.</p> <p>It became clear that there needed to be clarification on the business case and the Clerk was requested to obtain the clarification.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield proposed, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl, an amendment to the motion saying that “The Parish Council agrees not to support the Burghfield & Mortimer Handybus with S137 Grant funding to cover,</p>	

	<p>based on their proportionate usage, Stratfield Mortimer's share of their shortfall in funding needed to provide their bus service facility for the residents of Stratfield Mortimer for the year 2017 – 2018." This was rejected by 3 votes for, 7 votes against and 3 abstentions.</p> <p>It was then proposed by Cllr. A. Butcher, seconded by Cllr. M. Dennett, and AGREED by 12 votes for and 1 abstention that the Clerk gets further clarification on the business case.</p>															
16/587	<p>To receive the Clerk's report Part-Funded PCSO alternative options</p> <p>The Clerk advised that this was still a work in progress.</p>															
16/588	<p>Finance - To resolve to agree accounts for payment:</p> <table> <tr> <td>1 Suez Recycling – Fairground Waste Collection – Jan. 2017 D.D. inc. VAT</td> <td>£107.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Oakdale Services – Printing of SMPC Newsletter</td> <td>£49.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Thames Valley Police – PCSO Part Funding Q3 Oct. – Dec. 2016</td> <td>£24.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Thames Valley Police – Credit note No PCSO cover 24/10 – 31/12 2017</td> <td>£84.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">To Pay:</td> <td>£750.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Berkshire Training CiC – Councillor Training 22/11/16 inc. VAT</td> <td>£21.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 HMRC – PAYE/NI Month 10</td> <td>£123.43</td> </tr> </table> <p>The motion to agree the finances was AGREED unanimously.</p>	1 Suez Recycling – Fairground Waste Collection – Jan. 2017 D.D. inc. VAT	£107.35	2 Oakdale Services – Printing of SMPC Newsletter	£49.00	3 Thames Valley Police – PCSO Part Funding Q3 Oct. – Dec. 2016	£24.00	4 Thames Valley Police – Credit note No PCSO cover 24/10 – 31/12 2017	£84.00	To Pay:	£750.00	5 Berkshire Training CiC – Councillor Training 22/11/16 inc. VAT	£21.58	6 HMRC – PAYE/NI Month 10	£123.43	
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16/589	<p>To receive Correspondence (for information only):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Confirmation from Thames Valley Police regarding our not renewing the Part-Funded PCSO contract for 2017-2018 ii. Papers for Electoral Review of West Berkshire: Warding Arrangements <p>Received and noted.</p>															
16/590	<p>To receive Minor Matters (for information only):</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield commented on the lack of heating in the room</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis commented that SMPC's current Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were not on the Website.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Earl and Cllr. N. Carter both commented on the condition of The Street between Strawberry Fields and Station Road.</p>															
16/591	<p>To receive any future Agenda items</p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson requested that the recording of meetings be placed on a future agenda.</p> <p>He also requested that revenue generation on SMPC assets, especially the Tennis Courts be placed on the Agenda.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Johnson requested that the option to bid for a Planning Plant Grant be placed on the Agenda for tools to work on footpaths.</p>															

The next meeting is on 9th March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9:28 pm.