



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

held on 13th October 2016 @ 7.30 pm

at Mortimer Methodist Church, West End Road, Mortimer

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. M. Dennett (Chairman), Cllr. J. Earl (Vice Chairman), Cllr. P. Blagden, Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. N. Carter, Cllr. P. Challis, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr. M. Johnson, Cllr. N. Kiley, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. M. Lock, and Cllr P. Wingfield.

Clerk: Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Parish Clerk

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

| 16/487 | Public Questions None | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 16/488 | To receive any apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr. A. Butcher, Cllr. L Jones, Cllr. A Richardson. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16/489 | To receive any declarations of interest and dispensations None | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16/490 | To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8th September 2016 It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve and sign the minutes, as a true record of the meeting. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16/491 | To receive Clerk's Financial Report on August 2016 Financial A/Cs The August 2016 Financial Report was received and noted. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16/492 | To receive minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 8th and 20th September 2016 The minutes were received and noted and the minutes for 20 th September 2016 were noted as correct and signed. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16/493 | To receive planning decisions and information from West Berkshire Council <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>16/01967/CERTP</td> <td>36 Windmill Road Mortimer Common. RG7 3RN</td> <td>Refusal</td> <td>09/09/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/01480/HOUSE</td> <td>19 Strawberry Fields Mortimer. RG7 3WS</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>12/09/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/01753/HOUSE</td> <td>6 Stephens Close Mortimer Common. RG7 3TL</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>21/09/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/02068/HOUSE</td> <td>Birch Cottage, Birch Lane Mortimer Common. RG7 3UB</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>28/09/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/02068/FULD</td> <td>42 The Avenue Mortimer Common. RG7 3QX</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>29/09/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16/01713/HOUSE</td> <td>2 Damson Drive Mortimer. RG7 3WZ</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>26/09/16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | <u>Application</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Decision</u> | <u>Date</u> | 16/01967/CERTP | 36 Windmill Road Mortimer Common. RG7 3RN | Refusal | 09/09/16 | 16/01480/HOUSE | 19 Strawberry Fields Mortimer. RG7 3WS | Approved | 12/09/16 | 16/01753/HOUSE | 6 Stephens Close Mortimer Common. RG7 3TL | Approved | 21/09/16 | 16/02068/HOUSE | Birch Cottage, Birch Lane Mortimer Common. RG7 3UB | Approved | 28/09/16 | 16/02068/FULD | 42 The Avenue Mortimer Common. RG7 3QX | Approved | 29/09/16 | 16/01713/HOUSE | 2 Damson Drive Mortimer. RG7 3WZ | Approved | 26/09/16 | |
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| | <p>16/01986/HOUSE 18 St Marys Road Approved 29/09/16 Mortimer Common. RG7 3UE</p> <p>16/02215/CERTP 28 Windmill Road Refusal 06/10/16 Mortimer Common. RG7 3RN</p> <p>All decisions were in line with Stratfield Mortimer's decisions apart from 16/02215/CERTP which had not been forwarded for consideration.</p> <p>Received and noted</p> | |
| 16/494 | <p>To receive minutes of the NDP Implementation Committee meeting of 6th September 2016 deferred from last meeting</p> <p>Received and noted</p> | |
| 16/495 | <p>To receive an update report on the NDP</p> <p>Nothing to report</p> | |
| 16/496 | <p>To receive and approve a NDP Implementation Committee Scoping Document on Extension of Fairground Facilities and Sports Facilities</p> <p>In presenting the document, Cllr. P. Wingfield commented on the importance of getting more Sports experienced people to manage the scope of this document and the need to conduct a survey to determine the projects that should be focused on.</p> <p>The document and comments were received and noted for the NDP Implementation Committee to proceed with.</p> | |
| 16/497 | <p>To receive and approve a report on the financing implications and opportunities for the active and other potential projects from NDP Implementation Committee</p> <p>This was deferred from the last meeting of the Full Council was received and noted.</p> <p>In the ensuing discussion:</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield commented on the ambitious nature of the program, which the Parish Council needed to be fully in support of with the support of the Community.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Challis commented on the need for the Parish Council to take full note of the views of the Community.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock stressed the need for the Parish Council to manage expectations properly in their communications.</p> <p>Cllr J. Earl commented on the need for criteria to be identified to manage the selection of projects to move forward.</p> <p>It was generally noted that the cycle of events identified in the report would be the best way forward for the Council to manage the financial implications and that time needed to be allowed to ensure a better view on the potential needs and to make use of the information already available from the NDP consultation.</p> <p>It was AGREED the NDP Implementation Committee should proceed as outlined and come back to Council when ready.</p> | |
| 16/498 | <p>To receive Clerks report on contact procedures requested by Council under item 16/486 of last Council meeting</p> <p>Under Standing Orders Sections 10 (vi) and (xi) the motion to move this item to the end of the Agenda and exclude the Press and public due to the commercially confidential nature of the business to be discussed, proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett and seconded by Cllr. J. Earl, was AGREED unanimously.</p> | |

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| 16/499 | To receive District Councillors' Reports | |
| | <p>Both Cllr. M Lock and Cllr. G Bridgman had submitted written reports, which were received and noted.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock then commented on the fact that the WBC Executive was meeting tonight to discuss the Governments 4 year plan proposals and advised that funding is going to drop.</p> <p>Cllr. Lock also advised that SMPC's Members Bid award would need to be changed to reflect the Alfred Palmer Memorial Field Trust's requirement for Adult Fitness equipment rather than Infant Play Equipment as proposed.</p> <p>In discussion concerns were expressed about proceeding with Infant Play Equipment in view of the Trust's wishes and the impact of changing the detail of what was approved for the bid as well as what was involved in the requirement to conduct a consultation to determine what was required.</p> <p>In answer to the question of ownership of any equipment installed the Clerk explained that the Council could buy the equipment and claim back the VAT and then make a "Gift without Reservation" to the beneficiary under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, which hands over full responsibility thereafter to the beneficiary.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Bridgman confirmed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Substantial budget savings are expected for 2017-2018 due to the proposed Government Settlement Plan ii. The next round of Members Bids will be looking for Bids on Devolution projects, which look towards taking on services that WBC are not delivering or will not be able to continue delivering. <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield asked if Stratfield Mortimer is seen as a larger Parish capable of taking on devolved services and was advised that devolved services can be taken on by any sized Parish and that SMPC is seen as an ideally community based Parish able to take on services.</p> | |
| 16/500 | To receive an update on the Library | |
| | <p>Cllr. M. Dennett reported that WBC had held their meeting on the Library last week but the papers had been embargoed until today and gave a brief summary stating that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Three proposals were now being put forward for approval by the Executive ii. All three proposals centre on Newbury remaining open, Wash Common closing and the two Community Mobile Libraries being reduced to one. <p>It was also noted that some of the comments in the report relating Stratfield Mortimer were incorrect and needed to be corrected and the Clerk was requested to bring these to the attention of WBC.</p> | |
| 16/501 | To approve re-surfacing work to Fairground Car Park as recommended by Fairground, Trees and Amenities Committee 9th June 2015 and part approved by Council on 9th July 2015 | |
| | <p>Following a report given by the Clerk it was AGREED, proposed by Cllr. J. Earl, seconded by Cllr. N. Kiley, to reverse the original decision by Council to patch the Car Park and to go for a complete re-surface and the Clerk was requested to start the proceedings in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.</p> | |

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| 16/502 | <p>To decide on request from APMF Trustees request to fund a 1 off hedge cut at the Alfred Palmer Memorial Field now that grass cutting is no longer needed.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion it was AGREED to approve the request by Rebecca Barker of the APTMF Trustees to provide 1 cut of the hedge at the APMF.</p> | |
| 16/503 | <p>To receive Clerk's Update (for information only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Re-structured Parish Office and filing system ii. Ordered Christmas Tree iii. Managed Mortimer 10K Fun Run requirements iv. Applied for and receive final payment for Tennis Courts from Sport England v. Attended meeting with Royal British Legion regarding Garth Hall vi. Investigated vandalism to property backing onto the Fairground and chased up the already ordered work to clear the area as needed vii. Clarified and updated quote for resurfacing the Fairground Car Park viii. Reported roads and footpath issues to WBC as received ix. Daily responses to telephone, emails and correspondence <p>The report was received and noted.</p> | |
| 16/504 | <p>Garth Hall</p> <p>Cllr M. Dennett updated the Council on the meeting held with the Royal British Legion on 30th September 2016 at which the future of the Garth Hall was discussed.</p> <p>The RBL need a decision as soon as possible on the future of the trust as they can longer act as Trustees.</p> <p>The options discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. For the Council to take over as Trustees ii. For the Council to take over as Holding Trustees and appoint a CIC or others to act as Management Trustees iii. To do nothing and let the Trust revert back to the Charity Commission <p>Items i) and ii) would require an understanding of the building renovation costs as well as a plan as to how to use the building in line with the existing Trust structure.</p> <p>It has been advised that this Trust structure could be modified on application to the Charity Commission subject to the new aims being still centred on the "benefit to the community, especially the young people of the Community".</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis raised concerns over whether the Council could become Trustees and was told the advice given so far was that we could, but this needed verifying.</p> | |
| 16/505 | <p>To receive an update on arrangement of a meeting with West Berkshire Council to discuss devolution options and opportunities.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that dates are now being checked with regard to a meeting shortly</p> | |
| 16/506 | <p>Finance - To resolve to agree accounts for payment:</p> <p>1 Suez Re-cycling & Recovery Ltd – Waste Disposal £97.66</p> | |

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| | <p>Fairground September 2016 D.D. inc VAT</p> <p>2 C&D Facilities – September grass cutting for Fairground, Cemetery and Alfred Palmer Memorial Trust inc. VAT £1063.26</p> <p>3 Dads Shop – Aug-Sept Custodians Sundries inc. VAT £15.79</p> <p>4 Thames Valley Police – PCSO Funding Q2 2016 £1,987.25</p> <p>5 Viking Direct – Filing Cabinets for Parish Office inc. VAT £308.40</p> <p>6 H. Selwyn-Jones – Amazon sundries for Parish Office inc. VAT £69.45</p> <p>7 M. Dennett – Expenses for Custodian & Fairground inc. VAT £54.72</p> <p>8 BT – Telephone & Broadband July-Nov 2016 inc. VAT D.D. £339.03</p> <p>9 West Berkshire Office Rental £750.00</p> <p>10 Viking Direct – Suspension Files for Office inc. VAT £167.98</p> <p>The motion to agree the finances, proposed by Cllr. J. Earl, seconded by Cllr. N. Carter, was AGREED unanimously.</p> | |
| 16/507 | <p>To receive Correspondence (for information only):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Post Office - Dinrino cheques returned to sender ii. Balc - LCR Autumn Magazine iii. Thames Water – Planned water mains flush iv. Mazars – signed off Annual Return with External Auditors Certificate and Report v. The Pensions Regulator - Automatic Enrolment Scheme for Workplace Pension confirmation vi. WBC – Precept payment notice vii. WBC - Plan regarding Zebra Crossing – awaiting further details <p>Questions were raised about the 4 lamp standards shown on the drawings in accordance with the 'Lighting Regulations' and Cllr. P. Wingfield suggested that lighting could also be provided through spotlights mounted on each beacon pole and that this should continue to be followed up on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> viii. WBC - Notice that Members Bid was successful <p>Received and noted.</p> | |
| # | <p>Motion to extend the meeting, proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl, was AGREED unanimously.</p> | |
| 16/508 | <p>To receive Minor Matters (for information only):</p> <p>Cllr D. Ives raised the need for Remembrance Sunday Marshalls.</p> <p>Cllr N. Kiley raised the need to get the Titan play equipment repaired ASAP.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Challis raised the Monkey Puzzle Field overgrown hedge along The Street and requested that the Clerk organises the cut ASAP</p> <p>Cllr J. Earl advised that Chevrons signs had now been erected on Mowberry Hill.</p> <p>Cllr J. Earl advised that the Christmas Meal was now arranged for the Turners Arms on Tuesday 13th December and that Cllr G. Bridgman and David Kilshaw were to be invited.</p> | |

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| | <p>The Clerk advised that the hedge creep on The Street footpath had been cleared by WBC and that the owners of the overgrown hedges had been issued with notices to cut.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Blagden raised the need to call a Fairground, Trees and Amenities Committee meeting soon.</p> <p>Cllr. N. Carter advised that the hedges bordering the footpath between Stephens Firs and Stephens Close needed cutting back. The Clerk advised that this had been notified to WBC but was not their responsibility, as the path had not been adopted, and they were looking into it.</p> | |
| 16/509 | <p>To receive any future Agenda items</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis requested that the Clerk provides a report on the basis for the ruling of confidentiality on items being discussed.</p> | |
| <u>Part II</u> | | |
| 16/498 | <p>To receive Clerks report on contact procedures requested by Council under item 16/486 of last Council meeting</p> <p>The Clerk advised that the correct contact procedure to discuss issues such as the confidential commercial proposals as raised in Item 498 of the last Council meeting were that not less than two Councillors should be present along with the Clerk, as Officer to the Council to take full notes.</p> <p>This was received and noted and after further discussion it was AGREED, proposed by Cllr J. Earl, seconded by Cllr. M. Johnson, unanimously that the discussions on the proposals being put forward should be carried out by Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. T. Butcher and Cllr. P. Wingfield accompanied by the Clerk.</p> | |

The next meeting is on 10th November 2016.

The meeting closed at 9:58 pm.