

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

held on Thursday, 9th January 2020 @ 7.30 pm

at Mortimer Methodist Church, West End Road, Mortimer

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. M. Dennett (Chairman), Cllr. S. Beard, Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. N. Carter, Cllr. K. Field, Cllr. S. Hill, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr. D. Kilshaw, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. D. Morsley, Cllr. J. Wells.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Hannawin

Public/Press: There were no members of the public and no member of the press in attendance.

Prior to the meeting the Council observed a period of silence in memory of Laurence Picking, a former Councillor and Chairman 1993 to 1997 who had recently passed away.

PART I			
19/138	Public Questions None		
19/139	To receive any apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs. G. Bridgman, K. Johnson, L. Jones and M, Lock.		
19/140	To receive any declarations of interest Cllr. J. Bull declared an interest in 19/148 3 Cllr. S. Beard and Cllr. C. Lewis declared an interest in 19/146 3 A dispensation was granted to all Councillors for the purpose of enabling the business to be discussed at 19/146 1		
19/141	Minutes of Last Meeting To resolve to APPROVE the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 14 th November 2020:		
	RESOLVED that these minutes be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.		
19/142	<u>Clerk's report</u> Action taken following the Parish Council meeting held on 14 th November 2019 and other updates: 19/125 Hammonds Heath Junction/The Street – pedestrians crossing.		
	Mortimer Lane/The Street – poor sight lines		
	Both issues have been reported to WBC.		
	19/133 1) Victoria Road Footpath		
	 WBC have been informed that SMPC does not wish to proceed with the alterations. 		
	2) Telephone Box		
	 Confirmation that SMPC resolved that the phone box should be retained was sent to WBC, along with the request that SMPC are given the opportunity adopt the phone box if the appeal is not successful. 		

	• WPC have responded to PT Payphanes appardingly
	 WBC have responded to BT Payphones accordingly. 3) Speed Cushions
	An order has been placed and a provisional installation date
	received of Thursday 20 th February.
	4) Tadley Citizens Advice Bureau Outreach Service
	A meeting is being arranged.
	5) Ditch and Bank
	Quotes are being sought.
	6) Station Car Park Letter
	• The agreed reply was sent on 26/11/2019.
	7) Library Contribution
	• This was paid on 13/12/2019.
	8) VE Day 75 Profits
	 Advice obtained from SLCC was that whilst the Council should not be aiming to make a profit, any excess income could be shared with relevant 3rd parties i.e. Royal British Legion and not for profit/charitable organisations who have helped with the event.
19/135	Annual Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Report
	 The report has been submitted to WBC and added to the website.
19/136	Items for Communicating
	The following have been included in the newsletter:
	Speed cushions
	Annual Library contribution
	• VE Day 75
	Still outstanding:
	Phone Box
	Ditch and bank
Other Updat	es
1 WBC	Annual Community Champion Awards
•	Unfortunately, SMPC's nominee, Mrs. R. Barker was not successful, but the panel were impressed by the wide ranging nature of Rebecca's voluntary work and the clear dedication she has to helping others and described her as the "go to person" in Mortimer.
2 Statio	n Car Park
•	The planning application should be ready for submission by late January.
3 Police	Community Support Officer (PCSO)
•	The PCSOs continue to visit the office on a monthly basis and the next visit will be on the 14 th January.
•	The anti-social behaviour experienced by the Ballet School has subsided.
4 Christ	mas Events
•	Due to the inclement weather, the annual Carol event took place in the Community Centre.
•	The Christmas Tree lights were, unfortunately, vandalised beyond repair on Christmas Eve. This has been reported to the police.

19/143	private session.	o private session sted that items 19/146 11 and 19/146 12 be moved to ity vote that items 19/146 11 and 19/146 12 are considered	
19/144	Planning	decisions and information from West Berkshire	
	Application	Address <u>Decision</u> <u>Date</u>	
	19/02513/HOUSE	37 Windmill Road, Mortimer APPROVED 16/12/19 Common, Reading, Berkshire RG7 3RL Interior re-configuration, proposed replacement of the conservatory extension, new entrance porch, 2 new dormers to the loft bedroom, change some existing windows to match proposals. <u>SMPC Comments</u> : No objections.	
	19/02497/HOUSE	6 Bilberry Gardens, Mortimer Reading, Berkshire RG7 3WU Single storey rear extension <u>SMPC Comments</u> : No objections.	
	19/02346/CERTP	NatWest, 7 West End Road, GRANTED 18/11/19 Mortimer Common, Reading, Berkshire RG7 3EE Condition 4 partially discharged. To fully comply with the condition the construction in respect of the chimney shall be carried out in accordance with drawing number: LR_19_47THEAVENUE_03 Rev D1; received on 15th October 2019 Certificate of Lawfulness granted	
	19/02795/LBC2	2 Mortimer Hill, The Street, GRANTED 28/12/19 Mortimer, Reading RG7 3PW Conversion of basement into a separate two bedroom flat. The proposed flat will accommodate a kitchen/living/dining room, two bedrooms, a bathroom, utility room and storage. The proposal does not include any changes to the external fabric of the building. The internal skin will be insulated and plasterboarded. The floor will be excavated to reduce the levels thereby increasing ceiling levels. Existing quarry tiles in proposed bedroom 2 will be carefully lifted, set aside and relaid on the new reduced level concrete slab. <u>SMPC Comments</u> : No objections given the type of development is a matter for building control.	
	APPEALS:		
	19/00723/FULD (APP/W0340/W/19/ 3242051)	Victoria Arms, 54 VictoriaAPPEALED12/12/19Road, Mortimer Common, Reading, Berkshire RG7 3SE- awaiting decisionConstruction of new two-bedroom dwelling to the rear of 54 Victoria Road (Victoria Arms Public House)	

	SMPC Comments:The Committee had no objections to the proposed two- bedroom dwelling to the rear of 54 Victoria Road but had serious concerns regarding the reduction to only four car parking spaces that would be left available to the Victoria Arms Public House.The planning decisions were received. It was noted that The Nat West development consists of two first floor flats, each with a parking space each on the forecourt and a commercial unit on the ground floor. This falls under permitted development.		
19/145	Committee and Working Party /Group Reports		
	 Strategy Working Party Cllr. Morsley gave a verbal report and it was noted: 		
	 The consultation material is complete, and the newsletter has been received from the printers. 		
	 The exhibition is taking place on the 28th and 31st of January and the 1st of February. 		
	The Strategy Working Party will be meeting to plan the format of the exhibition.		
	 Thanks were given to the office and Cllr. N. Carter for their assistance with the consultation material and newsletter. 		
	 The newsletter will be being delivered the weekend of the 18th/19th of January and the deadline for responses to the survey is the 8th of February. 		
	The aim is to undertake a further consultation later in the year in time		
	that the results can be taken into consideration with the 2020/21 budget planning.		
	 Fairground and Cemetery Cllr. J. Bull gave a verbal report and it was noted: 		
	One company has been to quote for the Fairground security works which		
	included a ditch, rising bollards and a height barrier for the community centre car park entrance. Due to the root growth of the trees, the		
	company's recommendation was that a 1m high x 1m wide bund should be installed instead of a ditch and bund. Further quotes are being sought.		
	The recent tree survey identified 120 trees with medium risk issues.		
	Quotes are being sought to address the issues along with the coppicing of the willows around the pond.		
	Cllr. Bull continues to research options for Fairground toilet provision.		
	However, whether a feasibility study is undertaken will depend on the results of the consultation.		
19/146	Items for consideration and resolution		
	 Budget and Precept 2020/21 To receive and APPROVE the Budget and Precept as recommended To receive and APPROVE the Budget and Precept as recommended 		
	 by Finance and General Purposes. Eurther to a discussion, it was noted that the proposed increase in precent 		
	 Further to a discussion, it was noted that the proposed increase in precept represents a 2% increase i.e. £1.70 per annum increase for a Band D property. Transfers to the tennis court and cemetery extension earmarked reserves for 		
	2020/21 will be made from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. Sarah Ball, West Berkshire Council, has given an informal opinion that, as per the guideness potes, transforring CIL menoy to commerced reserves is acceptable		
	guidance notes, transferring CIL money to earmarked reserves is acceptable and this should be reflected in the annual CIL report as monies unspent but allocated.		
	Cllr. Dennett proposed the motion to approve the budget and precept as recommended by Finance and General Purposes.		
	Seconded by Cllr. Kilshaw		
	RESOLVED by majority vote.		

 2) VE Day 75 a) To receive an update on the preparations for the VE Day 75 	
commemorations and AGREE the recommendations of the Working Group and further actions to be taken.	
 Cllr. Beard gave a verbal update and it was noted: Two marguees have ben provisionally booked. The larger one, needed for the 	
music event, costs £5,000 to hire.	
 The fun fair has been booked. £6,500 has been obtained from private sponsorship. 	
Skips have been sponsored by Hadleys.	
 MML are overseeing the music event and have negotiated the Skanksters for the headline act. 	
 The VE Day 75 event will be promoted via social media and the Village Eye. 	
• Volunteers for setting up/taking down and manning the event will be required	
 3) Mortimer Cricket Club – Shinfield 3rd XI a) To receive a report on the 2019 season and RESOLVE that Shinfield 3rd XI may continue to use the pitch in agreement with Mortimer 	
Cricket Club.	
Further to the Clerk's report it was noted that it may be either the Shinfield 1 st XI or the Shinfield 3 rd XI that will be using the cricket pitch.	
Cllr. Kilshaw proposed that the resolution be changed to " RESOLVE that a Shinfield cricket team may use the pitch in agreement with Mortimer Cricket Club."	
Seconded by Cllr. M. Dennett.	
RESOLVED by majority vote.	
Cllr. Dennett proposed the motion that a Shinfield cricket team may use the pitch in	0
agreement with Mortimer Cricket Club.	
Seconded by Cllr. Kilshaw RESOLVED by majority vote.	
RESOLVED by majority vote.	
 4) Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group a) To RESOLVE to establish a Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group reporting to the Planning Committee to manage matters relating to maintaining and updating the NDP. 	
Cllr. Dennett proposed the motion as described above.	
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 Clir. Dennett proposed the motion as described above. Seconded by Clir. Kilshaw RESOLVED unanimously. Clirs. Bull, Carter, Dennett, Ives, Hill, Morsley and Wells expressed an interest in joining the Working Group. Clir's Beard and Field also expressed an interest in joining the Working Group but after the VE Day 75 commemorations. Clir Dennett stated that invitations to join the group will be sent to those of the original Steering Group who are not on the present Council (namely Mr T Barber, Mr N Kiley and Mr P Wingfield). An email will be sent by the Clerk to confirm membership for an initial meeting. 5) Land Allocated for Relocation of St John's School and Doctors' Surgery a) To RESOLVE to progress the usage of the allocated reserved space by approving the recommendations. Clir. Morsley presented a paper and further to a discussion it was noted: 	
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	ility of SMPC taking over the land as trustees could be considered. r a new school should still be pursued.	
to commence discu determine who has the process for doin Development Plan	sed the motion that the Council supports both the recommendations ussions with the doctors regarding the relocation of the surgery AND to the authority to approve changes in use of the allocated space and ing this. Once this has been established by the Neighbourhood Working Group, then consideration will be given by Full Council to tive uses of the land by St John's school.	
Seconded by Cllr. I	Hill	
RESOLVED unani	mously.	
<u>8.47pm</u>		
	sed the motion to extend the meeting past 9.30pm if required	
Seconded by Cllr. I		
RESOLVED by ma	ajority vote.	
	ts Procedure SOLVE to adopt the Complaints Procedure as recommended by ce and General Purposes.	
Two further minor of	changes were noted.	
	sed the motion to adopt the Complaints Procedure as Finance and General Purposes with the two minor changes.	
Seconded by Cllr. I	Kilshaw	
RESOLVED unani	mously.	
Encampm a) To RE delega	SOLVE that the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, be ated to submit a response on the consultation to NALC for	
and working on the	on. d that the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) have been reviewing e consultation and that a consistent response to the consultation would be beneficial.	
conjunction with	sed that the motion be changed to "RESOLVE that the Clerk, in members of NAG and the Chairman, be delegated to submit a consultation to NALC for collation".	
Seconded by Cllr. I	Kilshaw	
RESOLVED unani	•	NA
	sed that the Clerk, in conjunction with members of NAG and the gated to submit a response on the consultation to NALC for	MI Cle
Seconded by Cllr. I	Kilshaw	
RESOLVED unani	mously.	
a) To RE 1)	arm and MOR006 Footpaths SOLVE in principle that the Council: Supports the ending of permitted rights associated with STRA/20/1 across the farmyard at Mann's Farm, As a trade-off for 1) accepts that a new footpath be associated	
_)	with MOR006 and	
3)	Agrees that a sign is paid for and installed at the north end of Footpath STRA/20/1.	
Cllr. Lewis presente	ed a paper and proposed the motion as described above.	
Seconded by Cllr. I	Field	

	RESOLVED unanimously.	
	The Clerk will inform Englefield Estate, James Strang and West Berkshire Council.	Clerk
	 9) Pill Box a) To RESOLVE to undertake the required security measures at a cost of up to £1,000. b) To RESOLVE that the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the Pill Box is overseen by the Fairground and Cemetery Committee in agreement with Englefield Estate. 	
	Cllr. Bull presented a report and proposed the motions as described above.	
	Seconded by Cllr. Lewis	
	RESOLVED by majority vote	
	 10) Co-options to Committees a) To RESOLVE the co-option of Mr. N. Kiley onto the Fairground and Cemetery Committee. 	
	It was noted that Committee Terms of Reference enable all committees to co-opt members of the public onto a committee for a specific task should they so desire.	
	Cllr. Kilshaw proposed the motion that Mr. N. Kiley be co-opted onto the Fairground and Cemetery Committee.	
	Seconded by Cllr. Lewis	
	With 4 votes for, 4 votes against and 3 abstentions, the Chairman had the casting	
	vote and the motion was NOT carried.	
	b) To RESOLVE the co-option of Mr. T. Barber onto the Planning Committee for work relating to the Reserved Space on MOR006 in addition to his existing co-option for Biodiversity and Green Space.	
	Cllr. Dennett proposed the motion as described above.	
	Seconded by Cllr. Morsley	
	RESOLVED by majority vote.	
19/147	Items for Information Only:	
	 To note the meetings that have taken place of the following committees and to receive the approved/draft minutes: a) Planning 17th December 2019 b) Finance & General Purposes 2nd January 2020 The planning minutes have subsequently been approved. The meetings were noted. 	
	 2) District Councillor's reports. Reports from Cllr. Bridgman for November and December were received. 3) Correspondence. 	
	 Email: West Berkshire Council (WBC): Second Consolidated Definitive Map and Statement. 	
	2 Email – WBC: Notification of a Tree Preservation Order Birch Lane.	
	3 Email – BDDC: Notice of extension to Conservation Area Designation and adoption of the Whitchurch Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.	
	4 Email – Hampshire Association of Local Councils: Royal garden Party Nominations.	
	5 Email – WBC: 'Climate Change Bond' proposal.	
	6 Letter – WBC: Results of WBC Community Champion Awards.	
	7 Letter – The Pensions Regulator: Re-enrolment and re-declaration: your legal duties as an employer.	

	A further email from WBC had been received and the District Conference will be taking place on Thursday March 12 th . Formal invitations will be sent out shortly.			
	The correspondence was noted.			
	4) Neighbourhood Action Group Report			
	Cllr. Carter gave a verbal report and the following was noted:			
	the NAG a multi-agency problem solving group that deals primarily with police- related issues affecting local the parishes			
	 Following increased publicity, attendance at meetings has increased, with several members of the public coming, to raise their issues. Issues are reviewed and discussed, and we aim to identify achievable actions. Actions include an event "Willink Community Conversation" being organised to promote engagement between the police and schools. Work is being undertaken on illegal incursions, looking at 1) using injunctions to deal with incursions, as is done in Hampshire. This is expensive but Parish Councils might wish to share the cost. 2) Responding to the current Government consultation on strengthening police powers to deal with unauthorised encampments 3) Trying to arrange a meeting with the Thames Valley Police Superintendent Nick John about the 6 criteria the police consider before evicting under the Section 61 powers. 			
	 speed investigation itself. Mortimer is seen as leading the way in its planned purchase of an ANPR. NAG information, agendas and minutes are posted on the community section of the SMPC website and other Parish Councils are being encouraged to 			
	follow suit.			
	5) Minor Matters. Cllr. Field:			
	• There have been several incidents of flour and eggs being thrown over cars – The Clerk will inform the PCSOs on their next visit to the Parish Council office.			
	 Cllr. Hill: The water pressure in some areas of the village i.e. West End Road and the Community Centre is very low - The Clerk will raise this with Thames Water. The Fairground pond clearance continues in line with the recommendations. 			
	 Cllr. Carter: V365, a voluntary recruitment event, will be taking place in Newbury on 			
	Saturday. Cllr. Morsley:			
	 Requested that the Clerk follows up recent communications with Jon Winstanley (WBC) regarding devolved powers and open spaces and sign cleaning. 	Clerk		
19/148	<u>Finance</u>			
	 1. Accounts to 30th November 2019 Cllr. Dennett proposed that the Income and Expenditure Report and the Balance Sheet are approved. Seconded by Cllr Kilshaw RESOLVED unanimously. 			
	2. Payments made with authorisation of Chairman/Vice-Chairman			
	1. HMRC – Month 8 (November) 2019/2020 PAYE/NIC. £893.96			
	Salaries & Wages – Mth. 8 – 2019 (Nov) Note: this figure £3,562.87 2. includes a Direct Debit for the pension element			
	3. HMRC – Month 9 (December) 2019/2020 PAYE/NIC. £893.76			

 Salaries & Wages – Mth. 9 – 2019 (Dec) Note: this figure 4. includes a Direct Debit for the pension element	£3,567.95	
Pro Vision – Mortimer Station professional services Oct-Nov 5. 2019 – inc. VAT	£1,257.26	
Sapling Arboricultural Ltd – Tree survey on Windmill Common – 6. inc. VAT	£750.72	
Sapling Arboricultural Ltd – Tree survey on Fairground & 7. cemetery – inc. VAT	£1052.46	
C&D Grounds Maintenance – Fairground & Cemetery cut 8. (November) – inc. VAT	£774.00	
Dads Shop – refuse bags, 3x sets of D batteries, 10m extension 9. lead, and 4x sets of LED lights – inc. VAT	£199.91	
SUEZ Recycling – Fairground car park November 2019 – inc. 10. VAT [Direct Debit]	£124.39	
West Berkshire Council – Contribution to Library Services	£3,735.00	
12. West Berkshire Council – Rent West End car park	£10.00	
EE – Monthly plan charge November 2019 – inc. VAT [Direct 13. Debit]	£28.80	
EE – Monthly plan charge December 2019 – inc. VAT [Direct 14. Debit]	£28.80	
Stanley Electrical – additional T-bar keys for Fairground ^{15.} cabinets – inc. VAT	£30.00	
16. Englefield Estate – Quarterly rent for cemetery to 24/3/2020	£62.50	
17. Digital Terrain Surveys – Topographical survey at Mortimer Station car park – inc. VAT	£840.00	
Harlequin Marquee Hire – Deposit on marquee for VE Day 75 – 18. inc. VAT	£120.00	
19. John Ward – Refund for payment made to MDO Studios for VE Day 75	£60.00	
20. L. Hannawin – Expenses: replacement LED uplighter for SMPC office	£49.99	
21. L. Hannawin – HM Land Registry enquiry for Garth Hall	£12.00	
22. SSE Southern Electric – electrical charges at Fairground car park (Sept-Dec) – inc. VAT [Direct Debit]	£29.14	
 The payments were received. It was noted: C&D have completed the final cuts of the Fairground and Cemer the year. The grazing area is not included in the monthly fee bu invoiced separately as required. 2019/20 is the first year of a 3 y grounds maintenance contract for the Fairground and Cemetery A refund is Due from Dads Shop for returned Christmas lights. 	t is year	
3. Accounts for payment		
Stuart Michael Associates – Finalise transport assessment for 1. Mortimer station car park – inc. VAT	£840.00	
Stuart Michael Associates – Stage 1 Safety Audit for Transport 2. Statement on Mortimer station car park – inc. VAT	£1,020.00	
John Bull – purchase of heavy-duty Festoon Lights for outdoor 3. events inc. VAT	£130.79	

	British Telecom – Office telephone and broadband statement for 4. December – inc. VAT [Direct Debit] £306.50	
	5. L. Hannawin – Survey Monkey Advantage Annual Plan 2020 £384.00	
	SSE Southern Electric – electrical charges at Plot 1, Fairground 6. (Sept-Dec) – inc. VAT [Direct Debit] £23.25	
	SSE Southern Electric – electrical charges at Plot 2, Fairground 7. (Sept-Dec) – inc. VAT [Direct Debit] £94.73	
	8. B. O'Reilly – 50x 2 nd Class stamps and 12x 1 st Class stamps £38.90	
	Additional invoices since Agenda released:	
	9. West Berkshire Council – quarterly rent for Mortimer Library £812.50	
	10. Oliver Signs – printing January newsletter and consultation £547.51 survey sheets – inc. VAT	
	Cllr. Dennett proposed that the items of expenditure are approved. Seconded by Cllr. Kilshaw RESOLVED with one abstention.	
19/149	Communications To identify items for communicating. No additional items to those from the meeting were identified.	
19/150	<u>Future Agenda Items</u> To identify future agenda items. None	
	Exclusion of Press and Public To pass a resolution to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting at Part II, items identified at 19/143 on the Agenda, due to the confidential nature of the information being discussed: It was AGREED unanimously to exclude members of the public and press from the meeting at Part II, items 19/146 11 and 19/146 12 on the Agenda, due to the confidential nature of the information being discussed.	
PART II		-
19/146 11	Royal Garden Party a) To consider and AGREE nominations for the Royal Garden Party. Cllr. Dennett presented the background information and criteria for nominations and the possible nominees were considered.	
	Cllr. Dennett proposed SMPC should nominate Mr. P. Wingfield for the Royal Garden Party.	Clerk
	Seconded by Cllr. Lewis	
	RESOLVED unanimously.	<u> </u>
19/146 12	 a) To receive an update and AGREE actions and associated expenditure. Cllr. Dennett gave a verbal update on the meeting held between the Garth Hall Working Party and the Royal British Legion (RBL) back in November, where consideration was given to the requirements needed for moving the project forward. Having sought legal advice, RBL need to undertake a consultation with stakeholders on the options for the hall. RBL wish to continue to work closely with SMPC on both the consultation and to reach a satisfactory outcome for the trust. Prior to a further meeting with RBL, SMPC now need to seek legal advice regarding the proposals. 	
	Cllr. Bull proposed a budget of £2,500 for legal fees to enable SMPC to obtain the required information. Seconded by Cllr. Lewis	Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.47pm

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 13th February