

Mentmore Parish Council

Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council meeting held at Mentmore Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Chairman and Buckinghamshire Councillor P Brazier, Vice Chairman Councillor J Langley, Councillor R Fletcher, Councillor T Mundy and Councillor H Wrathall.

Buckinghamshire Councillor C Poll.
Mentmore Parish Clerk Mrs B Knight.

21 members of the public.

C/001/22 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/002/22 Apologies and Attendance.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Butler and Truscott.

C/003/22 Disclosures of interest on items pertaining to the agenda.

Councillor Langley declared an interest as he has submitted accounts for payment. Councillor Wrathall declared she has expenses to be approved at the meeting.

C/004/22 To approve the minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on the 22nd December 2021.

It was agreed that the minutes were true and accurate, and the Chairman signed the minutes.

C/005/22 Public Question Time.

A resident raised that two planning applications are not shown on the Mentmore Parish Council website. The applications are shown on the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Portal, the Chairman and Clerk will look into this matter.

Planning Application 22/00036/APP.

Local residents from Rowden Farm Barn express concerns of possible welfare issues, the use of agricultural land being used as a business without planning permission. A resident mentioned the previous location of the Care Farm was isolated and this potential site is located close residential properties.

The applicant explained they expect between people to attend a day to attend and it would be term time only. Councillor Mundy questioned on their website it mentions being open for seven days, the applicant explained she does not expect the facility to be open at the weekends. The Chairman questioned why information such as number of traffic movements and capacity have not been made public. A resident mentioned that story telling weekends have been run also concerns over car park issues, in the plans there are only four spaces shown the applicant confirmed they are submitting further highways plans. Councillor Wrathall asked why the stables and hardstanding were in the particular location in the site which covers 40 acres the facilities are potentially near the houses. A resident mentioned the barn is 5.4m high which is considered acceptable for agricultural use however, the resident felt this is not in keeping with the surroundings. A resident felt there was insufficient information about the after school and weekend activities. The Chairman raised concerns over the shared access between the proposed Care Farm and the residential properties. A resident stated that last Sunday it took twenty minutes to leave his property due to parking issues caused by visitors.

C/006/22 To receive reports from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).

Bucks Councillor Poll reported that the transition from the old five district councils to one Buckinghamshire Council has created problems with the visibility of some planning applications and this is likely to be the cause of the Mentmore Parish Council website issue. Buckinghamshire Council will be piloting a freight strategy zone which will prevent HGVs from travelling through the area, Councillor Poll encouraged residents to take part in the Consultation. There is a consultation on the number of Councillors in the area. The Parish Clerk will put a link on the website to the Freight Strategy Consultation.

C/007/22 Planning:

22/00036/APP Change of use from Agricultural to ‘Care Farm’ and erection of a barn and the siting of a temporary rural workers dwelling – Rowden Farm, Rowden Farm Lane, Mentmore, Buckinghamshire.

OBJECTION PROPOSED BY Councillor Brazier and SECONDED BY Councillor Langley and carried unanimously. The reasons for the objection are big areas of concern over numbers, ages of users, concerns over residential amenity, access and potential safeguarding issues.

C/008/22 Mentmore Village Hall, Village Green and Parish Events.

Soft Play Proposal – Councillor Wrathall explained the proposal to encourage more families to use the Village Hall by offering a soft play facility. The Village Hall has received an Omicron Grant which could be used to fund this, the project is expected to cost £1,500. It was agreed to support this idea once storage has been arranged and Councillor Langley has checked that the car wheels do not mark the floor. PROPOSED BY Councillor Brazier and SECONDED BY Councillor Langley and carried unanimously.

Mentmore Christmas Tree – Councillor Langley spoke to the members of the public to seek their views about whether they would prefer a real or artificial Christmas tree. It was agreed to continue with a sustainably grown Christmas tree.

C/009/22 Footpaths/Bridleways and Roads.

It was agreed to accept the Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services Offer for 2022/23 £1,089.75 PROPOSED BY Councillor Brazier and SECONDED BY Councillor Fletcher and carried unanimously, Councillor Langley did not take part in the discussion or vote. The forms were signed by the signatories.

C/010/22 Short/Mid and Long Term Council Plans.

Wooden bollards for Crafton – it was agreed to install these the cost will be a maximum of £100 for two bollards PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Brazier and carried unanimously. The Parish Clerk will contact the Local Area Technician about the project.

Wildflower verges – Mentmore some residents offered to help, and it was agreed to purchase wildflower seeds for a four meter square patch.

C/011/22 Appointment of Internal Auditor for Mentmore Parish Council.

It was resolved to appoint Trevor Beeches with fee of £85 as internal auditor for Mentmore Parish Council PROPOSED BY and SECONDED BY and carried unanimously.

C/012/22 Clerk’s Report.

This was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no questions.

C/013/22 Accounts for payment.

The following accounts were authorised for payment:

Payee	Amount
N Power - Streetlight Electricity (Dec 21) First Payment	£80.08
B Knight - allowance and expenses	£27.99
The Stag - Christmas Event Catering	£283.50

Fenella Buchanan - VH Booking Refund	£90.00
Anglo Dutch - Payroll Services	£36.00
Webgenie - Website Hosting	£74.40
Octopus Energy - VH Electricity	£110.42
Choir Payment	£80.00
Christmas Event Expenses	£12.99
Eon - Streetlight Electricity (December 21)	£262.30
PE Mead - Xmas Tree	£240.00
Royal British Legion - Poppy Appeal Donation	£100.00
Buckinghamshire Council - dog bins 22/23	£156.43
Bucks Travel (mini bus - Xmas Event)	£220.00
Limited Odd Jobs - Verge cutting	£45.00
Limited Odd Jobs - Christmas Lights	£40.00
Limited Odd Jobs - Village Green/Hall Grass Cutting	£80.00
Octopus Energy - VH Electricity Nov 21	£90.45

C/014/22 Meeting Dates for 2022:

6th April, 4th May (Annual Meetings), 1st June, 3rd August, 5th October and 7th December 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.