

Mentmore Parish Council

Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held at Mentmore Village Hall on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors Robert Fletcher (Chairman), Tracey Waring-Mundy (Vice Chairman), Peter Brazier (also Buckinghamshire Councillor), Caroline Horgan, Daniel McGinty and Laura Smethurst.

Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board Manager – Michelle Parker.
Councillor Frank Wakefield Chairman and Councillor Mac Cleland – Slapton Parish Council.
John Lowden – Rosebery Mews Management Company Ltd Chairman/Director.

Mentmore Parish Clerk Bridget Knight.

Four members of the public.

C/001/24 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including the Slapton Councillors and the Community Board Manager.

C/002/24 Apologies and Attendance.

None.

C/003/24 Disclosures of interest on items pertaining to the agenda.

Councillor Brazier declared an interest as a shareholder and Director of The Stag Public House.

C/004/24 To approve the minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on 6th December 2023.

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

C/005/24 Co-Option of Parish Councillor(s).

None.

C/006/24 Public Question Time.

A local resident asked for an update about Mentmore Towers, Councillor Brazier replied that the Towers is at the highest level of at risk and Buckinghamshire Council is working with the owner over repairs. Buckinghamshire Council has assessed the building and established what work is required to make it safe and repair back to its 1951 condition when it was originally listed.

The Chairman of Roseberry Mews Management Company raised the issue of Stag Hill and the increase in volume and high speeds of traffic with concerns of safety by The Stag Public House where there is reduced visibility and the road is narrow. Councillor Horgan commented the trees need to be cut back, a local resident offered for his contractor to cut the hedges back in September and the Chairman thanked him for his kind offer.

The previously contracted grass cutting contractor was present and was permitted to speak during the devolved services item.

C/007/24 Michelle Parker – Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board Manager.

Michelle Parker is the new (temporary) Community Board Manager and wanted to meet with the Councillors. Michelle welcomed questions. The Chairman asked about available funding, previously it was £90,000 and she expected this could be halved, this covers 17 parishes. There are grants of £15,000 with grant funding and small grants of £1,000. There are four Community Board Meetings a year. The Chairman thanked her for attending .

C/008/24 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).

A report was submitted by Councillor Town, there were no comments. Councillor Brazier spoke about the Community Board Manager's wider experience. The Station Road, Cheddington road closure will be continue until the 13th February. The Chairman asked about the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy Zone and the increase in traffic through the Mentmore straight. Councillor Brazier stated there will be ANPR cameras will be on the entry points and enforcement will follow.

C/009/24 Planning Applications:

23/03982/APP | Householder application for alterations to front garden. Removal of 20th century brick piers along low garden wall. Low wall to be retained and repaired. Reconfiguration of paving by front door. New iron garden gate with oak posts on either side. | Crafton Farmhouse Crafton Lodge Road Crafton Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 OQL

No Comment.

Recent Decisions by Buckinghamshire Council:

23/02809/APP | Householder application for new detached garage with ancillary accommodation over | Honeysuckle Lodge Crafton Lodge Road Crafton Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 OQJ – APPROVED.

23/03443/AGN | Erection of agricultural barn and agricultural track | Bridge Farm Rowden Farm Lane Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QD

No Comment.

23/03168/VRC | Removal of condition 2 (ancillary use) relating to application 94/02115/APP (conversion of store and loft into additional living accommodation) | Stable Cottage Stable Yard Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QG

Object PROPOSED By Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Horgan and carried unanimously.

C/010/24 Village Hall, Village Green and Mentmore Parish Events.

Mentmore Parish Council has applied for grant funding with FCC towards purchase of new swings for Mentmore Village Green, Mentmore Parish Council will contribute 10.75% of the total cost.

Tree works at Mentmore Village Green – it was agreed to accept the RML quotation at a cost of £960 plus VAT.

The heating system is not working correctly and has not since it was installed, and the Parish Council will complain to the installer.

Councillor Brazier stated today an HGV moved a huge branch from the Old Vicarage and left it on the Village Green. It was agreed for Jonathan Langley to remove the large branch at a cost of £20.00.

C/011/24 Footpaths, Bridleways, Roads including Speedwatch.

Chair of Rosebery Mews Management Company Ltd email to parish council – a meeting will take place between the Chairmen. It was agreed to purchase new reflectors.

SIDs – Councillor Brazier suggested the purchase of two new SIDs.

Stile by cricket pitch – no update due to very wet ground.

Woodland Trust saplings – Mentmore Parish Council would like to plant some saplings along MEN/10 footpath, the landowners will be contacted to request permission.

Mentmore Crossroads – this has been reported to the Local Area Technician who is looking into a new sign design and replacement of rumble strips, Councillor Brazier will follow up with the LAT.

Councillor Mundy-Waring reported there have been a few Speedwatch sessions in Ledburn but this has been limited due to unsuitable weather conditions.

C/012/24 Devolved Services inc Grass Cutting Tender.

The village gates outside of the 30MPH will be cleaned twice a year.

C/013/24 Finance and Accounts for Payment.

Trevor Beeches was appointment as Internal Auditor.

The following payments were approved for payment:

Payee:		Amount
Hugo Fox	Website - Jan 24	£23.99
Hugo Fox	Website - Feb 24	£23.99
Octopus Energy	VH Elec January 24	£185.48
Amazon	Soap Dispensers & Soap VH	£52.83
Anglo Dutch	Payroll Services (late invoices)	£72.00
Anglo Dutch	Payroll Services Oct, Nov & Dec	£36.00
ICO	Data Protection Reg	£35.00
Buckinghamshire Council	Dog Bin – Crafton	£347.52
Web Genie	Website domain	£74.40
Octopus Energy	VH Elec December 23	£147.69
Diane Armston	Reimburse VH first aid kit	£14.88
Ringo	Car Parking – Aylesbury	£2.95
Octopus Energy	November 23	£147.86
Go Pak	VH Tables	£1,631.20
B Knight	Clerk's expenses Dec 23	£48.11
Limited Odd Jobs	Invoice 24 - General Main	£185.00
Limited Odd Jobs	Invoice 75 - Grass cutting	£2,530.00
Limited Odd Jobs	Invoice 30 – Devolved	£780.00
Eon Elec	Streetlight Elec	£341.26
Clerk	Expenses - Jan 24	£23.65
Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee	£3.00

Received:		
D Armson/Table Tennis	VH Rent	£75.00
L Cooper	VH Rent	£36.00
J Collier	VH Rent	£12.00
KM Strickland	VH Rent	£48.00
J Annsell	VH Rent	£12.00
Book Sales	Donation	£165.00
S Johnston	VH Rent	£20.00
C Van Praag	VH Rent	£40.00
J Collier	VH Rent	£24.00
D Armson/Table Tennis	VH Rent	£90.00
R Danski	VH Rent	£144.00
Balances at 06.02.24		
VH Current Account		£18,829.15
Current Account		£11,400.78
Total:		£30,229.93

C/014/24 Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk reported an out of office reply has been set up. There were no comments.

C/015/24 Meeting Dates

2024: 3rd April, 15th May, 5th June, 7th August, 2nd October and 4th December.

The meeting closed 7.55pm.