



**Minutes of Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7 October 2015 at the Village Hall, Mentmore at 8pm.**

Present: Peter Brazier, Jonathan Langley, Elizabeth Dack, Iain Butler, District Councillor Peter Cooper, PCSO Frank Callaghan and Deborah Martin, Clerk to the Council  
4 Parishioners

**192. Chairman's items and welcomes**

**193. Attendance and Apologies**

Apologies received from Councillor Faye Medler and accepted by Councillors.

**194. Disclosures of Interest on items pertaining to the agenda  
Councillors to declare any interests.**

Councillor Langley raised that he had invoices to be approved at the meeting.

**195. Public Question Time (10 minutes)**

**To receive any questions from members of the public.**

No comments at this time

**196. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015  
Copies previously circulated.**

Councillors resolved to approve the above numbered minutes

**197. Police Matters**

PCSO Callaghan confirmed crime figures since April 2015 for the Parish was 1, a heating oil theft in Crafton. He recommended that tanks were secured properly. He had been contacted by parishioners who had been warned not to park on the verge near Cheddington Lodge and was able to reassure them.

**198. To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

District Peter Cooper shared an update on the Vale of Aylesbury Plan. A Settlement Hierarchy was currently being put together which identified 4 key areas, Strategic such as Aylesbury, Large Villages, Smaller Villages and Other settlements. It is anticipated this will allow them to set out more clearly the amount of houses which are likely to be 31,000 until 2033. One of the reasons the previous plan had failed was AVDC did not consult with neighbouring authorities on the number of houses or seek their agreement to the targets, essentially all have to agree to each other's targets. AVDC are now looking at how to distribute the split, this could be done equally or there was also a possibility of creating a brand new settlement. Decisions would be made between now and Christmas. The Vale of Aylesbury Plan should be in place by 2017. If not done by then the Government could impose a plan. It is envisaged at this stage smaller Parishes such as Mentmore which includes, Ledburn, Mentmore and Crafton could be expected to take on 24 houses over the next 20 years. More information will be provided on the Vale of Aylesbury Website.  
<http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/supporting-evidence>

Signed By Chairman.....

## 199. Village Hall

### (a) To receive a report from the Committee.

Minutes had already been sent to Councillors from the recent meeting. It was anticipated that an extraordinary meeting would be held soon re the potential building work. Quotes had now been obtained from 3 builders. Councillors agreed to the spend of £195 to put in a formal planning application to AVDC for the planned extension works.

## 200. Planning

### (i) To receive details of planning decisions received.

All noted within Clerks report of 7 October 2015.

### (ii) To discuss planning application no's.

**15/03222/APP** - Land At Oakwood Farm Rowden Farm Lane Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QD  
Erection of agricultural building for storage and distribution of plant, machinery and parts for agricultural and construction equipment (use class B8) including retention of existing hard standing, access, parking and ancillary external works

Councillors discussed the above application. District Councillor Peter Cooper queried the basis of the application with the applicant as he questioned whether it could have happened under the new permitted development regulations, however, it appeared not as the building had not been in agricultural use for 10 years. Councillors resolved to pass "No objection" to the application without further comment as they concluded there were no areas of planning policy to form any objections. Concerns were raised over the state of the road nearby, however, this was not an area of planning policy. Within the Transport Statement concern was raised over the height of the bridge, the applicant confirmed there was not an intent for businesses needing the use of HGVs. The applicant also planned on putting signage for exiting the site, right turn only, to assist with any increase in traffic volumes.

Although not related to this planning application the applicant advised that a previous approved application for a solar farm was unlikely to go ahead. The applicant also raised concerns that some comments made to his applications in the past had made personal attacks and if there was anything the Parish Council could do. It was confirmed that the Parish Council does not publish any objection letters this was AVDC but when making amendments to its website it would recommend people follow AVDC guidelines on objecting to applications.

**15/03170/APP** -Rowden Farm Rowden Farm Lane Mentmore Buckinghamshire  
Erection of agricultural building for rearing of livestock

Discussed, no objections.

**15/03173/APP** -Rowden Farm Rowden Farm Lane Mentmore Buckinghamshire  
Retention of mobile home

Discussed, no objections.

## 201. Progress report from Pedestrian/Road Safety working group

Vegetation due to be cut by Mentmore Towers has yet to be done but Councillor Langley had spoken with them and it was hoped this would be done shortly.

A water leak near Roseberry Mews was currently being investigated, the water company believes that it has now established the problem and this should be fixed soon. Bucks Highways are aware of the issue and the road does form part of the regular gritting route.

Signed By Chairman.....

## **202. Devolution update**

Councillor Brazier continues to monitor outcomes from Bucks CC and will soon be working on updating the maps supplied by Bucks CC to ensure a clear record is kept with what is now the responsibility of the Parish Council.

## **203. Condition of Mentmore Towers**

The Parish Council had received an anonymous letter concerning the state of Mentmore Towers. Councillor Peter Cooper was able to confirm that the heritage team from AVDC were due to be meeting with representatives from Mentmore Towers on site at the Towers in the coming weeks. It was agreed to keep the condition of Mentmore Towers as a regular agenda item to monitor progress. Councillor Cooper confirmed he would keep the Parish Council updated with any outcomes

## **204. Replacement rope for play equipment on Mentmore Green**

Councillors Langley had obtained 1 quote from the original supplier for a direct replacement at a cost of £635. Councillors agreed that this was too expensive and Councillor Langley would research into possible alternatives and report back.

## **205. Village website, adding of Parish Council processes/ procedures**

Councillors resolved to add all Council policies and procedures to the Parish website

## **206. Litter Picking Progress**

Councillor Dack provided an update on the litter picking, it was hoped the remaining areas would be actioned at the weekend. Councillors thanked Councillor Dack and all of the helpers for the work they had done and the visible difference it had made. Councillor Dack asked Councillors to agree to an additional spend of £30 for additional high viz jackets. Councillors resolved to agree to the additional spend.

## **207. Finance**

- **Accounts update including, Expenses for Payment, Balances**

Clerk had provided the standard accounts spreadsheet to all Councillors previous to the meeting. Councillors suggested more detail required within the descriptions on invoices for work carried out under devolution for example the area where mowing was completed.

- **S106 Spend Project – including applying for planning permission for possible Village Hall extension**

This was covered under agenda item 8, Village Hall

- **General update**

Provided within Clerks report. Councillors agreed that the cycleway donation should be noted as a village hall donation. It was also agreed for an extra line to be added to the accounts spreadsheet dashboard to easily see the amount of VAT.

## **208. To receive**

- **Clerk's Report**

Contents approved

Next Meeting, 2/12/15, 3/2/16, 6/04/16, 01/06/2016, 03/08/2016, 05/10/16, 07/12/2016

Signed By Chairman.....

Meeting finished 9.45pm

Signed By Chairman.....