



**Minutes of Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at the Village Hall, Mentmore at 8pm.**

Present: Councillors, Peter Brazier, Jonathan Langley, Elizabeth Dack, Robert Fletcher  
3 members of the public

Bridget Knight – Clerk to the Council

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

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. The Chairman welcomed Bridget Knight as new Clerk. Councillor Brazier explained the scheme to replace a stile with a kissing-gate which would cost £250, would ask local dog walkers to raise funds but the Parish Council would match this pound for pound, permission has been given by landowners already. Will be discussed in further details next meeting.

Hardstanding at Kissinggate Barn – no update. Given there is no issue being raised by parishioners this can be dropped from the agenda.

**327. Attendance and Apologies**

Apologies were received from PCSO Frank Callaghan – Thames Valley Police, District Councillor Peter Cooper and County Councillor Avril Davies

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

None.

**329. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Copies previously circulated.**

Councillors approved the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and they were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**330. Public Question Time**

Debbie La-Haye: Planning application expected over next few weeks – extension of amenity block at Horses Helping People 12x30ft. Does not anticipate problems with planning, they have submitted grant application with AVDC community chest. Application will be submitted before next council meeting.

Beverley James: A sketch drawing was shown to the council showing proposed new access drive into Rowden Farm, the new drive should ease congestion and allow easier access. Will be submitted over next few weeks.

Duncan Harris-Smith: Informed the council he has successfully negotiated a contract with National Grid and they will lease land to accommodate temporary offices and a base for their vehicles, there will be an increase in traffic. Also will be submitting planning applications in future for conversion of 5 agricultural buildings. Councillor Brazier expressed concerns over traffic and signs will be put in place suggesting traffic turn right from site. The owner will make sure the signs are in place and will help where possible to minimise the traffic travelling through Mentmore.

Letter from Lisa Wright – update regarding HGVs travelling through village. Waste King who were operating illegally have significantly reduced the number of vehicles coming through the village.

Signed By Chairman.....

County Councillor A Davies submitted update prior to meeting that Waste King have been advised of the need to control vehicle movements, notwithstanding the outcome of any planning application and Bucks will continue to monitor the site to ensure that movements are being recorded and are not excessive when considered cumulatively with other developments at the site. The operators are aware that, in the event that planning permission is granted, that Bucks would be seeking to limit movements and to place other controls on the operation.

There has also been a noted reduction in Camiers lorries travelling through the village.

### **331. Police Matters**

PCSO Frank Callaghan submitted the following report of crimes since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016:

- 1) 8/9/16 – Burglary non dwelling in Ledburn. Stable block broken into. Hedge trimmer, leaf blower and chain saw stolen.
- 2) 6/9/16 to 9/9/16 – Burglary non-dwelling in Ledburn. Shed broken into. Lawn mower and leaf blower stolen.
- 3) 18/11/16 – Criminal damage in Ledburn. Chain to field gate cut and vehicle used to drive across crops. Believe may have been hunting deer or the like.

Nothing in Mentmore or Crafton. However, we have been getting reports of a green Subaru Forester type vehicle seen in suspicious circumstances and occupants may be responsible for hunting with dogs in the locality.

There are no reports of any Anti-Social Behaviour although I suppose the above could be construed as such but with a criminal element attached to it.

We wish to encourage members of the local community to report anything that appears suspicious to the police on101 and that if they suspect that a crime is occurring at the time to call in on the three 9's asap.

### **332. To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

None – not present.

### **333. Village Hall**

Copies previously circulated. Building work is running behind schedule, everything is fine. There was a contingency fund of £800. However, AVDC have informed the council there must be a full fire alarm system in the Village Hall, this will cost a maximum of £800. Complete building work will be £90 over budget. The Chairman reported that the extra work to the foundations, the repair to the flat roof and the requirement to fit a full fire alarm system have used up all the contingency. We should consider the repair to the flat roof as a maintenance issue as this would have been needed anyway. It is expected the works to finish in the first two weeks of January.

### **334. Planning**

16/04306/AGN – Mentmore – Land at Bridge Farm, Rowden Farm Lane – erection of agricultural pole barn for housing cattle. No comments received.

### **335. Progress report from Pedestrian/Road Safety working group**

County Councillor A Davies reported at the LAF meeting that she has had some response from Police regarding traffic enforcement.

Road by the Hare and Hounds PH in Ledburn is not gritted and there has been a recent accident. Councillor Brazier to get police report for accident and put request in for gritting at this point.

### **336. Devolution update**

All the work has been done and we are still within budget.

Signed By Chairman.....

The clerk will write to Mentmore Park Farms regarding the first hand corner as you leave Crafton towards Mentmore. Exact details/grid reference to be given to Clerk.

### 337. Finance

The accounts to date including payments and receipts had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was PROPOSED SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to pay the expenses and accounts and that the balances were a correct record. The following expenditure and expenses were approved by the Council.

| Payee                | Description                           | Amount    |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Eon                  | Village Hall Electricity Oct          | £68.00    |
| Eon                  | Village Hall Electricity Nov          | £68.00    |
| Playdale Playgrounds | Vertical Rope part - Invoice 21930    | £105.67   |
| Playdale Playgrounds | Vertical Rope part - Invoice 23339    | £52.84    |
| Mazars               | Annual Audit Work                     | £120.00   |
| J Hawes Builder      | Village Hall Payment 3                | £8,769.60 |
| Anglian Water        | Village Hall Water (Jul - Oct 16)     | £20.52    |
| MC2 Electrical       | Village Hall Testing - Invoice 15454  | £150.00   |
| MC2 Electrical       | Village Hall Wire PIR - Invoice 15478 | £145.80   |
| J Hawes Builder      | Village Hall Payment 2                | £8,769.60 |
| AVDC                 | Building Regs                         | £520.00   |
| Peter Brazier        | Reimbursement Mentmore Laptop         | £339.98   |
| Maxine Hayes         | Salary & Expenses November            | £238.36   |
| PE Mead & Sons       | Christmas Tree                        | £228.00   |
| HMRC                 | Clerk PAYE                            | £52.00    |

2017-18 Precept – if it stays the same the precept would be reduced because one property has become exempt. Increased cost for next year will be £481 to cover the Clerk's pension scheme. It was agreed to raise the precept by 3.9% to £13,521.

HSBC Form was signed by signatories to change the primary user to new Clerk. Clerk will post to HSBC to action.

### 338. To receive Clerk's Report

Actions from previous meeting:  
As circulated.

### 339. Litter Picking/Fly Tipping Update

There was a new tip near the fishing lake, now clear. The Chairman thanked Liz for again organising the litter picking volunteer group. Beverley James asked that the residents of Rowden be kept informed of volunteer groups as they would like to be involved.

### 340. Footpath MEN10 – recent damage caused – Update and Stag Hill

Received a response from Lady Garton and the hedges have been cut and cleared.

**The meeting closed at 9pm.**

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 at 8pm.**

Signed By Chairman.....