

Mentmore Parish Council

Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held at Mentmore Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors Robert Fletcher (Chairman), Tracey Waring-Munday (Vice Chairman), and Laura Smethurst.

Mentmore Parish Clerk Bridget Knight.

Buckinghamshire Councillor Peter Brazier.

Five members of the public.

C/031/25 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/032/25 Apologies and Attendance.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Sabel, McGinty and Horgan.

C/033/25 Disclosures of interest on items pertaining to the agenda.

None.

C/034/25 To approve the minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on 24th February 2025.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

C/035/25 Public Participation.

1. Verges.

A member of the public raised the condition of the verges in particular the verges from The Green to the Church. The Chairman commented the verge is being used by the local HGVs to avoid the failed road surface. The resident mentioned the granite steps outside of the Avery or Church. Councillor Brazier will find out what the plans are for the verges when the road is re-surfaced.

2. Tractors.

A resident reported there have been three incidents of speeding tractors and near misses with vehicles. The resident asked can the Parish Council complain to Ascot Estate, about speeding tractors and the near misses. The Parish Clerk will write to the landowner and the farming contractor.

C/036/25 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).

Councillor Brazier mentioned the mess with the planning system. Now Buckinghamshire Council will not allow comments from individuals to be shown on the planning portal, only comments from consultees will be displayed.

C/037/25 Footpath's/Bridleways/Roads including Speedwatch.

- Mentmore verges – Church to Village Green covered earlier in the meeting.
- Dangerous and failed road conditions in Mentmore parish the Chairman and Vice Chairman explained the state of the roads and the Councillor Brazier agreed and stated resurfacing work will be done soon.
- Potential bollards – near Old Vicarage was deferred.
- Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services Offer £1,182.90 was accepted.

- Councillor Smethurst reported that there is a regular vehicle driving through Ledburn over 70MPH very often. This will be monitored and will be reported to Thames Valley Police.
- Councillor Smethurst reported the alcoholic bottles that were discarded by the verges from passing vehicles.
- Thames Valley Police will be requested to hold a 'Have your say' event in Mentmore Parish.
- HGVs travelling through Ledburn and speeding traffic – Councillor Smethurst reported
- Community Speedwatch will be re-starting in Ledburn later this month.
- It was agreed to accept the Buckinghamshire Council devolved services offer of £1,182.90 and this was signed.
- The Community Litter pick took place and was very successful, the Chairman thanked everyone for that on behalf of the whole Parish.

C/038/25 Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition.

It was agreed to enter the competition PROPOSED BY Councillor Waring-Mundy and SECONDED BY Councillor Smethurst and carried unanimously.

C/039/25 Planning Application(s):

New this meeting:

25/00803/AGN | Erection of grainstore | Mentmore Park Farm Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 OQN

Objection PROPOSED BY Councillor Smethurst and SECONDED BY Councillor Fletcher and carried unanimously. The reason for the objection was the increase in HGVs to the village on already failed road conditions.

Applications pending with Buckinghamshire Council:

24/03720/VRC | Variation of condition 2 (use) 3 (hours) relating to application 08/02616/APP (Change of use of part of unit from Class B1 (Offices) to Class D1 (Health Clinic) use) | Suite 1 The Old Haybarn 9 Rosebery Mews Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0UE. Awaiting decision.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78 Site Address:

Mentmore Towers Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QH Proposal: Householder application for retention of existing single storey outbuilding (Retrospective). Appeal by: Mr Simon Halabi Application Ref: 24/02005/APP Appeal Ref: 24/00082/REF Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/J0405/D/24/3356186

C/040/25 Village Hall, Village Green and Mentmore Parish Events.

- Replacement of swing – deferred to next meeting.
- Mentmore village fete – 22nd June, volunteers are very welcome to help run stalls, bake cakes etc.
- Mentmore benches have been installed and the Community Board has approved funding.

C/041/25 Finance.

- The Vice Chairman signed the bank reconciliation.
- The following accounts were approved for payment:

The following payments were approved for payment (payments of £100 and over are highlighted):

Payee:		Amount
Scribe	End of Year Health Check - Accounts	£70.80
Hugo Fox	Website - monthly fee - March	£23.99
Hugo Fox	Website - monthly fee - Feb	£23.99
BALC	Councillor Training	£90.00
Octopus Energy	VH Electricity - February	£72.71
Hallmaster	VH Booking & Invoice System	£265.00
D Armson	Reimburse VH Equipment	£40.23
Clerk	Clerk allowance & expenses	£33.27
Income		
Donation	Fixer CMG (Ledburn Filming)	£750.00
VH Rent	1-31 March	£369.00
31.03.25		
General PC Account		£14919.34
VH Account		£10,470.57
Total:		£25,389.91

C/042/25 Mentmore Parish Council Website and Emails.

New website – changes have been made, and the website is being finished.

C/043/25 Risk Management Review.

This will be

C/044/25 Clerk's Report.

- An extra meeting will be held to consider late planning applications on 16th April.
- During the meeting Buckinghamshire Council informed the Parish Clerk that Mentmore Parish Council has an un-contested election.

C/030/25 Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday 16th April, Tuesday 13th May at 6pm 4th June, 6th August, 1st October and 3rd December.

The Meeting closed at 8pm