

Mentmore Parish Council

Minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held at Mentmore Village Hall on Wednesday 7th August 2024 at 6.30pm.

PRESENT:

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

Mentmore Parish Clerk Bridget Knight.

Eight members of the public.

C/058/24 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/059/24 Apologies and Attendance.

Apologies accepted from Charlie Sabel.

C/060/24 Disclosures of interest on items pertaining to the agenda.

None.

C/061/24 To approve the minutes of the Mentmore Parish Council Meeting held on 15th May 2024.

Minutes were approved and signed.

C/062/24 Casual Vacancy following the resignation of Peter Brazier.

This was noted.

C/063/24 Co-Option of Parish Councillor - casual vacancy following Iain Butler's resignation.

Charlie Sabel was co-opted as a Mentmore Parish Councillor PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Mundy-Waring and carried unanimously.

Councillor Sabel was absent from the meeting and will sign the Declaration of Office as soon as possible.

C/064/24 Public Question Time.

1. Ledburn verges and hedges overgrown obscuring the new gates and traffic signs.
2. Two trees were felled on the T Junction in Ledburn.
3. New briefer format of minutes and whether meetings can be recorded and published.
4. Complaint old agendas are removed from website.

C/065/24 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor Brazier.

Councillor Brazier explained a new national planning policy framework has been developed with a 40% increase in targets for housebuilding. There could be a new town which would not be included in these targets. Buckinghamshire is 32% Green Belt protected from building, the new term Grey Belt areas are Green Belt which has been previously developed or is on the edge of existing developments. There is a consultation which Buckinghamshire Council will take part in. Mentmore is protected by the Conservation Area but surrounding areas such as Cheddington Airfield is at risk of house building. Sunday is the last date for the nominations for the Proud of Bucks Awards.

C/066/25 Mentmore Traffic Calming and road conditions.

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Chairman _____ Signed by

Residents are encouraged to write to Cabinet Member for Transport Steve Broadbent at Buckinghamshire Council email: Steve.Broadbent@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. c/o Buckinghamshire Council The Gateway Gatehouse Road Aylesbury HP19 8FF. The Parish Council will write to the Cabinet Member to complain about the failed road conditions.

Traffic Calming – the Parish Council will contact the Local Area Technician about traffic calming options and costings will be investigated.

C/067/24 Planning Applications

New Planning Applications (this meeting):

24/02006/ALB | Listed building application for retention of existing single storey outbuilding | Mentmore Towers Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QH

Objection PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Mundy Waring and carried unanimously.

24/02005/APP | Householder application for retention of existing single storey outbuilding | Mentmore Towers Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QH

Objection PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Mundy Waring and carried unanimously.

24/01977/APP | Householder application for conversion of attached Dairy to habitable accommodation with associated external works to garden | Crafton Farmhouse Crafton Lodge Road Crafton Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QL
No Comment PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor McGinty and carried unanimously.

24/01978/ALB | Listed building application for conversion of attached Dairy to habitable accommodation with associated external works to garden | Crafton Farmhouse Crafton Lodge Road Crafton Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QL
No Comment PROPOSED BY Councillor Mundy-Waring and SECONDED BY Councillor McGinty and carried unanimously.

24/00619/APP | Erection of one dwelling | Manor Farm Lane Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0UG

Recent decisions by Buckinghamshire Council:

24/01647/APP | Householder application for demolition of double garage and rebuild | Spinney Hall Mentmore Buckinghamshire LU7 0QG. Update: Approved.

C/068/24 Village Hall, Village Green and Mentmore Parish Events.

- Two Village Green Benches - it was agreed to apply for funding for new benches from the Community Board.
- Play area gate swing – a replacement from Playdale would cost £74.41, the Parish Clerk will investigate alternatives.

C/069/24 Footpaths/Bridleways/Roads including Speedwatch.

- Report from Buckinghamshire Council – road conditions.

- Grass cutting including verges are maintained by Ltd Odd Jobs, the contractor is unable to cut the verge opposite The Green. The area outside of the Church is cut by volunteers.
- Kissing gate installation – completed.
- Golf Course bridleway – conditions of. The landowner has said the bridleway is acceptable. The Parish Clerk will request a meeting with the landowner to inspect the area and confirm the correct area has been surveyed.
- Signs – road and speedwatch – no update.

C/070/24 Noticeboards.

Councillor Smethurst reported the Ledburn noticeboard is unstable there are water leaks and keys do not work. Laurence Munday will be asked if he can fix the noticeboard.

C/071/24 Finance and Accounts for Payment.

- Update bank mandate.
- Insurance renewal Gallagher Insurance (Hiscox) £1,146.
- It was noted that the insurance company will not insure the Village Hall items when they are on hire to third parties.
- Bank balances and finance reports and bank reconciliation.

The following payments were approved:

Payee:		Amount
Royal Mail	Postage	.85p
Anglo Dutch	Payroll services April - June	£43.20
Arbutnot Lathan (Wicksteed)	Playground inspection	£158.40
B Knight	Clerk's expenses - July	£30.45
B Knight	Clerk's expenses - May	£26.85
B Knight	Clerk's expenses - May	£27.00
BALC	Training	£90.00
BALC	Training	£90.00
BALC	Training	£45.00
BALC	Training	£60.00
Be Safe Fire Protection	Fire Inspections - VH	£72.00
Halfords	Mower tyre inflation can	£10.00
Hugo Fox	Website June	£23.99
Hugo Fox	Website July	£23.99
Lloyds Bank	June	£3.00
Lloyds Bank	July	£3.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	General Maintenance Invoice 26 – railings	£800.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	Devolved grass cutting Invoice 35	£365.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	Village Green Cutting - July Invoice 80	£441.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	VH Invoice 26	£135.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	Village Green Cutting - June	£660.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	Mentmore devolved grass - June	£275.00
Ltd Odd Jobs	Village Green Cutting - May	£535.00

Ltd Odd Jobs	Mentmore devolved grass - May	£370.00
Mentmore Arts Festival	Picture hangers	£150.00
N Power	Streetlight Electricity -April – June	£282.78
Octopus Energy	VH Electricity May	£64.82
Octopus Energy	VH Electricity June	£27.89
Octopus Energy	VH Electricity July	£31.05
PKF Littlejohn	External Auditor Fee	£252.00
Playdale	Contribution to swings	£281.77
Playsafe	Inspection	£93.60
Ringo	Parking	£5.35
Safety Sign Warehouse	Litter signs	£68.34
SLCC	Training	£46.08
SLCC	Subs	£74.60

Received:	
VH Rent	£198.00
Book Sales	£127.40
VH Rent	£10.00
VH Rent	£60.00
VH Rent	£20.00
VH Rent	£40.00
VH Rent	£12.00
Donation - Mentmore Arts	£300.00
VH Rent	£25.00
VH Rent	£198.00
VH Rent	£75.00
VH Rent	£74.00
VH Rent	£20.00
VAT Refund	£459.64

Balances at 31.07.24	
General PC Account	£11,312.83
VH Account	£15,667.33
Total:	£26,980.16

C/072/24 Policies to be adopted.

The following polices were adopted PROPOSED BY Councillor Fletcher and SECONDED BY Councillor Smethurst and carried unanimously.

- Vexatious request policy.
- Requesting information policy.

C/073/24 Website.

It was agreed to set up a new website with Aubergine PROPOSED BY Councillor McGinty and SECONDED BY Waring-Mundy and carried unanimously.

C/074/24 Clerk's Report.

There are vacancies at the privately owned allotments in Mentmore.

C/075/24 Future Meeting Dates:
2nd October and 4th December.

Meeting Closed: 7.40pm.