MORETON, BOBBINGWORTH AND THE LAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting:	Council	Meeting
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Date: 10th September 2024 Time: 7.3

Time: 7.30 PM

Venue: Moreton Village Hall

PRESENT:

Councillors (9): Cllr Crosbie (Chairman), Cllr Stuart, Cllr Darken, Cllr Offord, Cllr Padfield, Cllr Dawson, Cllr Collins, Cllr Carpenter, Cllr Day

Also in Attendance (1): Adriana Jones – Clerk Members of the Public: (3) – inc PC Shepherd Members of the Press (0)

PC.478 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE EFDC Cllr Balcombe had offered his apologies.

PC.479 OTHER ABSENCES None.

PC.480 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None.

PC.481 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th July 2024 were approved. *PROPOSED* Cllr Stuart and *SECONDED* Cllr Dawson. Unanimously agreed.

PC.482 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

There were two members of the public present, but no questions.

PC.483 REPORTS

- a) Chairmans report included within main body of meeting.
- b) Vice Chairmans report None.
- c) District and County Councillor reports Whilst there were no reports, Councillors asked that the Clerk contact Cllr Hadley to wish him well.
- d) Parish Councillor reports Cllr Day advised there was a persistent problem with parking on the zig zag lines and pavement outside Moreton School, with a resident advising him earlier that morning that the pavement was completely blocked with a row of cars, and she was unable get her pushchair on the pavement, instead having to push it in the road. Cllr Day advised that parking generally falls under the responsibility of the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP), however asked PC Shepherd if it was ever a police matter. PC Shepherd advised that parking on zig zag lines were one of the few parking issues that the police had powers take action against. PC Shepherd advised he had recently spent some time in the village conducting speed check by the bridge going down the hill, however this was more of a fact finding mission to ascertain if there was in fact a speeding problem following reports of school run speeders. PC Shepherd advised he would now spend some time in the village looking at this issue, but suggested the Parish Council contact NEPP as they had a camera car which could be deployed to address this issue. The Chairman reminded Councillors that if they have photos or video evidence, they can report this to PC Shepherd directly. Cllr Day confirmed he would email the pictures to PC Shepherd. Cllr Darken advised that the school in Matching Green had similar problems, and included within the local parish magazine was an article about how they have introduced a 'no parking and no stopping' rule. How this functioned in reality was discussed, and it was AGREED the Clerk would contact the head of Matching School to ask about this scheme. It was noted that whilst some Councillors had seen the banner out once, it was understood to have been cut down less than 24 hours later, agreeing that the Clerk contact the

Moreton Head to find out why. Councillors *AGREED* that school parking should be a regular item on the agenda.

e) Police Report – PC Shepherd provided crime statistics for the last 3 months (1/3 – 1/6) stating there had been 22 reports to police, 11 of which were crimes which included 3 theft of motor vehicles from Moreton, one residential burglary, and one vehicle interference. When compared to the same time period last year, there were 25 calls to police with 8 crimes reported, which represents an 11% reduction in calls, but a slight increase in crimes. PC Shepherd also advised that the one year Rural Policing Operation set up last year to reduce rural crime had now come to an end, stating there had been a 66% reduction in crimes such as theft of farm vehicles, tractors, or theft from farms. Cllr Padfield advised that generally rural crime was low in this area, however asked what the 66% crime reduction equated to in numbers, however PC Shepherd did not have those figures to hand. The Chairman asked what the success rate was of recovering stolen vehicles, to which PC Shepherd stated this depended entirely on the type of car that was stolen, with many vehicles such as Range Rovers or XC90s being stolen to order and almost always never seen again. It was estimated that less than 5% of such vehicles were ever recovered. The Chairman thanked PC Shepherd for his report.

PC.484 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING VIA THE UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

Following agreement at the July meeting, the Clerk had submitted a formal application to EFDC for grant funding via the UK Shared Prosperity fund for funding to improve the signage and entrance points to each village in the parish. Notification was received on 13th August that the application had been unsuccessful, as there were more applications made than funding available. Within the notification were a number of other funding streams, and Councillors were asked if they wished to pursue this project. Cllr Offord stated that Theydon Bois recently acquired some new signage, and it was agreed the Clerk would contact them to find out where and how they got them. It was **AGREED** the Clerk should continue to look for funding opportunities to support the project.

PC.485 GATEWAY SIGNS BOVINGER

Councillors recalled from the July meeting the representation by a member of the public concerning the historic Local Highway Panel (LHP) application for Gateway Signs at Bovinger. The Clerk advised she had received a copy of the correspondence, and whilst the emails makes reference to an LHP application there was no formal confirmation or reference that the Clerk could use to look up the historic application. In addition, the application was over 12 years ago. As reported to Councillors via email, the Clerk looked into the ECC criteria for gateway signs, and it would not be met at this location. The Clerk had also looked at the accident records for the location which showed there had been two accidents reported in the last 10 years. Councillors accepted that the winds were against the Council on this one, however they had serious concerns over the safety of this area. The Clerk explained that an LHP request could be made, which would probably result in a speed survey being completed at this location which would help identify if there was in fact a problem. It was **AGREED** to submit a formal LHP request for Gateway Signs at both ends of Bovinger. The local resident advised that an application for number 9 had planning refused on reasons of Highway Safety.

PC.486 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 1. Definitive Map Modification 695 Footpath 32 Moreton (Dog and Pickle car park)
 - Councillors **NOTED** that the Clerk had received confirmation from the Planning Inspectorate that the addition of a footpath from Church Road to Moreton Footpath 3 in Moreton, through the Dog and Pickle Car Park, had been made, and was now in effect.
- 2. <u>Outstanding PRoW issues</u>
 - a. Councillors noted that the Clerk had responded to ECCs informal consultation on proposed changes to Footpath 26 High Laver (nr High Laver house), and Footpaths 14 & 15 Magdalen Laver, near to the church, with the comments that in principle the Council had no objection, however request that new and improved PRoW signage is installed if changes are made, as per Cllr Crosbie's comments following site visits. ECC had subsequently responded confirming that a site visit had been conducted with the local PRoW maintenance officer, and some locations where new way marker posts were needed were identified and would be installed once/if the new paths were confirmed. If any require replacement, then they would likely be replaced.
 - b. Cllr Day asked for an update on the outstanding PRoW issues as reported at the last meeting. The Clerk advised that she had checked the ECC system, however according to that there were no outstanding issues. The Clerk would contact ECC to confirm.

PC.487 POWER CUTS IN CM5

Councillors noted that the Clerk had received an email from a local resident who was concerned at the number of power cuts that seem to be experienced by residents in the Parish, especially in the CM5 area. Councillors stated that due the rural location, most of the power comes from overhead cables and that wind and trees will inevitably cause problems. The Clerk asked if Councillors felt this was a specific issue for the CM5 region. Councillors discussed this matter, stating that there had been a few power cuts, however these were often due to bad weather and justifiable reasons, and were often rectified very quickly. Cllr Padfield advised that she was in that postcode region and had very few problems with power cuts. Cllr Darken confirmed the same. Councillors felt that they could not identify a particular problem, however *AGREED* that the Clerk should contact UK Power Networks asking if there were any plans to upgrade the network in the near future.

PC.488 COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATORS

1. Defibrillator Little Laver phone box - The Clerk confirmed she had looked at the Little Laver phone box which does have some type of electrical connection, so would be suitable for a defibrillator. The Chairman advised that when he looked at the Bobbingworth phone box, he noted it was a different type of box with a different power unit, and suggested that if this Council did want to consider purchasing a defibrillator and box for Little Laver then it should be the same unit as the one at Bovinger. He also suggested that the same type of enclosure should be purchased for the one in Moreton so that all three units were exactly the same.

Councillors were asked to formally consider the purchase of a defibrillator for the phone box in Little Laver, the cost of which would be around £1,500 (including a heated cabinet). The Clerk confirmed she had asked Jaymey McIvor if he had an ECC member fund which could potentially provide funding to support this, however had not heard back. There was some discussion about the Little Laver phone box being fairly close to Matching Green which was well served with defibrillators, however it was felt that given the extremely rural location in Little Laver and the properties that stretch up towards Abbess Roding, it made sense to install one in this phone box. Cllr Day advised he would absolutely support this, stating that evidence showed the more defibrillators that were available the more lives were saved. It was *AGREED* in principle to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet for the Little Laver phone box, but that in the first instance the Clerk would try and source some funding for this. An update would be given at the November meeting, where Councillors could consider any additional funds that may be needed. It was also *AGREED* to purchase a new Cabinet for the Moreton defibrillator – the same as that at Bovinger.

2. A member of the public enquired as to if EpiPens could be made available to the community, and it was *AGREED* the Clerk would look into this and report back at the November meeting.

PC.489 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

On Tuesday 30th July Councillors met to talk through the Parish Councils Neighbourhood Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to advise new Councillors what the Neighbourhood Plan was / was not, and its role within planning for both this Parish Council and EFDC. The Plan was 'Made' on 5th November 2019, and as such it was coming up to five years. Since this time, EFDC had adopted its new local plan, and there have been (and currently are) consultations on changes to the NPPF. As such, it was time to conduct a review of the Neighbourhood Plan to check for conformity, and to ensure it was still serving its intended purpose. Councillors *AGREED* that a review should be conducted, however this should be a simple review to ensure the plan remained up to date and continued to comply with all local and national policies. This would not require another full consultation with local residents. Cllrs Crosbie, Dawson and Offord confirmed they would be willing to take part in the review in order to present a report to Council on what updates were needed. The Clerk advised she would need to locate the original plan template in order to make any amendments that were necessary.

PC.490 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Day confirmed that CSW continued to take place, and now that schools were back activity would increase. Anybody caught doing over 36MPH would receive a letter. The Chairman confirmed the two areas that were used, and asked if there was an opportunity to add another area giving the example of Bovinger, to which Cllr Day advised that any additional areas outside Moreton would require a new application and possibly a new group to run it. Cllr Day confirmed he would ask the CSW representative, however the Clerk confirmed that CSW could not run in a 60MPH zone.

PC.491 MORETON VILLAGE GREEN

1. Following this Councils request to formally register Moreton Village Green under Section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006, a response had been received from EFDCs Principal Planning Solicitor, who

advised that she had received a decision from the EFDC Estates Team regarding the land, stating and that they had confirmed they would not agree this application as the land is already named as a village green and has functionality as such. The Parish Council currently has full use of and access to this land (which EFDC stated they were not trying to take away) and residents were able to use it for events throughout the year. Therefore, EFDC did not agree to passing over the official rights of the green being registered as a village green and certainly at no consideration for the value of the land. The Clerk advised she had also written to Defra asking for valid reasons as to why a LPA can refuse to register a village green, as well as the open spaces society for advice. The Clerk advised that this Council could apply to ECC to formally register it as a green, as they were technically the commons registration authority, however we would need to provide witness statements, witness forms of evidence and photographs as to the nature of the recreational activities that have taken place on the land, as well as an estimate of the number of people undertaking these activities, their frequency, and explain how this use has been 'as of right'. If no trigger event has occurred, ECC would then publicise the application (for example, by sending notice of the application to the landowner and publishing the notice in the local newspaper). Councillors stated they were disappointed by EFDCs response, and Cllr Darken **PROPOSED** this Council continue with the application via ECC. This was **SECONDED** by Cllr Day, and unanimously **AGREED**.

2. The Chairman provided a summary on the presentation of a 'Tommy Soldier' to the local resident who cuts Moreton Village Green and surrounding areas without pay. This was to provide him with some form of recognition and appreciation for the work that he does. This took place on 5th September. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Councils Tommy Solder was stored at her home, and would be brought out again for Remembrance Day.

PC.492 RIDE LONDON GRANT FUNDING

Councillors noted that the Clerk had liaised with the Head at Moreton School who advised that with regard to cycle proficiency, the school had run sessions annually in the past through Essex Sports, and last year they had year groups 4 - 6 (ages 8 - 11) undertake cycling proficiency. However, the funding had been pulled for this scheme, so they would not be offering it for the coming academic year. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had £250 of funding to support cycling proficiency, and the Head confirmed she would look into the cost of running a session and come back to the Clerk. The monies would be held in an earmarked reserved at this time.

PC.493 CLERKS COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

The Clerk reported the following:

- a) ECC, EFDC, EALC and RCCE communications are emailed to Members on a regular basis and where relevant information is included
- b) Uttlesford District Council consulting on its Regulation 19 Local Plan document
- c) Councillor emails Clerk still to action.
- d) Update requested regarding commemorative bench for Carol Foulser at Magdalen Laver VH.
- e) Correspondence with Laura Atkinson from RCCE regarding meeting up to discuss Rural Affordable Housing concerning a previous planning application – A zoom meeting had been scheduled for 24th September.
- f) Police CCTV Registration System for Kent and Essex emailed to Councillors and placed on social media.
- g) Clerk continues to work on Facebook and enhancing the social media presence
- h) ECC Community Initiatives Fund open The CIF aims to empower local communities by offering financial assistance for both capital and revenue projects that improve and support the well-being of residents. For the upcoming year, a total of £300,000 has been allocated to the fund, with grants of up to £10,000 available to successful applicants. Panel convene December.
- i) Email from Stephen Lloyd Jones, Sustainable Transport Officer at EFDC. Clerk provided update.
- j) Essex Transport Strategy Consultation closing date 22nd September has been placed on social media. Clerk advised there really was nothing in there for the rural communities other than DRT / Digigo, which was disappointing.
- k) Current Consultation on the NPPF, deadline for which is 24th September 2024.
- Thursday 8th May 2025 80th Anniversary of VE Day country encouraged to have community events. Possibly place Tommy in another location. Cllr Padfield advised that the Church may be doing something.

PC.494 EXTERNAL AUDIT (AGAR) 2023/2024

Councillors **NOTED** that the Limited Assurance review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR – External Audit) for 2023/2024 had now concluded. In accordance with the regulations, a copy of the

Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been placed on notice boards in the Parish and on the Councils website, together with a copy of the certified AGAR sections 1, 2 and 3. Councillors noted the final audit report, a copy of which was attached to the agenda.

PC.495 CHANGES TO PLANNING AT EFDC

Councillors **NOTED** that EFDC had now agreed changes as to how planning decisions would be made at Local Planning Authority level. Attached to the agenda was a brief summary of what was agreed, and the changes that had been made, with the Clerk's emphasis in **bold**. The changes mean that the Parish Council will have to ensure that if it wishes to object to a planning application, clear reasons material to the planning merits of the application would need to be detailed, and for the objection to be considered at an EFDC Planning Committee meeting the Parish Council must also state their willingness to attend and speak at said meeting. There were also changes to ward member representation, with ward Members being welcome to speak at committee meetings, ensuring that residents voices were represented and their views heard, however ward Members would not be able to cast their vote on whether an application is approved or not.

PC.496 PLANNING

- a) Cllr Darken had suggested that site visits took place for each and every planning application, as she personally found the site visits extremely useful and that she had been advised by somebody who was a long standing member on this Council that this was always policy. Cllr Padfield advised that the policy was only to visit sites if there was a particular issue, and that this was only local ward councillors and not the Council as a whole. Cllr Collins stated that in most cases Councillors already knew the properties, so site visits were often not necessary. The Chairman stated where an application is complicated, a site visit can help to clarify the matter, and suggested this Council needed to use its discretion as to when site visits were needed.
- b) Councillors **AGREED** responses to the following planning applications which may not have been responded to before the date of this meeting:

EPF/1600/24 HH	Farm Cottage, Ashlyns Lane, Ongar, CM5 0ND	Proposed rear additions; part replacement. NO OBJECTION
EPF/1731/24 HH	Shielings, Cross Lees Lane, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0HX	Replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey rear extension. Construction of new roof over existing dwelling. Conversion of garage to additional living space alterations to external facade and window and door openings. NO OBJECTION

c) Councillors **NOTED** the following planning applications below which have been responded to by way of the Clerk's delegated powers following email consultation with Councillors:

EPF/1412/24	Maple House, School Lane, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0EE	Erection of oak framed garage and orangery to replace existing garage. The Parish Council has <i>NO OBJECTION</i> to this application, subject to the tree officer being satisfied that conditions are imposed to protect the Oak tree. There are no contravening policies contained within the Moreton, Bobbingworth and the Lavers Neighbourhood Plan.
EPF/1487/24	3 Corner Cottages, Harlow Road, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0LQ	Single storey rear extension. The Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application. There are no contravening policies contained within the Moreton, Bobbingworth and the Lavers Neighbourhood Plan.

d) Councillors **NOTED** the following planning applications for which EFDC **do not** accept comment:

EPF/1712/24	Church Farm,	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 'Foul Water		
DRC	Workers Road, High	Disposal' on planning permission EPF/0972/24 (Conversion of ancillary		
&	Laver, Ongar, CM5	outbuilding barn to an annexe).		
	0DZ	- Plus		
EPF/1704/24		Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 'External		
		Finishes', condition 4'Additional Drawings', condition 7 'Building		
		Regulation Upgrading' and condition 9'Schedule of Repairs' on		
		planning permission EPF/0973/24 (Grade II listed building application		

		for conversion of ancillary outbuilding barn to an annexe)
EPF/1730/24	Shielings, Cross	Certificate of lawful development for a proposed detached garage.
CLD	Lees Lane, Moreton,	
	Ongar, CM5 0HX	

e) Councillors *NOTED* the following planning decisions by EFDC:

	cillors NOTED the follow	ving planning decisions by EFDC:	
EPF/1144/24	Glenwood, Pedlars End, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0LW	Prior approval for 2no. 8.00 metre rear extensions lining through with the original building footprint to provide orangery and formal living area, height to eaves 2.77m and maximum height 2.77m.	Prior Approval Not Required PC Unable to comment
EPF/1076/24 PA	Shielings, Cross Lees Lane, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0HX	Prior approval for enlargement of the dwelling by an upwards extension on the principal part of the dwelling.	Approve with Conditions PC Unable to comment as PD
EPF/0894/24	North Wilmore Barn, Workers Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DZ	Proposed landscaping works - finish to the front driveway only	Approve with Conditions <i>PC had No Objection</i>
EPF/0972/24 & EPF/0973/24	Church Farm, Workers Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DZ	Conversion of ancillary outbuilding barn to an annexe, and Grade II listed building for the same	Approve with Conditions <i>PC had No Objection</i>
EPF/1063/24 CLD	Maple House, School Lane, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0EE	Certificate of lawful development for a proposed replacement outbuilding comprising Home Gym.	Lawful PC Unable to comment as PD
EPF/1210/24 CLD	North Wilmore Barn, Workers Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DZ	Boundary fence along eastern boundary	Lawful PC Unable to comment as PD
EPF/0896/24 & EPF/0897/24	North Wilmore Barn, Workers Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DZ	Revised design of flat roof addition and Grade II listed building application for the same.	Approve with Conditions <i>PC had No Objection</i>
EPF/0849/24 DRC	Land opposite Moreton Lodge, Pedlars End, Ongar, Essex, CM5 0LR	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 'Foul Drainage' on planning permission EPF/2188/23 (Prior approval for the conversion of the ground floor of the building to a studio flat, with storage for the thatching business retained above)	Approve PC Unable to comment as DRC
EPF/0904/24 & EPF/0909/24	North Wilmore Barn, Workers Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DZ	Infill an unauthorized door and reinstate a door, and Grade II listed building application for the same.	Approve with Conditions <i>PC had No Objection</i>
EPF/1231/24 CLD	The Meadow, Pedlars End, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0LW	Certificate of lawful development for a proposed outbuilding to be used as a gym, home office, games/entertainment room incidental to the dwelling house.	Lawful PC Unable to comment as PD
EPF/1175/24	Land Opposite Moreton Lodge , Pedlars End, Ongar CM5 0LR	Planning permission for an extension to the side of the barn. The extension would provide an open storage area (related to the commercial workshop) and would have a flat roof which would facilitate access to the hayloft.	Approve with Conditions PC had No Objection, subject to not being residential. No condition applied
EPF/1147/24 CLD	Sunnyside, Greenman Road, Magdalen Laver, Ongar, CM5 0ES	Certificate of lawful development for the proposed 'Use of the land for siting a mobile home for use ancillary to the main dwelling'. The proposed mobile home meets the definition of a caravan as set out in the Caravan Sites Act 1968, and as amended in Oc	Lawful PC Unable to comment as PD
EPF/1204/24	Redwoods, Little Laver Road, Little	Construction of stables and hay barn for personal use	Approve with Conditions

	Laver, Harlow, CM17 0RH		PC had No Objection
EPF/0777/24 & EPF/0776/24	Glenwood, Pedlars End, Moreton, Ongar, CM5 0LW	Certificate of lawful development for a proposed garage outbuilding - Plus Certificate of lawful development for a proposed outbuilding.	Lawful PC Unable to comment
EPF/1057/24	Weald Bridge Farm, Weald Bridge Road, North Weald Bassett, Epping, CM16 6AT	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4'Hard and Soft Landscaping' on planning permission EPF/0781/23 (Single Storey Rear Extension, Rear Dormer Windows, amendment to approval Ref EPF/1557/20)	Approved PC Unable to comment
EPF/0580/24	Fairways, Harlow Road, High Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DL	Single-storey rear extension in an 'Orangery' style with painted rendered walls incorporating painted timber framing, feature cornice detail, generous expanses of glazing and a flat roof with a centrally positioned pitched glazed feature.	Approved with conditions PC had No Objection
EPF/0926/24	The Brewhouse, Watery Lane, Little Laver, Harlow, CM17 0RQ	Retrospective planning application for installation of 7no. 400W photo voltaic solar panels on south facing roofs to the rear of the building.	Withdrawn
EPF/1099/24 DRC	Bushes, Wind Hill, Magdalen Laver, Ongar, CM5 0DS	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 'Additional Drawings', condition 5 'Specification of Studs' and condition 6 'Details of Upgrading' on planning permission EPF/2341/23 (Grade II* Listed Building consent for restoration of loft ro	Approved PC Unable to comment
EPF/0152/24 DRC	Croxton, Weald Bridge Road, North Weald Bassett, Epping, CM16 6AU	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3'Material', condition 5'Cycle Parking', condition 6'Refuse Store', condition 8'Surface Water', condition 10 'Landscaping', condition 11' Ecological value', condition 12'Energy' and condition 13'Co	Approved PC Unable to comment
EPF/0161/24	Spencers Farm, Tilegate Road, Magdalen Laver, Ongar, CM5 0ER	The application consists of the construction of an agricultural storage building at Spencers Farm, Greenman Road, Magdalen Laver, Ongar, Essex, CM5 0EG. The application proposes the erection of one building extending to 936 square metres, to include a gra	Approve with Conditions PC had No Objection
EPF/2714/23 DRC	Land Adjacent to Tilegate Farm, Tilegate Road , Ongar, CM5 0EA	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3'Surface Water Drainage', condition 5 'Landscaping' and condition 9 'Contamination' on planning permission EPF/2883/22 (Construction of a natural pond together with new tree planting and associate	Approved PC Unable to comment

f) To **NOTE** any other planning matters:

Report to	6 Maltings Hill,	Two structures erected.	ENF/0169/24
Enforcement	Moreton		Being investigated
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PC.497 CHRISTMAS OPEN MEETING / LIGHTING OF THE TREE

Councillors *AGREED* the following arrangements for this years events which will take place on Tuesday 10th December:

- Publicity (leaflets) printing and distribution Notice to go into both Parish Magazines, on the notice boards, sent electronically to Councillors, and on Social Media. They would not be printed or distributed this year.
- Speakers for the event Suggested an update on Moreton village hall now that the pre-application
 had been conducted, perhaps with some images on the screen. Suggest PC Shepherd could give a
 short talk. Mention about VE Day 80th Anniversary next year. Possibly mention parking / NEPP, but
 see what happens before next meeting before agreeing this. Councillors were asked to consider any
 other suggestions and advise the Clerk if they had any suggestions.
- Choir for Christmas Tree Lighting (Cllr Padfield) Clerk to contact Michael Pether directly.

- Refreshments/glasses Cllr Darken, Cllr Padfield and Clerk to manage.
- Christmas Tree Ask the school if the children could create some decorations for the tree.

PC.498 - CONSULTATION PARLIAMENTARY VOTING

EFDC recently conducted a consultation on closing Moreton Village Hall for use as a polling station for Parliamentary voting, with residents being asked to use Fyfield Village Hall instead. This was following feedback during the local election. EFDC is required to conduct a review of polling stations every 5 years. The deadline for responses was 2nd September. The Clerk emailed Councillors and placed this on the Parish Councils social media pages. The Clerk had responded on behalf of the Council setting out why this would make no sense given that Moreton was an unsustainable location with no public transport, and all that would happen is that it would make it harder for people to come out and vote. Cllr Offord agreed, stating that there was also lots of awareness about environmental issues, and that this would mean an increase in car journeys.

PC.499 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Councillors approved the payments below. **PROPOSED** Cllr Stuart, **SECONDED** Cllr Carpenter:

BACS	A Jones	July & August Salary	£1,109.26
BACS	HMRC	July & August PAYE	£277.40
BACS	EFDC	Parish Council Elections Fee 2 May 2024	£581.04
BACS	Microsoft	Office 365 Hosting 1 year	£59.99
			(£10.00 VAT)
BACS	Royal British Legion	Tommy Soldier	£200.00
	_		(£33.34 VAT)

b) Councillors noted the Bank Balances as at 31st August 2024, along with the Bank Reconciliation, both of which were signed by the Chairman.

PC.500 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Approval for grant funding payments to the Parish Churches.

PC.501 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday 12th November Moreton Village Hall
- Tuesday 10th December Christmas lighting and open meeting Moreton Village Hall

Meeting closed 8.26pm

Chairman

Date