

Minutes of the Parish Council
Meeting
held in Morton School on Tuesday 15th January 1974
at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Dr D.J. Hunt - CHAIRMAN Coun A. HARRIS - V/CHAIRMAN
Councillors MRS ROPER, MRS CHADBURN, MRS CHAMBERS, MR VARDY
Mr ELLIST.

Apologies for absence were received from Coun. MRS Hudson
& Mr. Else.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved
with an addition that the Clerk prepare a
Financial Statement.

MATTERS ARISING: Following the discussions with the R.D.C.
Officers, the Clerk reported that the Surveyor had
sent a copy of a letter sent to County Council
re the dangerous condition of the footbridge on
the Footpath linking Morton - Stavebroom.

He had also set out in a letter details of
the proposed plant store development at Morton
Tip, which he had recommended for refusal & been
overruled by his Council.

It was Resolved the letters be received.

Bus SHELTER: The Clerk read a letter from the County Surveyor
that now reverted the arranging of a site meeting
with the Parish Council.

It was Resolved that the meeting be arranged
for the 22nd or 24th January 1974, whichever date
be found most suitable & the Clerk notify all
interested parties accordingly.

FOOTPATHS: In reply to questions, the Clerk stated he had
no further information from M'sr Moore, who had
agreed to pursue these matters.

PLANNING: The Clerk read out two items of interest to
the Council from the lists forwarded to him.

One was in respect of the Plant Store at the Colliery & the other in respect of the erection of six garages off New Street.

Following discussion the Clerk agreed to try & pinpoint the exact siting of the garages.

CONSERVATION ORDER

It was reported that Councillor N^o 1st Hudson would be contacting the Clerk relative to the forms in relation to this matter.

STREET NAMES:

A reply had been sent in answer to the R.D.C query & nothing had been heard since.

PRECEPT & FINANCE

The Clerk had forwarded all the necessary completed forms to the R.D.C Treasurer & had also purchased a new Receipts & Payment Book in order to facilitate easier book-keeping.

MORTON WELFARE: The Clerk reported that the Council's lawyer had now satisfied most of the contentious matters relating to joint heating usage as enumerated under Clause 10 of the Contract of Sale. However, he was still pursuing an agreement with the Board as to a specific date when joint usage would cease, and would arrange a further meeting when he was finally satisfied with the Contract.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his report & efforts & went on to suggest that in the interim, the Council should investigate the possible usage & income of the Hall. We also make a rough survey of the expenditure & matters relative to Rates

Care taking, Depreciation & Maintenance be assessed since the Clerk would be expected to produce a Statement of Accounts for the expenditure. Mr. Morris was of the opinion that the expenditure could be high & suggested methods of fund raising should be investigated.

Mr. Vardy agreed that the cost per annum should be evaluated & some of this would be dependent of how often the Hall was used & the charges for such usage. In reply to Mr. Chambers, the Clerk read from his initial report & stated that the Sub-Committee or Management Committee, whatever the title, could have certain plenary powers, but the Parish Council would be the supreme body in all matters. If the Hall became unprofitable the Council would have to Precept towards its upkeep.

Following a lengthy discussion in which all members took active part, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Vardy, it was Resolved that the Clerk investigate the Rateable Value of the Hall & that he also try to obtain some of the business acumen applying to two other Parish Halls, e.g. Hire Charges, Concessions etc.

Further to this, this existing Sub-Committee to endeavour to evaluate the possible usage of the Hall by the various organisations.

Correspondence: 1. Letter from E.M.C.B re increased charges effective from 1st July 1974. Noted with dismay & filed.

2. Also letter from E.M.C.B affirming the contract for the installation of the Eversholt Lane street light at £70.
3. Letter from the R.D.C along with tenders submitted for construction of the Playground. Following discussion, it was resolved that the tenders of

"landform" be accepted, this being the lowest at £2068.85.

HIGHWAY MATTERS: Mr Chambers reported that the Church Lane Groat again required cleaning out, also the ditches on Pilsley Road were full of mud & silt presumably from polluted water off the Open Cast. Agreed to inform County.

- 2 It was resolved to point out to County that playing fields warnings signs would be required when the scheme was finalised.
- 3 The Clerk agreed to look further into the flooding of Evershall Lane.

FINANCIAL MATTERS: The Clerk submitted accounts for payment & it was Resolved cheques be signed as payment for the following:

E.M.G.B	- Lighting a/c	- £ 8.04
E.M.G.B	- " "	- £ 33.33
Chesterfield R.D.C	- Fidelity Bond	- £ 4.25
Shaw, Sons	- Receipt & Payment Book	- £ 5.08
	Total	<u>£ 50.70</u>

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: The Chairman expressed his concern that various members of the new District Council had stated that the Rent Act would not be implemented as from 1st April 1974. Following discussion it was resolved that the Clerk invite Councillors Fellows, Haslam & Beaumont to attend the next meeting or the March meeting in order that this matter & other matters be discussed.

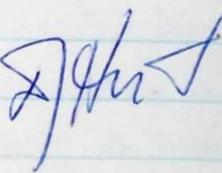
In reply to Mr Rose, the Clerk stated that he had no further information regarding the lagoons at the Colliery Site.

Cllr Chambers stated that Leving walked the length of the footpath at Poldley Wood, he was now assured this was a Bridle Path.

The Chairman stated that following his next attendance at the School Governors meeting he would be in a position to know whether the usual evening meetings would be permissible due to the fuel crisis. He would notify the Clerk of any change from the next meeting arranged for 19th February, 1974.

Clerk:

The Chairman thanked the members for their attendance & attention to detail & then declared the meeting closed.

Signed 

Chairman

DATE: 19.2.74

PRESIDENT: Dr. D. J. Hunt - CHAIRMAN COUN. A. Harris - V/CHAIRMAN

Councillors M^{rs} Lopez, M^{rs} Hudson, M^{rs} Chadderton, K. Vandy
J. Else, E. Chambers

In opening the meeting, the Chairman welcomed Councillor E. Fellows, a member for the new N.E. Derbyshire District Council who had responded to the invitation to attend & answer any questions. Apologies for being unable to attend were received from Councillors Beaumont & Haslam.

The Chairman proceeded to query statements made that the new authority would not implement the Rent Act & in reply Coun. Fellows explained that since the Labour Group had changed its policy & had now allowed a free vote, he felt confident the Act would be applied. He further replied to M^r Chadderton that it now appeared that Clay Cross would be operating the scheme before the change over took place. M^r Chambers queried the debt already accrued & in reply, Coun. Fellows stated that in effect there was no debt since the tenants had not been charged & the debt would be on 11 people only. Mention had been made of £200,000 owing, but even if this was so, the new authority could not absorb it. Legal charges would also be up to the 11 people involved. M^r Chambers went on to query if the new pressure group would eliminate the neglect by the R.D.C & pointed out lack of amenities & grants, e.g. towards village Halls. Coun. Fellows agreed to look further into this matter & reported that it was hoped a new system of the County providing 20%, the District Council 31% leaving the village to find 47% would be implemented. Everybody wanted a village Hall, roughly so, but finance was hard to come by. Confidentially it was also hoped to remove the bottom end of the dip to level the low lying land, but again, this needed heavy finance. He promised also to investigate the issue.

of unauthorised tipping.

Questioned by the Clerk & Chairman on Consultation, Councillor Fellows was confident that better services would be afforded by the new management team. The new Executive Officer was a driving force & the District Council intended to fully implement a system of Consultation. Mr Harris raised the matter of burst refuse bags & was informed the system was to be looked into in general ^{forth} view to improvement. Replying to other questions on refuse collection, he promised to investigate.

Relative to enquiry by Mr Else on the cut back ordered by the Government, Councillor Fellows stated this was the most difficult problem to deal with & it was obviously lead to higher Rating.

To Mr's Roper, he replied that Norton would probably become a Smokeless Zone in 1976.

Following replies to many other varied questions, the Chairman thanked Councillor Fellows & suggested that his colleagues discuss attending future meetings on a rota basis.

Councillor Fellows in reply stated his pleasure at being at this meeting & for the quality of the questions & courtesy afforded him. He would investigate matters in question & also discuss with his colleagues. He then left.

MINUTES : The minutes of the last meeting were read & approved.

MATTERS ARISING: Relative to site meeting held to discuss the Bus Shelter, the Clerk reported that the Brewery was now considering a request for lease or purchase of a small piece of land in their ownership, on which to erect same. Failing this, the County would assist on an alternate site near the Church.

The Clerk read out replies to correspondence on Highway complaints which led to lengthy discussion on the flooding at Cavershill Lane. Workmen had recently attempted to do something but finally left having accomplished nothing. Mr Chackburn stated that Councillor Somerville had suggested that a Mr Corbury at County might help, but whilst agreeing to contact his offices, the Clerk stated that this man was elected to Ordnance Footpaths duties only.

It was finally agreed that the Clerk solicit the help of the "People" Sunday newspaper.

- CORRESPONDENCE:
- 1 Letter from the W.I. promising help & asking further details re the Welfare Hall when purchased. The Clerk to reply accordingly.
 - 2 Letter from Dist. Surveyor re complaints of mud etc on Pilsley Road. Agreed the Clerk reply still as bad.
 - 3 Letter from R.D.C. that C18WD investigating flooding of Footpath from the Welfare to Stonebroom. Received.
 - 4 Letter from Looeys Soc. Group offering help on the village Hall project to both usage & £10 annual donation. The Clerk to suitably reply.
 - 5 Letter from R.D.C referring to allocation of £775 under Circular 2/70 for a playing field & asking for progress report. The Clerk to reply.
 - 6 Letter from R.D.C. Surveyor with information re New St. Noted & filed.
 - 7 Letter from N.E. Derby's Dis. Council inviting 2 delegates & Clerk to a Planning Meeting on 21st Feb. Agreed Councillors Mr Hudston & K. Vandy accompany the Clerk.

WELFARE HALL The Clerk gave an up to date report

on this project, stating that the Contract of Sale was now returned with the necessary amendments which stipulated the time factors when the N.C.B. would cease joint heating arrangements. However, the lawyer had written further, that due to the prevailing crisis of short working weeks etc. the Board asked some flexibility since it appeared the period could be up to 9 months instead of 3 months. The figure quoted for rates of £268 was wrong in his opinion & should be queried further since this did not evaluate to the purchase price. He was now asked to return the Contract duly signed with £130 deposit.

A lengthy discussion ensued over this project and items of income & expenditure were detailed. The matter of lettings charges investigated of other authorities were of little value being of varied characteristics. Letters of acceptance of usage & other help were read & it was intimated that other organisations were also interested. Initially, it appeared that some £90 per annum of income was taken up.

It was finally resolved on the motion of Councillor Chambers, seconded by Councillor Vandy, that "The Clerk proceed to finalise the Contract of Sale, subject to his Rating enquiry being satisfactory & agreeable to Voluntary Committee who were raising funds."

It was further resolved that the Committee also proceed to draw up a model set of Rules to be applied to the Hall when purchased.

FINANCE:

An application from the Parochial Church Council for grant towards Churchyard maintenance for 1973/3 & 1973/4 was considered. It was resolved that £80, £40 for each year be paid.

Other payments approved were as follows.

School milk contribution -	£15.00
Clerk's expenses (3 months) -	£5.29
Deposit on Welfare Hall -	£150.00
(Churchyard as above) -	£80.00
in total	<u>£250.29</u>

CLOSURE:

In view of the time, the Chairman stated that he would close the meeting & that all other business would be held over to the next meeting on Tuesday 19th March 1974. An agenda item would be included as to the date of the Annual meeting. The meeting was then closed at 10.05 p.m.

Signed - D. Hart
Chairman

DATE - 19.3.74.

Minutes of the Parish Council
Meeting
held in Ashton School on Tuesday 19th March 1974
at 7.00 o'clock pm

PRESENT: Mr D. J. Hunt - CHAIRMAN - Coun. A. Harris - V/Chairman,
Councillors Mrs Roper, Mrs Hudson, Mrs Chadburn, Mrs Vardy,
Mr Chambers, Mr Else, Mr Townsend

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were read
and approved for signature as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: In reply to questions, the Clerk stated he
was still awaiting the Brewery decision over the
land required for the Bus Shelters.
It was resolved the Clerk write the Brewery again.

Relative to matters discussed with Coun. Fellows, the
Chairman explained the latest escapades of
the Clay Cross Council re the Rents Act.

PLAYING FIELDS

In asking the Clerk to give an up to date report
on the Playing Field project, the Chairman expressed
thanks to the Clerk for his close liaison with
him during a very active effort to get things
moving. In all this activity, it was found that
there had been some neglect by former Clerks
which had certainly prolonged & made this project
difficult.

The Clerk reported on his many exhaustive
enquiries that had finalised in an interview with
the Chief Executive Officer at Chesterfield. He wished
to record his appreciation for the help afforded him
by the Dep. Treasurer, Mr Rodgers as a result of which
the position was that the Circular 2½% Loan was
applied for, the Scheme was started & he was
confident the County would make a grant. He
now submitted a temporary Statement of Accounts

that showed the financing of both this + the Village Hall schemes.

Following a lengthy discussion during which the Chairman outlined the finances in great detail, the meeting endorsed thanks to the Clerk.

VILLAGE HALL

The matter of the Village Hall was next discussed & following information supplied by Mr Chambers, the Clerk promised to dig further into the files & apply his efforts at County level for grant aid towards this project.

EVERSHILL LANE

A letter from the County Surveyor was read in reply to the complaints sent & following discussion it was resolved that the Clerk write both Mr Hennan & the County Surveyor that this issue should be resolved between these two parties.

LEISON COMMITTEE

Mr Vardy gave a detailed report of two meetings he had attended at the D.C. Offices, the first, accompanied by Mr Hudson & the Clerk, being to hear the views of the new Authority who had pledged to liaise with Parish Councils on all matters & who had suggested quarterly meetings of a Leison Committee comprised of one member & the Clerk from each Parish Council & the appropriate Officers of the District Council.

At the second meeting, accompanied by the Clerk, they had been informed of the gloomy financial outlook forecast for at least 2 to 3 years. Whatever finance was available would be allocated on strict top priority basis & it would

appear that many schemes would be put back.
Cllr Hudson supported the report & the Clerk stated it was important that a permanent delegate be nominated to accompany him in order that a system of continuity be preserved.

It was resolved that Cllr Vardy be appointed.

The matter of a Sub-Committee to consider planning would be considered when the scheme became operative by the District Council.

Contract

The Clerk read a letter from the R.D.C. requesting a resolution be passed authorising signing of the Contracts for the Playing Fields.

It was Resolved on the motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Cllr Rees, that, "D' Hunt & Mr. Chambers be authorised to sign the Playing Field Contracts & that the Clerk present these Contracts to the Post Office for impress stamping in the sum of 50p. & 25p. respectively, one copy to be thereafter forwarded to the R.D.C. Surveyor."

Correspondence: Letter from the R.D.C. Engineers & Surveyor, Mr. Moore, that alleged unwarranted, inaccurate & unfair comments against him as published in the "Derbyshire Times" report of Comr. Fellows attendance at the Parish Meeting. In a following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Chambers comments were factual in certain parts of the report & were non-offensive in character. It was also agreed that there was evidently some distorted reporting since the Council supported Mr. Chambers that nothing had been said about lack of co-operation between both Officials & Workmen. The Clerk was mandated to write Mr. Moore accordingly.

- 2 Confirmation of payment of Deposit on Village Hall
- 3 Letter from Assoc. of Local Councils re week-end school at Rutland Hall - York University, 20th-22nd Sept 1974.
It was Resolved by Vandy attend same.
- 3 Letter from Assoc. re Best Kept Village Competition. Agreed to join the Competition on the sum of £1.
- 4 Letter from D.O.L. requesting restoration of street lighting.
- 5 Letter re Evening Courses at Ilkley - Agreed the Clerk attend.
- HIGHWAYS :**
- 1 Following the accident on Pilsley Road as reported by Mr Chambers to the Clerk, it was agreed that the Clerk write off. Costs at the Council's concern over this road.
 - 2 Comment was made re the condition of the triangle at Church Lane & in resolving that the Clerk ask County to contact the Bus Co., it was pointed out that this point could be altered if it became the alternate Bus Shelter site.
 - 4 Mrs Hudstar reported on a meeting she had attended in connection with Rambleton, whereat, mention had been made of delegate Powers that could be vested in Parish Councils. It was agreed that the Clerk investigate this matter.
 - 5 Complaint of water seeping onto the footpath from Pilsley Shale was laid & it was agreed the Clerk write the owners on this issue.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: It was reported that a tree was broken & overhanging Church Lane & a rotten tree on Highgate Lane was cause for concern.

It was Resolved that the Clerk contact Mr Fisher immediately & also suggest an examination of all trees.

Complaint had been made by residents on Stretton Road that cars were parking on the

grass verges & were of some nuisance.
It was Resolved that the Clerk refer this matter to the Police.

FINANCE : It was Resolved that the accounts submitted be paid as follows:-

CLERK'S SALARY & EXPENSES - £50.00 + £9.48

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION - 1.00

TOTAL £60.48

CLOSURE : The Chairman thanked the members for their attendance & attention to detail & closed the meeting.

Signed - D. K. T. —
Chairman

Date 23.4.74 —