

MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting held in the Village Hall, Morton on the 15th July 1998.

28/99 **Members Present.** Mrs V. Smith, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mrs G.H. Bacon, Mrs P. White and one member of the public.

29/99 **Apologies.** Mrs M. Treweek, Mr E.A. Treweek, Mrs E. Rowarth and Mr S.M. Checklin, .

30/99 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June 1998 were approved and confirmed as a true record.

31/99 **Police.** Mrs Smith reported that Inspector Carroll had contacted her with regard to the resident on New Street who the police had promised to visit in order to discuss the problems with motor cyclists in that vicinity. In fact there appeared to be some police activity on New Street earlier in the evening before tonight's meeting. The crime statistics for June were distributed and anyone who is interested in attending the next Police Liaison Committee meeting should be at The Sitwell Arms at 7:30pm on Monday 27th July 1998.

32/99 **Planning.** None, other than part of domestic curtilage is still being used for storage of 2 mini-buses and 1 midi-bus at 66 Stretton Road, Morton by Mr P. Holmes even though planning permission has been refused.

33/99 **Opencast Sites - Rainge/Mickley Farm.** Nothing further to report this month although the Rainge Site still needs cleaning up following the departure of the gypsies.

34/99 **Finance.**

£

a). NEDDC - grounds maintenance	216 . 20
b). Key Services - grass cutting	143 . 35
c). DCC - streetlight	1,236 . 26
d). NEDDC - empty dog waste bins	25 . 09
e). Clerk's wages and expenses - July	260 . 50
f). Gordon McIntosh - paint memorial railings	230 . 00

Mr Darby reported that it would cost £110 to pay for 5 street nameplates to be made good and painted; although this was more than the £60 previously agreed as there are funds available it was proposed, seconded and duly approved that this work should be carried out as soon as possible. The Clerk presented a bank mandate and signatory forms in order that the signatories on the account can be updated; these will now be Mrs V. Smith, Mrs G.H. Bacon, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy and Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk.

The meeting with the Auditor is due to take place at 2:00pm on Friday 7th August 1998 in the NEDDC offices on Saltergate.

- 35/99 **Millenium.** Two prices have been obtained in respect of the 2 Village signs which have been previously discussed for this project; both are for £700 but one of these includes fixing as well and it was therefore agreed that this is the one which should be accepted. Bearing in mind the problems encountered with the pit wheels project the Clerk will check what approval is needed to erect these signs and whether or not the County Council would carry out the work on our behalf.
- 36/99 **Parish Council Land.** The football field has been cut and apparently Mr Whitmore is unhappy that he will not now be able to carry out this work himself. The Clerk was asked to follow up with the football team the advance rent payment of £75 which is due by the 1st August 1998. A draft licence agreement has now been received from Jakes & Co. Solicitors which is for a period of 5 years with 6 months notice required on either side; the legal fees are £250 + v.a.t. and the rent is £5 per annum guaranteed not to rise above the level of increase in the Retail Price Index. The County Council is mentioned in the licence and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr G. Fairs at the County Council in order that this can be properly checked over before any decision is taken. Also, the Clerk was asked to contact the contractor again to see when the painting of the pit wheels will be carried out; a deadline of 31st August 1998 was set for this work to be completed by Mr Brownhill.
- 37/99 **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the Councillors present. Of particular interest was the NEDDC review of electoral arrangements document, the "C" Division Policing Plan for 1998/99, the NEDDC draft Deposit Local Plan and a letter of thanks in respect of the grant of £500 which has been agreed in respect of the church footpath.
- 38/99 **Matters concerning the District Council.** The hedge on the boundary of Church Farm has started to be cut back and this work is still continuing. There are some problems with the tree which stands in the "triangle" near to the Village Hall and Mrs Smith will raise this matter with the tree warden coordinator at the District Council in order that the appropriate action can be taken.
- 39/99 **Matters concerning the County Council.** The problems raised at the last meeting namely potholes on the "s" bend at the bottom of Higham Lane and the problem of water flooding off the pavement and into the garage at no. 61 Stretton Road, Morton on a fairly frequent basis have still not been satisfactorily resolved and these will be followed up by the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.

MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting held in the Rectory Rooms, Morton on the 17th September 1998.

- 40/99 **Members Present.** Mrs V. Smith, Mrs G.H. Bacon, Mr S.M. Checklin, Mr K. Vardy, P.C. Cope and one member of the public.
- 41/99 **Apologies.** Mr B. Darby, Mrs M. Treweek, Mr E.A. Treweek, Mrs E. Rowarth and Mrs P. White.
- 42/99 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 15th July 1998 were approved and confirmed as a true record.
- 43/99 **Police.** There were 9 crimes in Morton during July and August and P.C. Cope reported that there had been 2 crimes so far in September and both these were vehicle related. P.C. Cope was asked about the drug situation in Morton and fortunately there are not too many problems in this respect at the moment. The problems with off the road motor cyclists also appears to have subsided recently. P.C. Cope was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.
- 44/99 **Planning.** None other than the installation of a bay window at 12 Evershill Lane, Morton for Mr R. Nuttall has now been granted.
- 45/99 **Opencast Sites - Rainge/Mickley Farm.** There has been some activity on the Rainge Site recently but the Liaison Committee meetings are no longer held where points could be raised. Councillor Bacon will try and speak to neighbouring Parish Councils in order to try and gain more support for action on this matter.
- 46/99 **Millenium.** The Clerk will chase up the County Council with regard to the request for assistance concerning the siting of the proposed new village signs.
- 47/99 **Accounts.** The following cheques were duly approved :-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mr G.S. Brownhill - paint pit wheels	000439	324 . 30
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk's wages August	000440	250 . 24
Key Services - grass cutting	000441	143 . 35
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk's wages September	000442	259 . 15

- 48/99 **Parish Council Land.** Following information received from NEDDC it was agreed that a further dog waste bin and sign should be purchased and sited in the most appropriate place near to the children's new play area. The Clerk will contact Selwyn Gough with a view to getting someone to inspect the horsechestnut tree situated on the triangle near to the Village Hall. There are currently no street signs on Pit Lane and Back Lane, Morton and the Clerk was asked to write to the District Council to request that these be provided.
- 49/99 **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the Councillors present. It was decided not to give a grant to the NEDDC Chair's Appeal 1998/99.
- 50/99 **Matters concerning the District Council.** The Clerk was asked to contact NEDDC in order to pass on the concerns of local people about the appalling state of the land on Station Road at the rear of The Corner Pin public house.
- 51/99 **Matters concerning the County Council.** The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to pursue the idea of having road safety signs erected in the village particularly in the vicinity of the school. The problem of drainage from the pavement onto the drive of 61 Stretton Road Morton has still not been resolved and the Clerk will now follow this up again.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.



Chairman

21st October 1998

MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting held in the Village Hall, Morton on the 21st October 1998.

- 52/99 **Members Present.** Mr S.M. Checklin, Mrs V. Smith, Mr B. Darby, Mrs M. Treweek, Mr K. Vardy, Mrs G.H. Bacon, Mrs E. Rowarth and Mrs P. White.
- 53/99 **Apologies.** Mr E.A. Treweek .
- 54/99 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th September 1998 were approved and confirmed as a true record.
- 55/99 **Police.** PC Moore attended the meeting and listened to criticism about the lack of progress with regard to problems with off the road vehicles speeding in and around Morton. This matter has been raised at the Police Liaison Committee Meeting and was noted again by the police; hopefully an off the road police vehicle will be available soon which would assist with regard to this problem. The crime statistics for the past couple of months were discussed and mention was made of the agenda item relating to traffic calming which has come about due to the volume and speed of traffic travelling through Morton. A request was made for any motorist successfully prosecuted to be named in the press in an attempt to reduce the number of offenders. The police were also asked to keep a check on the parking problems around the school at start and finish times as the situation is not improving. PC Moore was thanked for her attendance and left the meeting.
- 56/99 **Planning.** None.
- 57/99 **Traffic Calming Scheme.** The members of the public present at the meeting had attended primarily to discuss the increasing problems with both the speed and volume of traffic which passes through the Village. There are serious concerns about the safety of local people particularly young children and the elderly. Mrs Smith asked those present what measures they would ideally like to be taken and the unanimous view was that there would need to be some work done in the centre of the Village and also at either side of Morton as you are entering the Village. There was also strong opinion that local people should try and get the matter highlighted in the press if they feel strongly about the subject. Mrs Treweek, as the County Councillor, and the Clerk will both take this matter up as a matter of urgency with the County Council.
- 58/99 **Opencast Sites - Rainge/Mickley Farm.** The meeting was informed of the strong local opposition to the Clay Colliery Company Limited planning application and those present were informed about the reasons why the Parish Council had reached this conclusion. It is now almost 2 years since the original consultation meetings were held in the Village and some people assumed that this matter had been laid to rest. This is not the case although the Parish Council would have to be consulted again if there is any amendment to the original application which now seems likely.

60/99 **Millenium.** Mr Darby asked if there had been any response yet from the County Council regarding the possible siting of the Village signs for the Millenium. The last response from the County Council was at the end of July and the Clerk will once again pursue this matter in order to try and get a helpful response.

61/99 **Accounts.** The following cheques were duly approved :-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins	000443	33 . 39
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk's wages October	000444	255 . 00
Morton Parochial Church Council - grant	000445	500 . 00

62/99 **Parish Council Land.** Mr Darby reported that although he had not been around the area in the recent past he was not aware of any problems at the moment.

63/99 **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the Councillors present including the Fire Authorities Annual Plan for the past year and the NEDDC minutes which Mrs Bacon took for reading at a later stage. Of particular note was a letter from Morton Play Group asking for financial help and advice about any other sources of funding; applications can be made to the local area Social Services based at High Street, Clay Cross but in the meantime it was unanimously agreed to give a grant of £220 which is the equivalent of 5 months rent of the Village Hall which they use for the group. This will be paid directly to the Village Hall Management Committee. There is a meeting to be held at Whitecotes Community Centre in Chesterfield regarding funding for local community groups and Mr R. Clarke offered to attend on behalf of the Village and to report back to a future meeting; it was unanimously agreed to pay the £15 course fee to enable Mr Clarke to attend.

64/99 **Matters concerning the District Council.** There have been complaints about youngsters causing a nuisance around the seat near to the old people's bungalows on Evershill Close. The Clerk was asked to find out who owns the seat before any possible action to remove it is taken. There have also been complaints about the size and safety of some pine trees which are on Parish Council land although it is not known who planted them. It was decided that the Clerk should contact Mr Gough, Tree Warden, regarding this and the tree on the triangle also for advice before any decisions are made.

65/99 **Matters concerning the County Council.** None.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Chairman

18th November 1998

MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting held in the Village Hall, Morton on the 18th November 1998.

- 66/99 **Members Present.** Mrs V. Smith, Mr B. Darby, Mrs M. Treweek, Mr K. Vardy, Mrs G.H. Bacon and Mrs E. Rowarth.
- 67/99 **Apologies.** Mr E.A. Treweek and Mr K. Vardy (Mr Vardy attended for the latter part of the meeting).
- 68/99 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st October 1998 were approved and confirmed as a true record.
- 70/99 **Police.** P.C. McGill attended the meeting and reported that there had been no recent parking offences outside the school but it does appear that traffic is slowing down in this vicinity. There were no other matters to be raised with the police and P.C. Gill was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.
- 71/99 **Planning.** There were no new items to report although the problems with the continued parking of 2 mini-buses and 1 midi-bus at 66 Stretton Road, Morton by Mr P. Holmes appears to have been resolved.
- 72/99 **Opencast Sites - Rainge/Mickley Farm.** There are some small metal pylons on the Rainge Site and other work still going on; the Clerk was asked to write to Richard Brentnall at RJB Mining in order that a site meeting can be arranged which will enable Councillors to raise a number of questions concerning the site which remain outstanding. This is particularly important now that there are no longer any liaison committee meetings being held.
Mrs Treweek confirmed that the County Council has to consider the revised proposals in respect of the Mickley Farm application within about 8 weeks; this does not mean that the application is being presented to Committee at that time and indeed Mrs Treweek will ensure that all Councillors are made aware of when the Committee date is fixed to ensure that as much support as possible is given to her at the meeting from Morton residents.
A discussion then took place around opencast mining in general, the Banks' site and some of the ethics concerning planning gain/local grants which are now quite often provided by the owners of the sites.
- 73/99 **Millenium.** The Clerk has received an acknowledgement from Nick Gibson at the County Council concerning the proposed siting of two new Village signs, one at each entrance to the Village. Although there is still a reasonable amount of time available we are not progressing with the scheme and the Clerk will now pursue this more vigorously in an attempt to arrange a site meeting before the next Parish Council at which the precept for 1999/2000 has to be set. It would also be helpful to look at possible traffic calming measures for Morton at the same meeting which again the Clerk will try and arrange.

74/99 **Accounts.** The following cheques were duly approved :-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Third Piper - course on funding projects	000446	15 . 00
NEDDC - supply school milk (September 1998)	000447	240 . 48
plus arrears previously not invoiced for		
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk's wages November	000448	262 . 12
The Royal British Legion - poppy appeal	000449	15 . 00

Computer Equipment. The Clerk outlined the fact that one of his other employers, namely Glapwell Parish Council, were looking to update the computer equipment used for the duties as Clerk to the Parish Council. Currently, Glapwell own all of the equipment and to date Morton Parish Council have not had to make any contribution towards the cost of this. A contribution of approximately £400 is being requested from Morton which will provide an up to date computer which is millenium tested, a new printer and a fax facility which would be extremely useful on occasions for both the sending and receiving of faxes. Mrs Smith asked for everyones' opinion on this subject and it was unanimously agreed that Morton Parish Council should make a contribution, up to a maximum of £400, towards the cost of this equipment. The Clerk thanked the members present on behalf of Glapwell Parish Council who will warmly welcome this contribution.

The invoice for the poppy wreath was presented to the meeting and a grant of £15 was unanimously agreed.

75/99 **Parish Council Land.** Mr Darby stated that there is nothing to report at the moment other than the fact that Shirland and Higham Parish Council are installing some "no horse riding signs" on their land and they have commented on the fact that we have not. This was noted but no further action will be taken as this is not a particular problem to us at the moment.

76/99 **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the Councillors present. Of particular note was a complaint from a local resident about both the width of footpath number 7 in places and also that the dogs belonging to the owner of the land can be quite intimidating to walkers and may in fact deter them from using the path. Copies of the relevant Committee report from NEDDC dating back some 18 years will now be sent to the District Council with an accompanying letter as this outlines the work which should have been done and also the fact that the District Council actually made a contribution of £100 towards the cost of the work.

Mr Reece Clarke presented a written report to the Council on the one day course which we had sponsored him to attend at Whitecotes School entitled "Get That Grant". Mr Clarke stated that this had been most enjoyable and informative and if any local groups wish to make any applications we now have better information about where they might apply for appropriate funding. Mr Clarke was thanked for attending the course and also for producing a written report about the days events. A letter of thanks has been received from the Church for the Parish Council's contribution to the new footpath which is highly valued by both the Church and everyone using it.

Mrs Smith read out a letter from the Tree Warden, Mr S. Gough, which stated that the Chestnut Tree in the triangle has been expertly attended to by the Highways Authority. The only remaining problem is an open wound 12 feet from the base on the north side, which is as a result of previous surgery and is allowing water to enter; although this damage cannot be rectified, apparently there is no reason why the tree cannot last another 50 years. Apparently this tree does not have a TPO placed upon it but it is in a designated conservation area and also it is within the highway which means that the County Council have to give their authorisation before any work can be carried out on the tree.

The trees on the land bordering the field adjacent to the play area are coniferous trees and appear to be in a very good state of health.; they are not blocking the light and do not appear to be in a dangerous condition. Apparently they were originally planted to form a shield for neighbouring properties against the noise from nearby swings and the football field.

77/99 Matters concerning the District Council. Although it is not the District Council's responsibility a problem with ochre coloured water being pumped from Morton pit into Westwood Brook, near to the Corner Pin bridge, was raised and the Clerk was asked to report this to Severn Trent Water in the first instance in order that they can investigate the problem further.

78/99 Matters concerning the County Council. A complaint about the irregular times which the 98 bus from Alfreton to Clay Cross stops in Morton has been raised by a member of the public and the Clerk will report this to the County Council immediately.
There have been a number of problems with flooding in the Village recently but particularly under the bridge and opposite the garage on Pilsley Road and also on Higham Lane. These problems will be reported to the County Council by the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.


Chairman

16th December 1998

MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

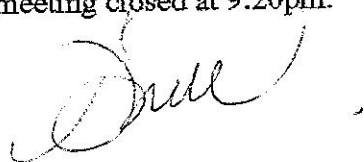
At a meeting held in the Village Hall, Morton on the 16th December 1998.

- 79/99 **Members Present.** Mrs V. Smith, Mrs G.H. Bacon, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mr S.M. Checklin, Mrs P. White and 2 members of the public.
- 80/99 **Apologies.** Mrs M. Treweek, Mrs E. Rowarth and Mr E.A. Treweek .
- 81/99 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 18th November 1998 were approved and confirmed as a true record.
- 82/99 **Police.** P.C. Smith and P.C. Moore attended the meeting and reported that there had been 2 crimes in Morton during the past month. The Clerk also read out a letter from Acting Inspector Branson regarding the action which is being taken about nuisance motorcycles throughout the Clay Cross area. A discussion took place about the possible traffic calming measures in Morton following the recent site meeting with the County Council. It appears that Morton is likely to be a low priority although no suggestions have yet been received from the County Council and we await some further information in due course. P.C. Smith and P.C. Moore were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.
- 83/99 **Items from Members of the Public.** There are still problems with blocked gulleys in Morton but particularly the one on Station Road below the old bridge where there is also a difficulty with parts of the wall collapsing. This will be reported to the District Council again and a date requested when the work is likely to be carried out. Leaves on the pavement of street corner near the Sitwell Arms are a problem again and this matter will also be reported to the District Council. A request was also made for an extra streetlight outside the shops on Main Road and this will be considered when the precept for next year is being set.
- 84/99 **Planning.** There were no new applications this month.
- 85/99 **Opencast Sites - Rainge/Mickley Farm.** Mrs Smith reported on the site meeting held today on the Rainge Opencast Site with RJB Mining. Generally speaking the site is now looking much better and nearer to full restoration.
- 86/99 **Accounts.** The following cheques were duly approved :-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NEDDC - supply of school milk (October 1998)	000450	21 . 23
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk's wages December	000451	260 . 90
Glapwell Parish Council - contribution towards the cost of the new computer equipment	000452	400 . 00

- 87/99 **Precept.** The Clerk presented a draft precept based upon last years expenditure and this was distributed to those present. After an interesting discussion it was proposed that the precept should be increased by £384 in 1999/2000 making the new figure £13,000. This was unanimously agreed by the councillors present.
- 88/99 **Clerk's wages.** The Clerk's wages were agreed to be revised to £2,700, which is the NALC agreed rate w.e.f. 1st April 1998, and an office/telephone allowance of £480, both as detailed in the above proposal and to be brought into effect as in previous years on the 1st January.
- 89/99 **Parish Council Land.** Mr Darby stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment. There have been no complaints received from the football team who are using the pitch.
- 90/99 **Millenium.** The Clerk has contacted the County Council and they will look at this matter further when they can be provided with a more detailed diagram of what we are proposing. Mr Darby is liaising with the contractor and will arrange to meet with Mrs Smith and Mrs Bacon in order to try and finalise the wording for the signs.
- 91/99 **Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the Councillors present. Of particular note was a thank you letter from the Morton Playgroup in respect of our recent agreement to a grant for them. A letter has been received from Lance Turvey at NEDDC regarding footpath no. 7 which he is pursuing further following our recent complaint that the path has never been widened to 4 feet as was determined should be the case in 1979; it appears that there is little that can be done about the behaviour of the landowners' dogs whilst they remain in the confines of his property. NEDDC are creating a database of unadopted streetlighting and although there are not thought to be any in Morton the Clerk will ring and check that the 2 columns on Back Lane are in fact included in the register.
- 92/99 **Matters concerning the District Council.** None, other than those items which had previously been raised by members of the public.
- 93/99 **Matters concerning the County Council.** The roof on the bus shelter opposite the Corner Pin is leaking and attempts will be made to find a local builder(s) who may be interested at looking at the job and carrying out the work on our behalf. Problems with the bus services in Morton were discussed again and the Clerk will report these to the County Council when reasonably specific details of the difficulties are given to him.

The meeting closed at 9:20pm.



MORTON PARISH COUNCIL - PRECEPT 1999/2000.

1). GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

£

Clerk's Salary (NALC - recommended rate w.e.f. 1-7-98)	2,700
Office and Telephone Allowance	480
Postage, Stationery and Telephone	170
Insurances	650
Audit Fee	250

4,250

2). VILLAGE HALL.

Maintenance Contingency	2,000
Grant towards running costs	500
Hire of hall for meetings	150

2,650

3). GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY BODIES.

General	1,000
Holy Cross Church Graveyard Maintenance	400

1,400

4). SPECIAL AND CONTINGENCY FUNDS.

Maintenance of land	1,300
Policy Initiatives	3,400

4,700

PRECEPT 13,000