

# Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on the 17th July 2002.

**27/03 Members Present.** Mrs G.H. Dyer, Mrs E. Rowarth, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mr S.J. Yates and 1 member of the public.

**28/03 Apologies.** Mrs M. Treweek, Mrs V. Smith and Mr G. Freeman.

**29/03 Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 19th June 2002 were approved and confirmed as a true record subject to "Main Road" replacing "Station Road" under minute number 19/03.

**30/03 Police Report.** P.C. Glynn attended for this item only and presented a video to those present which gave an insight into a typical days work in a busy police station within the 'D' Division of Derbyshire. The long term aim is to have a 'beat manager' for every beat within the County and if this can be achieved it will be welcomed by the majority of the local population.

There being no new items raised P.C. Glynn was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

**It was with some regret that Councillor Yates' resignation was accepted immediately after the police report; Councillor Yates feels that he is suffering from some harassment from a local person and that this is attributable to his position as a Parish Councillor. Councillor Yates was thanked for his service to the local community and he left the meeting at this point.**

**31/03 Items from members of the public.** The football field off New Street, known as the "Jubilee Field", needs to be cut and this is the responsibility of the County Council; the Clerk will bring this matter to their attention and request that the job is carried out as a matter of urgency.

The refuse collection hasn't taken place today because of the industrial action being taken by UNISON regarding pay; the next collection day will not be until the 24th July and it is rumoured that any waste over and above that placed inside the wheelie bin will not be collected. This doesn't seem right and the Clerk will check this out with the District Council as a matter of urgency

**32/03 Planning.** There were no objections to the following planning application:-

**02/00631/FL** - Proposed detached dormer bungalow at land adjacent (Amended Plans) at 83 Stretton Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6GW for Mr and Mrs Daykin.

**The following planning application has now been approved:-**

**02/00559/FL** - Proposed alterations to existing dormer window at 34 Holland Close, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HE for Mr C. Lindley.

**33/03 War Memorial.** The Friends of War Memorials is seeking, on behalf of the Experience Corps, to identify War Memorial sites which would benefit from general maintenance such as weeding, levelling and painting railings; they would also like a local contact person who could liaise with the Experience Corps and it had been agreed prior to the meeting that Mrs Dyer would act as the local contact for this purpose. The local Brownie pack will of course be able to continue their project work in keeping the memorial as clean and tidy as possible.

**34/03 Finance.** The following payments have been made :-

<u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DCC - bus shelter	000617	4,177 . 17
NEDDC - maintenance of land	000618	573 . 40
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000619	354 . 34
Key Services - Churchyard grass cutting	000620	162 . 15
J.M. Nicholas - Licence Fee pit wheels	000621	15 . 00

The Clerk presented the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2002 which is required under the new 'lighter touch audit regime'. The Statement of Accounts, which has been prepared by the Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer, and the Statement of Assurance were both approved by the Council; the Clerk duly signed both statements and the latter was also signed by the Chair of the Council. The only 'No' answer in the Statement of Assurance is with regard to the appointment of an Internal Auditor who could carry out this function for the 2001/02 accounts. The Clerk is meeting with a prospective auditor who is prepared to carry out this work for a provisional fee of £200 which, when added to the District Audit fee of £120, will mean a reduction of £85 on the audit fee for the 2000/01 accounts. It was agreed that the Clerk should be given the opportunity to appoint an auditor for one year which will be extended if the first years' work is up to a high enough standard.

**35/03 Bus Shelter.** Mr Vardy confirmed that the renovation of the old bus shelter on Main Road, Morton will cost approximately £450 and the Clerk should receive an official estimate to this effect in the near future. It was unanimously agreed that this estimate should be accepted.

**36/03 Parish Council Land.** Mr Darby reported that everything appears to be in order at the moment although the Parish Council football field will need cutting as the team who used the pitch last season have withdrawn from our agreement amicably; the Clerk will contact Mr George Whitmore to ask if he would kindly like to do this on our behalf.

**37/03 Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The District Council have written to ask if we would be prepared to contribute towards the funding of dropped kerb crossings with themselves and the County Council; after a brief discussion it was agreed that before a decision is made whether or not we should contribute to this scheme Councillors will look for possible locations which may benefit from this work and report back to the next Council meeting.

The District Council have confirmed that the street name for the new housing development off Station Road, Morton has been agreed as "Westwood Gardens, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HN" as this was the preferred option of the Parish Council.

The date of the next District/Parish Liaison Group Meeting is Wednesday 4th September at 7:30pm in the Council Chamber, Council House, Saltergate, Chesterfield; agenda items need to be with the District Council by Friday 9th August at the latest.

The District Council have responded to our complaint regarding the standard of grass cutting in the village but in particular the cut which was undertaken recently during very wet conditions. Unfortunately, in order to meet pre-programmed targets and to ensure all areas are mown on a frequent basis, the District Council state that it is necessary to mow in wet conditions. They also feel that there would be many more complaints if they only cut the verges at the frequency required by the County Council which is 5 cuts compared to the actual 12 which are carried out.

The annual meeting with the Chief Constable, his Chief Officer Team and members of the Police Authority will be held on Tuesday 20th August 2002 at 7:00pm in the Multi Purpose Hall at Police Headquarters; each Parish Council has been allocated two places at the meeting and it was agreed that Councillors Mrs G. Dyer and Mrs E. Rowarth should attend on the Parish Council's behalf.

The District Council have enquired what our intentions are in respect of the damaged fencing at the Bacchus Way play area and the Clerk is trying to obtain a quote from R.P. Fencing for the work to be carried out.

A letter of thanks has been received from the Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group in respect of the grant of £25 which we recently made towards their administration costs.

The County Council have asked each Parish Council to nominate two sites in priority order for the Roadside Road Safety Poster Campaign again this year. After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that the B6014 at both entrances to the Village should be the priority location for the signs. Mr Darby kindly offered to draw the sketch plan in order that the County Council are clear about exactly where these signs should be displayed.

Mr Vardy informed the Parish Council that the Cricket Club now has its own website and the address is :- [www.mortoncolliery.play-cricket.com](http://www.mortoncolliery.play-cricket.com) and people are encouraged to use this site. It was also agreed that the Parish Council should sponsor some sort of cricket trophy for the young cricketers in the village say the most improved player; this will put on the agenda for our next meeting and in the meantime Mr Vardy will discuss with the cricket club what the most appropriate sort of trophy would be.

**38/03 Matters concerning the District Council.** None other than the issues raised earlier in the meeting.

**39/03 Matters concerning the County Council.** None other than the issues raised earlier in the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm



**Chairman**

18th September 2002

# Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on the 18th September 2002.

**40/03 Members Present.** Mrs G.H. Dyer, Mrs E. Rowarth, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mr G. Freeman, Mrs M. Daykin (prospective co-opted Councillor) and 2 members of the public.

**41/03 Apologies.** P.C. Neil Myers. It was unanimously agreed that in future all apologies must, wherever health permits, be given in person to the Chair, Vice-Chair or Clerk to the Parish Council in advance of the meeting.

**42/03 Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th July 2002 were approved and confirmed as a true record subject to P.C. Myers replacing P.C. Glynn under minute number 30/03 and Guides replacing Brownies under minute number 33/03 .

**43/03 Police Report.** P.C. Neil Myers had sent his apologies to the Clerk and asked for any new items raised to be passed on to him when he returns from holiday. There is concern at the lack of response when the main Chesterfield number is rung ie 220100 as there have been a couple of occasions recently whereby the calls have not been answered after ringing for three to four minutes.

**44/03 Items from members of the public.** The hedge below the bus shelter and up to the field adjacent to the new housing development on Station Road, Morton is badly overgrown and is a particular danger for children who are walking into the road or just crossing the road in order to avoid this problem; the pavement here is also apparently covered in old leaves and is slippery when wet. The Clerk will report this in writing again to the County Council together with the overgrown hedge on Main Road, Morton which forms part of the Morton Primary School boundary.

**45/03 Planning.** There were no objections to the following planning application:-

**02/00631/FL** - Proposed detached dormer bungalow at land adjacent (Amended Plans) at 83 Stretton Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6GW for Mr and Mrs Daykin.

**46/03 Finance.** The following payments have been made :-

<u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000622	329 . 99
Key Services - Churchyard grass cutting	000623	162 . 15
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000624	336 . 00
NEDDC - supply of school milk to July	000625	113 . 40
Glapwell Nurseries - hanging baskets & tree	000626	3,166 . 62

**47/03 Cricket Club Trophy.** Mr Vardy reported that the Cricket Club were delighted with the Parish Council's offer to sponsor a trophy for the club next season. This subject will be looked at again next Spring when a decision will be taken as to what the trophy will be in respect of eg most improved young player etc.

**48/03 Parish Council Land.** The area surrounding the war memorial is in need of some further attention and this will be followed up with the Guides before deciding what other action needs to be taken.

Also, the old bus shelter on Station Road still needs some attention and further attempts will be made to find someone who is prepared to carry out this work.

A quote from RP Fencing has been received in respect of the boundary at the rear of the Bacchus Way play area (£445 net), around the pit wheels (£545 net) and around the Centre of England Tree (£775 net). The first quote was accepted but the plans for the area around the pit wheels will be re-considered altogether and a drawing of the plans for the area around the tree will be requested before any decision is taken.

**49/03 Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The County Council have written to confirm that an order will be placed for our bus shelter in the next few weeks and this will have solar panels; the total cost will be £6,960.07 with the County Council providing a grant of 50% towards the cost.

Chesterfield Law Centre are hoping to recruit and train new volunteers to join their growing team of workers at the Law Centre and they have provided some recruitment posters which they would like us to display on our public notice boards; it was agreed that we should support this and if any further information regarding the work of the Law Centre is needed they have stated that they would be only too glad to discuss this in more detail.

The Environment Agency have sent a copy of their Derbyshire Derwent Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy leaflet for our information.

The County Council have now confirmed that the request for grant aid towards 3 new bus shelters in the village has been approved and they should be erected around the middle of September; a condition of the grant is that the Parish Council accepts responsibility for the cleaning and maintenance of the shelters.

Victim Support Chesterfield have written to ask if we would consider making a grant towards their work in helping victims of crime in Chesterfield and the surrounding areas; after a brief discussion it was agreed that there will be no grant made on this occasion.

The Chief Constable, David Coleman, has sent a copy of the notes of the Parish Council Liaison Meeting held on Tuesday 20th August 2002, together with copies of the presentations given on the evening and these are available for everyone to read.

The NEDDC Chair's appeal for 2002/03 is in aid of Deaf and Hearing Support and the Chair, Mr Frank Taylor, is asking for any financial assistance we may be able to offer; after a brief discussion it was agreed that a grant will not be made towards the appeal this year as the services should really be provided by the statutory agencies such as Social Services and the Primary Care Trust.

The County Council have sent a copy of the Environmental Services Department Annual Report 2001/02 which is available for anyone to read.

Amanda Pike of 2a Stretton Road has written to request that a further dog waste bin be provided on the Stretton Road side of Morton in order to try and prevent further dog fouling on the grass verges; Mrs Pike attended the meeting for this item and after some discussion it was agreed that a site meeting will be arranged with the District Council in order to look at the best possible siting of further dog waste bins within the village.

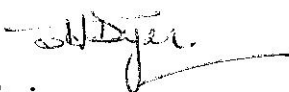
The Information Commissioner has written to confirm that the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to all bodies and office holders identified as "public authorities" for the purpose of the Act. We are one of the public authorities listed in Part II of Schedule 1 to the Act and as a public authority we are therefore subject to the Act. Section 19 of the Act requires every public authority to adopt and maintain a publication scheme which has been approved by the Information Commissioner. Section 20 of the Act provides that the Commissioner may, from time to time, approve model publication schemes for public authorities falling within a particular class. Where a public authority adopts an appropriate model scheme, no further approval is required. A model publication scheme has been approved for those authorities that are defined in paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b) of Schedule 1 to the Act, namely parish and community councils. It was unanimously agreed that the model scheme should be adopted subject to it being confirmed as approved when it has been received by the Clerk. When this has been agreed the Clerk was authorised to confirm this together with signing and returning the Declaration Form.

Tibshelf Community School have written to ask if for any grant assistance which we may be able to offer towards their Annual Prize Presentation Evening which costs approximately £600 to run; after a brief discussion it was agreed that a grant of £20 should be made to this event.

**50/03 Matters concerning the District Council.** None other than the issues raised earlier in the meeting.

**51/03 Matters concerning the County Council.** None other than the issues raised earlier in the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm



**Chairman**

16th October 2002