

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on the 16th October 2002.

52/03 Members Present. Mrs G.H. Dyer, Mrs E. Rowarth, Mr K. Vardy, Mrs M. Daykin and 1 member of the public.

53/03 Apologies. Mr B. Darby. Mrs V. Smith has not attended a Parish Council meeting since the 20th February 2002 and during that time formal apologies have not been submitted to the Chair, Vice-Chair or the Clerk on a regular basis. In view of this it was unanimously agreed that a letter should be sent to Mrs Smith thanking her for all the work she has done on behalf of the Parish Council, and the local community in general over the years, but because of her non-attendance at Parish Council meetings for such a lengthy period her position as a Parish Councillor for Morton has had to be terminated. A vacancy will not be advertised now as elections are due in May 2003 and this leaves 2 vacancies on the Council with previous vacancies having been advertised recently with the result that no election was requested.

54/03 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on the 18th September 2002 were approved and confirmed as a true record.

55/03 Police Report. P.C. Neil Myers attended for this item only and reported on the crime figures for the past month. There were no new items raised with the police but a discussion took place about what information is produced annually by both the police and the Parish Council. It was agreed that the question of what information the Parish Council should provide to local people regarding the work which it does will be discussed as a main agenda item sometime over the next few months.

P.C. Myers was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

56/03 Co-option of Councillors. Mrs M. Daykin was proposed and unanimously accepted as a co-opted member of the Parish Council and she signed the declaration of acceptance of office which was witnessed by the Clerk. Mrs Daykin also needs to complete a Register of Interests form which will be done at the next Parish Council meeting.

57/03 Items from members of the public. The 'zig zag' lines outside the school have still not been fully reinstated and the Clerk will raise this matter again with the County Council together with the problem of ivy growing across the pavement between the pit wheels and the school.

A complaint was also received that the District Council grass cutting vehicle had been left unoccupied whilst blocking the driveway with a vehicle stood on it at number 28 Bacchus Way, Morton possibly on either the 10th or the 11th October 2002; the Clerk will raise this matter with the District Council.

58/03 Planning. The following planning application has now been approved :-

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.

There were no objections to the following planning applications :-

02/01116/FL - Proposed amendments to house types to include conservatories to the rear at plots 1,3,6 and 14 Westwood Gardens, Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HN for Hamlet New Homes Ltd.

02/01102/FL - Proposed construction of 5 detached houses and associated works at land adjacent to 567 Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire for Mr S. Lynn.

59/03 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

<u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tibshelf Community School - grant	000627	20 . 00
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins	000628	76 . 07
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000629	336 . 65
Key Services - grass cutting	000630	324 . 30

60/03 Parish Council Land. Mr Darby had confirmed with the Chair that he has no matters to raise in this respect at the moment. Mrs Daykin asked about the possibility of the Parish Council taking responsibility for some further small areas of land which look particularly neglected due to the low frequency of cuts which take place during the year; this item will be put on the agenda for a future meeting but before the grass cutting season starts again.

61/03 Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present.

The minutes of the Clay Cross Police Consultative Group meeting held on the 22nd July 2002 have been received and the next meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 21st October 2002 at Clay Cross Community Hospital.

Chief Superintendent Bowler has written to give an update on the Communities Against Drugs initiative and also to ask for views about policing priorities for next year; after a brief discussion it was agreed that this matter should be noted but no comments will be made at the moment.

The Village Hall Management Committee have written to inform us that their Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Monday 4th November at 7:30pm and all members of the Parish Council are welcome to attend.

Chesterfield Law Centre have sent an invitation for anyone from the Parish Council to attend their Annual General Meeting which is being held at the Winding Wheel, Holywell Street, Chesterfield at 7:00pm on Wednesday 30th October 2002.

The District Council have sent a copy of the North East Derbyshire Local Plan Review - First Deposit and this was presented to the meeting; comments have to be submitted by the 8th November at the latest and it was agreed that councillors should be given the opportunity to peruse this document before it is put on local display in the Village Hall.

The Headteacher has sent a thank you letter to the Parish Council in respect of the ongoing assistance and support which has been offered to Morton Primary School and he has enclosed one of the gold commemorative coins in respect of the Queen's Golden Jubilee earlier this year; it was agreed that this would be held by the Chair of the Parish Council on behalf of the local community and will be passed on to the next Chair of the Council in due course.

62/03 Matters concerning the District Council. There are a number of wheelie bins which require emptying as a matter of urgency from vacated properties between numbers 567 to 571 Station Road, Morton and the Clerk will raise this with the District Council as soon as possible.

63/03 Matters concerning the County Council. Complaints have been received about the poor state of many of the pavements in Morton in general but a particularly bad area is outside number 1 Sitwell Villas and this will be brought to the attention of the County Council.

Another area of concern is the length of grass on the highway and this matter will be taken up with the County Council in order to ascertain whether or not the final cut before the winter has actually taken place.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.10pm


Chairman

20th November 2002

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on the 20th November 2002.

64/03 Members Present. Mrs G.H. Dyer, Mrs E. Rowarth, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mr G. Freeman, Mrs M. Daykin and 2 members of the public.

65/03 Apologies. None.

66/03 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on the 16th October 2002 were approved and confirmed as a true record.

67/03 Police Report. P.C. Neil Myers attended for this item only and reported that there had been 7 crimes recorded for Morton during October although one of these related to an offence which was committed during August 2002. The main area of discussion concerned the travellers who are still illegally camped upon County Council land and the police are awaiting for the eviction order to be brought into effect before they can be moved on from this site. Hopefully, once they have left the County Council will make this area of land inaccessible by ordinary vehicles in the future and therefore remove the possibility of this happening again in the same location. Local people are extremely annoyed about both the frequency that this has happened in the recent past and the problems which are caused when the travellers are there.

P.C. Myers was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at this point.

68/03 Items from members of the public. Mr John Curtis from Stagecoach attended the meeting for this item in order to listen to the problems which local people are encountering with the bus service in Morton some of which they have only recently taken over from Trent Bus Company; these are currently being run on exactly the same lines as they were previously by Trent but the future service is being reviewed and the views expressed at this meeting will be fed into that process. The main concerns centred around the following points and a petition was handed to Mr Curtis at the meeting :-

- ⇒ The lack of a through service from Morton to Chesterfield.
- ⇒ The fact that the buses turn at the Village Hall in Morton thereby excluding the Sitwell Villas from ready access to this service.
- ⇒ The last bus from Clay Cross into Morton is 5:45pm and there is no outward bound service from Morton in the evenings.
- ⇒ The desire for return tickets to run for a longer period than 24 hours.
- ⇒ The standard, accessibility and comfort of some of the buses.
- ⇒ The non-arrival or late arrival of some of the current services.

- ⇒ The ongoing damage which is being caused to the 'triangle' of land where the buses currently turn in Morton. Mr Curtis confirmed that Stagecoach have agreed to meet the full costs of reinstating this land to its original condition.

After an interesting and helpful discussion it was agreed that in the first instance the Clerk will write to Mr Les Watson in the Public Transport Unit at the County Council requesting that the 97A Service should extend up to the Sitwell Villas and turn at this point; this would also solve the problem of the damage being caused to the 'triangle' of land adjacent to the Village Hall where the buses currently turn. This is a subsidised route and therefore the County Council should have a keen interest in making this a worthwhile service. Mr Curtis noted all the points raised and he will also discuss the possibility of changing the 97A Service when he meets with Mr Watson on the 23rd November 2002. One of the obstacles to this is the general policy of not allowing buses to reverse as part of a route other than as an absolute last resort; even if this is agreed locally the Transport Commissioner can overturn the decision.

Mr Curtis promised to report back to the Parish Council on any developments as and when they happen and certainly no later than February 2003. He thanked the Parish Council for their views and then left the meeting at this point.

Mr Neil Radford (member of the public) made a request on behalf of the group of parents who organise their own bus to Tibshelf School to see if the Parish Council would be prepared to make a contribution towards this valuable local service. This is currently privately financed by parents through fares ~~with some assistance from the County Council~~ and also various fund raising activities; it has the added benefit of reducing the number of cars on the road in this vicinity which should not be underestimated from the perspective of the environment and also traffic congestion. Currently 87 children use the bus, which does a double run, and 21 of these live in Morton. The Parish Council are supportive of this idea in principle and would be prepared to make a grant subject to confirmation of the amount required together with a similar commitment being made by Shirland and Higham Parish Council proportionate to the number of children which they have using the bus currently. Mr Radford thanked the Parish Council for their consideration and he will let the Clerk have all the relevant information and figures prior to the next Morton Parish Council meeting on the 18th December 2002.

69/03 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

02/01162/OL - Proposed outline application for the construction of one single storey dwelling (means of access not reserved) on garden area to the rear of 26 Evershill Lane, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HA for Mr D. Mowbray.

02/01216/FL - Proposed outline application for the construction of one dwelling (all matters reserved) at 24 New Street, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6GR for Mr J. Polhill.

02/01102/FL - Proposed construction of 5 detached houses and associated works (Amended Plan) at land adjacent to 567 Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire for Mr S. Lynn.

The following planning application has now been approved :-

02/01116/FL - Proposed amendments to house types to include conservatories to the rear at plots 1,3,6 and 14 Westwood Gardens at Lansdowne, Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HN for Hamlet New Homes Ltd.

70/03 Freedom of Information Act. 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, which will be named “Model Publication Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes Only)”, should be adopted and the Clerk was authorised to confirm this together with signing and returning the Declaration Form. The Scheme, and the Clerk’s contact details for anyone wishing to obtain relevant information, will be displayed in prominent locations around the Parish.

71/03 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

<u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R.P. Fencing - children’s play area	000631	522 . 87
Derbyshire County Council - bus shelter	000632	2,349 . 00
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000633	338 . 54
The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - grant	000634	25 . 00
Mrs G.H. Dyer - Christmas trees and lights	000635	89 . 95

The Clerk reported that the Council’s balances up to and including the 20th November 2002 were as follows :-

Capital Reserve Account	£19,885.86
Current Account	£ 6,660.73

It should be remembered that an invoice will be arriving shortly for the last 2 bus shelters which were erected and these will total approximately £5,000. That will leave a balance in the region of £21,546.59 at the 20th November 2002.

72/03 Parish Council Land. There is nothing further to report at the moment other than the fact that the war memorial will need some more attention well before the next Remembrance Day service and in this respect Mrs Dyer suggested that hopefully this will be a project for the local guides next spring/summer with the Parish Council financing the work.

73/03 Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living have written to ask if we are able to give any financial assistance to their organisation which provides support and assistance to disabled people throughout Derbyshire; after a short discussion it was agreed that this request be noted but no grant will be made at the moment.

The County Council have written to confirm that the ivy which is growing over the pavement between the pit wheels and the school will be cleared as soon as possible. With regard to the vegetation overhanging from adjacent land along Main Road, the County Council have now received a response from a resident of Upper Langwith who is believed to be responsible for some of the land. Hopefully, these enquiries will establish the ownership for future reference.

The section of hedge on Stretton Road which the County Council is responsible for will now be cut and the areas of vegetation at the base will be trimmed.

The Schemes Section have been asked to contact the Clerk direct regarding the re-instatement of the 'zig-zag' lines which are part of the school safety zone but no contact has yet been made.

The engrossment of the Lease for Morton Village Hall has now been received and this now needs signing by the Chair of the Parish Council Councillor Mrs Gaynor H. Dyer, the Clerk to the Parish Council Mr Paul Goodwin and all of the trustees namely Mr Stuart Towndrow, Mr Selwyn Gough, Mrs Rosemary Taylor, Mrs Margaret Treweek and Mrs Gaynor Dyer. The Chair and the Clerk signed page 7 of the lease and the document was then taken by Mrs Dyer in order to obtain all of the signatures of the trustees and a witness on page 8 of the lease; this will then be returned to Glossops Solicitors as soon as possible in order that this matter can be finalised.

74/03 Matters concerning the District Council. There is a large amount of fly tipping taking place at the bridge on Higham Lane, Morton and the Clerk will write to the District Council immediately in order that they can arrange to clear this up as soon as possible.

75/03 Matters concerning the County Council. The Clerk will raise again the problem of the poor state of the pavements generally in the Village but in particular the area outside number 1 Sitwell Villas.

The road is flooded again at the bridge on Pilsley Road, Morton and the Clerk will write a strong letter of complaint about this and request that urgent action is taken in order to rectify the problem. The road has, in effect, been closed to most vehicles for a week or so now and this is just not acceptable to local people. General problems relating to the highways which the County Council are responsible for can be reported directly to Joanne Mason at the County Council on telephone number 01629 580000 extension 7612.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.45pm

A handwritten signature, likely of the Chairman, in dark ink. The signature is somewhat stylized and difficult to decipher, but appears to be a name followed by a surname.

Chairman

18th December 2002

Morton Parish Council

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

76/03 Members Present. Mrs G.H. Dyer, Mrs E. Rowarth, Mr B. Darby, Mr K. Vardy, Mrs M. Treweek, Mr G. Freeman, Mrs M Daykin and 2 members of the public.

77/03 Apologies. None, as everyone was present at the meeting.

78/03 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on the 20th November 2002 were approved and confirmed as a true record subject to the words "with some assistance from the County Council" being deleted from the records under minute no. 68/03.

79/03 Police Report. P.C. Neil Myers attended for this item only and reported that there had been 5 crimes during November and 2 so far in December. One of these was a distraction burglary which had taken place during the day time and everyone was reminded of the need to be vigilant in this respect.

There being no other matters raised P.C. Myers was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at this point.

80/03 Items from members of the public. A local resident has written to complain about the poor state of the pavement between the Village Hall and Cupit's Garage and possibly beyond and also the flooding under the bridge on Pilsley Road. With regard to the first point, this will be reported to the County Council as an urgent priority for repair; the flooding under the bridge on Pilsley Road has now been resolved by the County Council following some fairly extensive works and any future problems should be directed straight to them.

The water which runs over the pavement on Station Road near to the junction with Main Road is icing over quite badly during this current period of cold weather and this will be reported to the County Council again.

The overhanging ivy and vegetation from land adjacent to Main Road, Morton has still not been sorted out and the Clerk will check with the County Council to see if they have been able to contact the landowner in Upper Langwith yet

There have been a number of further complaints from local people regarding the refuse collection service being provided by the District Council and local people have directed these straight to the relevant Department at the Council.

81/03 Planning. The following planning applications have now been granted :-

02/01161/FL - Proposed demolition of existing garage and construction of a replacement garage at The Stones, Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HN for Mrs C. Abbott.

02/01102/FL - Proposed construction of 5 detached houses and associated works at land adjacent to 567 Station Road, Morton, Derbyshire for Mr S. Lynn.

02/01034/FL - Proposed erection of first floor extension (Conservation Area) at Rectory Cottage, Church Lane, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6GU for Mr S. Cashin.

The following planning applications have now been refused :-

02/01216/OL - Proposed outline application for the construction of one dwelling (all matters reserved) at 24 New Street, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6GR for Mr J. Polhill.

02/01162/OL - Proposed outline application for the construction of one single storey dwelling (means of access not reserved) on garden area to the rear of 26 Evershill Lane, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HA for Mr D. Mowbray.

82/03 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

<u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Derbyshire County Council	000636	5,849 . 10
Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk	000637	336 . 06
Morton Primary School - Christmas Trees	000638	13 . 00

The District Auditor has now certified the Annual Return for the financial year 2001/02 and the only matter raised is the fact that no internal audit arrangements are in place; this has been rectified and internal auditors are now carrying out this function for the current financial year. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit and Right to Inspect the Annual Return will be immediately displayed to the general public.

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 18th December 2002 were as follows :-

Capital Reserve Account	£19,885.86
Current Account	£ 6,311.67

It should be remembered that an invoice will be arriving shortly for the last 2 bus shelters which were erected and these will total approximately £5,000. That will leave a balance in the region of £21,197.53 at the 20th December 2002.

a). Precept 2003/04. The Clerk presented a draft Precept based upon information used last year and after some discussion and minor amendments it was proposed, seconded and duly approved that the Precept should be raised to £20,000 for the financial year 2003/04.

b). Clerk's Wages. As part of these figures the Clerk's wages were confirmed at £3660.00 per annum with effect from the 1st January 2003.

83/03 Parish Council Land. Nothing further to report at the moment.

84/03 Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Confirmation has been received of the final stage in the preparation of the proposed first alteration to the Derby and Derbyshire Minerals Local Plan. A notice of this will be posted locally.

Councillor Walter Burrows, Chair of the Environmental Services Committee at the County Council, has acknowledged the Clerk's letter regarding the flooding at the bridge on Pilsley Road, Morton; Councillor Burrows has asked officers to investigate the problem and to send a detailed response in due course.

The County Council have written to confirm that instructions to repair the section of footway outside 1 Sitwell Villas have been issued and thanking us for bringing this to their attention.

The Stonebroom Bus Club have written to confirm that based upon the operating costs and the numbers of children using the service from the respective parishes, (Morton 21 and Shirland & Higham 65), the shortfall of £3,215 for the next academic year would work out as follows :-

Contribution from Morton Parish Council	- £ 785
Contribution from Shirland & Higham Parish Council	- £2,430

After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that a grant of £785 be approved in principle provided that the whole of the financial benefit from this most valuable service goes to the parents of Morton children in respect of the 2003/04 academic year.

The Information Commissioner has written to confirm that the Model Publication Scheme which we have adopted is an appropriate scheme for this Council to adopt. The model scheme that we have adopted has been approved for a period from 28th February 2003 to 28th February 2007. During that period we are obliged, under Section 19 (1) (b), to publish information in accordance with that model scheme.

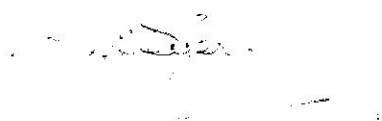
Brian White, Enforcement Officer in the Public Transport Unit at the County Council, has replied to the Clerk's letter regarding the possibility of the Morton Bus Service (97A) terminating at Sitwell Villas instead of the Village Hall, Morton. The reply states that after visiting Sitwell Villas it was evident that there was no facility for the bus to turn around; reversing the bus off Stretton Road into Sitwell Villas would be considered as a road safety risk and therefore the operator would oppose this option. In respect of the damage being caused to the 'triangle of land' Mr White has suggested that a site meeting should be arranged with himself in order to try and resolve this problem and indeed Mrs G. Dyer has already met with him; Mr White has suggested that 2 bollards be erected on the 'triangle' and he is also looking into the possibility of the buses turning around at Morton Grange Nursing Home instead of in the centre of the village.

The District Council have sent a copy of the Allotments Regeneration Initiative Programme together with guidance notes and a preliminary application form.

85/03 Matters concerning the District Council. None, other than the complaints regarding the standard of refuse collection which were raised earlier in the meeting.

86/03 Matters concerning the County Council. None, other than the issues raised earlier in the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm



Chairman 15th January 2003

PRECEPT 2003 / 04

Guidance notes for Councillors to assist with the setting of the Precept for Morton Parish Council for financial year 2003/04.

Estimated Balances at 31-3-2003 and anticipated income :-

	£	p
Current Account	500.00	
Deposit Account	18,500.00	
Estimated bank interest	250.00	
Football Teams	-	
Precept for 2003/04	<u>20,000.00</u>	
	39,250.00	

Anticipated Expenditure during 2003/04 :-

1). General Administration.

Clerk's Salary (NALC recommended rate w.e.f. 1-10-02)	3,660.00
Office and Telephone Allowance	540.00
Postage, Stationery and Telephone	170.00
Insurance	1,000.00
Audit Fee	<u>400.00</u>
	5,770.00

2). Village Hall.

Maintenance Contingency	2,000.00
Hire of hall for meetings	<u>150.00</u>
	2,150.00

3). Grants to Voluntary Bodies.

General	2,000.00
School bus	1,000.00
Holy Cross Church Graveyard Maintenance	<u>900.00</u>
	3,900.00

4). Special and Contingency Funds.

Maintenance of land	1,500.00
Hanging Baskets/planted areas	2,500.00
Policy Initiatives	<u>4,500.00</u>
	8,500.00

ESTIMATED BALANCE AT 31-3-2004 **18,930.00**

P.GOODWIN - CLERK TO THE COUNCIL