

# Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Old School Room on the 16th March 2005.

**137/05 Members Present.** Mrs M. Daykin, Mrs M. Treweek, Mr G. Antcliff, Mr A. Goodwin and Mrs J. Easden.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk, PC Jamie Pendrill, Special Constable Steven Slater and 1 member of the public.

**138/05 Apologies.** Mr B. Darby, Mrs E. Goodwin and Mrs L. Henshaw.

**139/05 Councillors Absent.** None.

**140/05 Items from members of the public.** The problem with off the road bikers was raised again and particularly the fact that they are now gaining access to the old colliery site via Bacchus Way. The question was raised as to when the footpath to Westhouses would be opened up again along Gloves Lane and Councillor Treweek stated that this is part of the restoration plans that are currently being undertaken.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will write to Chris Monk at the County Council to ask him to look at what barrier could be put in place on Bacchus Way in order to try and stop the bikers gaining access by this route.

**141/05 Police.** PC Jamie Pendrill introduced Special Constable Steven Slater to the meeting. Steven is based at the Clay Cross Station and he will be spending some of his time in and around Morton. PC Pendrill was also pleased to report that his beat area has now been reduced in size and in future he will be covering Morton, Shirland, Stonebroom, Higham, Mickley and part of Westhouses. The problem of under age drinkers appears to be on the increase and this is something that the police will be attempting to look into further in the near future.

**RESOLVED** to note the verbal report given and to thank PC Jamie Pendrill and Special Constable Steven Slater for attending the meeting.

**142/05 District Council.** The fly tipping on Pilsley Road is getting worse and the Clerk gave out the Network Rail telephone number in case anyone else wishes to raise this matter with them as the owners of the land.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Antcliff will take this matter up with the District Council in case they can exert any pressure in order to try and bring this problem to a satisfactory conclusion.

**143/05 County Council.** Councillor Treweek reported that she has received a lot of positive feedback from local residents regarding the work carried out by the County Council on the pavements in the Village recently including Church Lane.

**RESOLVED** that the verbal report given by Councillor Treweek be noted.

**144/05 Declaration of Members' Interests.** There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

**145/05 Non-Exempt Minutes - 16th February 2005.**

**RESOLVED** to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2005.

**146/05 Items in Exclusion.** There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

**147/05 Clerk of the Council's Report.**

New litter bin near to the Corner Pin and replacement dog waste bin - Councillor Antcliff will follow these issues up again with the District Council as a matter of urgency.

Streetlighting - the Clerk has submitted a bid to the County Council for additional streetlighting during the 2005/06 financial year and this will be considered in due course.

Pavements - the County Council have confirmed that a section of footway approximately 20 metres in length on Church Lane opposite the Church will be repaired as part of the current Main Road scheme that is being undertaken. The footways on Stretton Road from Church Lane to Sitwell Villas will not now be considered for full resurfacing until the 2006/07 financial year. The damage to verges near number 23 Sitwell Villas is mainly being caused by refuse collection vehicles and the County Council is discussing this matter further with the District Council. The County Council are arranging for the reinstatement outside number 11 Sitwell Villas to be repaired.

Fly tipping - Network Rail have responded to the Clerk's report and their area maintenance contractor will visit Pilsley Road as soon as possible in order to make recommendations and complete any work required within the maintenance schedule.

Evershill Close - following the recent site meeting regarding the need for additional parking spaces in this location the County Council have confirmed that the grassed area behind the bollards (i.e. the area outside No 25, and beyond) is not adopted highway. Derbyshire County Council would have no automatic powers to carry out works on land that they are not responsible for. The land in question appears to be a NEDDC Housing grassed area and if this is confirmed the question will be raised as to whether they could pursue works to convert this grassed area to allow additional parking / access.

**RESOLVED** to note the Clerk's report and to enquire further regarding the District Council's position concerning the possibility of additional parking for vehicles on Evershill Close.

#### 148/05 Matters for Decision.

Parish Councillor vacancy - there is still one remaining vacancy from the previous advertisement and this can be filled by co-opting a new member as soon as a suitable interested person can be found.

Police presence at the Parish Carnival - the Clerk will contact the police to try and ascertain how to get their co-operation with regard to the organising of the temporary road closure.

Village Website - the cost for setting this up quoted at the recent South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership seems extortionate and a more cost effective way of doing this needs to be found.

Multi-Activities Area - the Clerk has submitted a pre-application advice form to the Coalfields Re-generation Trust.

Clerk's contract and hours - Councillor Daykin reported that she had read through the new national guidance which has been issued by the National Association of Local Council Clerks and that to meet these recommendations the Clerk will need a new contract on the mid range of the Local Council 2 Scale for 11 hours per week; this agreement also strongly recommends membership for the Clerk into the Local Government Pension Scheme. Councillor Daykin supports this increase in hours for the Clerk and the new contract particularly in the light of the additional work that he has been undertaking and the fact that he has obtained the AQA Clerk's qualification in preparation of the Council's bid for Quality Parish Status.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor A. Goodwin will look into a more cost effective way of implementing a Village Website.

The Chair and the Clerk will both attend a meeting with the Coalfields Re-generation Trust grant application information team at 4pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2005 at the Old Bolsover Town Council Offices.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk be placed on the mid range of Local Council 2 Scale working 11 hours per week with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005 and that steps are taken to allow him to join the Local Government Pension Scheme in respect of his employment with Morton Parish Council.

#### 149/05 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Derbyshire County Council – hedge cutting	000763	120 . 00
Gary Wilkes - bus shelter cleaning	000764	50 . 00
Derbyshire County Council – 5 grit bins	000765	1,090 . 64
Mr A. Goodwin - Newsletters and surveys	000766	260 . 00



The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 16th March 2005 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £25,747.27  
Current Account £ 1,437.32

**RESOLVED** to authorise the payments listed above and to note the current level of balances.

**150/05 Planning.** There were no objections to the following planning applications :-

**05/00191/FL** - Proposed alterations, extensions and refurbishment of existing public house to provide kitchen/restaurant and disabled access/toilet facilities and a patio at the rear (Conservation Area) at Sitwell Arms, Main Road, Morton for Unique Pub Properties Ltd.

**151/05 DALC Circulars.**

**RESOLVED** to note the information contained in Circulars **12/2005 General** and **13/2005 Training**.

**152/05 General Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The East Midlands Regional Assembly have sent a copy of their consultation document in respect of both the Draft East Midlands Regional Waste Strategy and also the Draft East Midlands Regional Freight Strategy. The deadline for comments on both documents is the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

The Standards Board for England has sent five copies of their consultation document in respect of possible changes to the code of Conduct.

Derbyshire County Council Youth Service have written to confirm that the North East Detached Youth Worker is Janice Hacz and she can be contacted on 01246 865842.

The Local Strategic Partnership for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire have sent two copies of the Community Strategy for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire (2005-15) and these are available for anyone to read. This document has been produced to identify the key issues raised by communities who live and work in the area and who were involved in the 2004 consultation exercise.

The County Council has written to all Parish Councils to inform them that they now have a new duty to prepare and publish a Rights of Way improvement Plan for Derbyshire (RoWIP) under Section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. In this respect the County Council are canvassing the views of all Parish Councils in Derbyshire on this subject.

**RESOLVED** to note the correspondence as listed above and that Councillor Daykin should initially take the two draft consultation documents for consideration before passing this on to any other councillors who may wish to read these.

**RESOLVED** that each councillor should read the Standards Board Consultation Document in order that any views expressed can be discussed prior to the submission of the Parish Council's comments to the Standards Board assuming that there is some that the Council would like to put forward.

**RESOLVED** that the questionnaire regarding the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Derbyshire should be given to Councillor Darby for completion.

**153/05 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.**

**Village Hall** - the most recent planned meeting had to be cancelled at relatively short notice and so there is nothing to report at the moment other than the signed lease has at long last been returned to the Clerk who will now forward this to Glossop's Solicitors in order that this matter can be finalised.

**Church** - Councillor Darby was not in attendance at the meeting.

**School** - Councillor A. Goodwin had nothing further to report at the moment but he will discuss with the school the need for some written support from parents in respect of the Parish Council's grant application for a multi-use sports area in the Village.

**Cricket Club** - Nothing further to report at the moment.

**Older People's Welfare Committee** - Nothing further to report at the moment.

**Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group** - There has not been a recent meeting of this Group.

**South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership** - Councillor Daykin reported on her attendance at this meeting and the notes and other information were distributed to those members present. Perhaps the most interesting possibility is the power that Parish Council's may wish to take up from the recently published Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill with regard to issuing fixed penalty notices for dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping.

**RESOLVED** to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.05pm

**Chairman**

20th April 2005

