

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Old School Room on the 23rd November 2005.

89/06 Members Present. Mrs M. Daykin, Mrs L. Henshaw, Mr S. Plumb and Mrs E. Goodwin.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 1 member of the public.

90/06 Apologies. Mrs M. Treweek, Mr G. Antcliff, Mr B. Darby, Mrs J. Easden and Mr A. Goodwin.

91/06 Councillors Absent. County Councillor Derek Cotterill.

92/06 Items from members of the public. A request was made for a 'no dogs allowed' or 'dogs must be on a lead' sign for the Bacchus Way play area. There are branches from a neighbouring property overhanging on to the war memorial.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will make a request to the District Council for the most appropriate sign to be erected when the other improvements to the play areas are carried out and a report will also be made to the dog warden service. Also, the Clerk will write to the occupier of the property adjacent to the war memorial to ask that the overhanging branches be pruned back as soon as possible.

93/06 Police. There was no police report as PC Small was not in attendance at the meeting. The Clerk distributed the monthly crime figures to those members present at the meeting.

94/06 District Council. There was no District Council report as Councillor Antcliff was not in attendance at the meeting.

95/06 County Council. There was no County Council report as Councillor Cotterill was not in attendance at the meeting.

96/06 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

97/06 Non-Exempt Minutes - 19th October 2005.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 19th October 2005.

98/06 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

99/06 Clerk of the Council's Report. New litter bin near to the Corner Pin - this has now been put in place although it is on the opposite side of the road to what was anticipated but it is still good news.

Streetlighting - there is no further news regarding additional streetlighting at the moment.

Fly tipping - there is still a problem around the bridge on Higham Lane and this now needs to be pursued with the District Council by our District Council representatives as a matter of urgency as the length of time that this matter is taking to resolve is not acceptable to local people.

Evershill Close - to date there is still no news on the outcome of the District Council Scrutiny Review regarding parking and therefore no consultation has yet taken place with local people. The Clerk will attempt to get a likely timescale from the District Council in respect of the outcome of the review.

Village Website - there have been no further developments in this respect at the moment.

Parish Plan - a second meeting of the steering group has been arranged and progress is being made in terms of the involvement of a wider group of local people and also seeking the views and opinions of as many individuals and groups as possible. No decision has yet been made in respect of the grant application to the DRCC for funding to assist with the development of a Parish Plan.

Multi-Activities Area - the Clerk has met with the funding adviser from LINKS in Chesterfield and the best way forward would be to get a small group of interested local people together including some youngsters; then try to determine more precisely what would be the most appropriate type of area needed given the size of the village, the likely usage of the facility and by how many people. Attempts will be made to arrange this meeting prior to Christmas. In the meantime quotes will be sought for the tarmacing of an area 200 square metres in size to give a better indication of the likely funding gap and whether or not we are anywhere near a position of being able to make a start on the project.

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's report and to approve the action stated against the appropriate items.

100/06 Matters for Decision.

a). **Precept 2006/07.** The Clerk presented a draft Precept for the financial year 2006/07. A discussion took place regarding whether to leave the precept at its current level (£22,500) or make a small increase particularly in view of the proposed multi-activities area.

RESOLVED to increase the precept for the 2006/07 financial year from £22,500 to £24,000. The Clerk's wages for 2006/07 have not yet been determined as part of the national agreement which they are now linked to but this will only be 2.9% or the retail price index figure, whichever is the higher; at the moment the RPI is only at a figure of 2.7%. Once agreed at national level this will become effective on the 1st April 2006.

101/06 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Key Services - churchyard grass cutting	000819	599 . 25
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	000820	129 . 47
Audit Commission - Audit Fee 2004/05	000821	293 . 75
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins	000822	245 . 76
Royal British Legion - poppy wreath and grant	000823	50 . 00
Mrs E. Goodwin - 540 newsletters	000824	422 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 23rd November 2005 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £30,013.89
Current Account £ 701.47

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

102/06 Planning. None.

103/06 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circular **32/2005** (General) and **33/2005** Pay Settlement for Clerks 2006.

104/06 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Publicity information has been received from Consumer Direct, which is a new Government backed telephone and online consumer advice and information service from the Department of Trade and Industry; it provides clear, practical consumer advice, free of charge, on a range of issues or complaints. It was agreed that this information would be displayed and publicised as far as possible throughout the Parish.

Bolsover District Council has sent a copy of the Bolsover Local Development Framework - 1 - Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document and 2 - Statement of Community Involvement both of which will be made available for anyone to read and comment upon.

The Annual General Meeting of Chesterfield Law Centre took place on the 9th November 2005 and a copy of their Annual Report for 2004/05 has been received.

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service have written to confirm that their Comprehensive Performance Plan 2005/06 has just been published and Parish Councils can obtain a copy by returning the reply slip supplied or alternatively by going to the website which is www.derbys-fire.gov.uk.

Central Networks have written to confirm that since the 5th April 2004 this has been their trading name and previously it was East Midlands Electricity; also, their contact numbers are 0800 056 8090 for emergencies and 0800 096 3080 for general enquiries.

North East Derbyshire District Council is seeking the views of local people in respect of their proposals concerning introductory tenancies and demoted tenancies; any responses need to be sent to the Head of Housing Services at NEDDC by Wednesday the 30th of November 2005.

The District Council has sent details and publicity material in respect of the East Derbyshire Woodlands Project - Free Tree Scheme 2005/06.

North East Derbyshire District Council has sent a copy of the Economic Development Strategy for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire 2005-2015 that is available for anyone to read.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and to forward the information regarding the Free Tree Scheme to Mr S. Gough who is the local Tree Warden.

The East Midlands Regional Assembly has sent a copy of a document entitled 'Review of the East Midlands Regional Plan to 2026: Options for Change'. The deadline for responses to this consultation exercise is Monday 16th January 2006.

RESOLVED that Councillor Daykin will take the document to read and then complete the enclosed response form on the Parish Council's behalf.

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils has written to confirm that there is a North East Derbyshire District vacancy on the DALC Executive Committee following the resignation from Morton Parish Council by Councillor Gaynor Dyer. Nominations need to be submitted by the 1st December 2005 and if more than one is received a postal ballot will be held.

RESOLVED that Councillor Daykin be put forward as a nomination from this Council.

15/06 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Church - Councillor B. Darby was not in attendance at the meeting but Councillor Daykin confirmed that the Church are prepared to arrange their own maintenance of the churchyard during 2006 and the Parish Council will then simply pay a grant of £900 towards this cost in line with their previous contribution to the work being carried out.

School - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Cricket Club - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Older People's Welfare Committee - A contribution needs to be agreed at the next meeting in respect of the amount the Parish Council should pay for the use of the Old School Room for its meetings particularly given the cost of heating the room for meetings held during the winter months.

Police Consultative Committee - Councillor Henshaw reported on the government proposals to create a smaller number of large regional police forces but stressed that no decision has yet been taken in this respect.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - Councillor Daykin and the Clerk had both attended the recent Partnership meeting held in Shirland but there was no further news of any significance on which to report on.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports which were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.15pm

Chairman

18th January 2006

M A Daykin