

Morton Parish Council

At meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 21st June 2006.

Informal Session.

Items from members of the public. A complaint had been made of a smell of burning plastic on Stretton Road, Morton on the 10th June 2006 and this had been reported to the District Council; as there was no indication about the origin of the fire this matter was noted but there is no further action that can be taken at the moment.

A number of notice boards in the village have been vandalised and arrangements will now be made for these to be repaired.

Police. There was no report as the police were yet again not in attendance at the meeting.

District Council. There was no report as neither of the District Councillors were present at the meeting.

County Council. There was no report as Councillor Cotterill was not in attendance at the meeting. However, there are flooding problems again on Stretton Road, Morton and the Clerk will report this to the County Council in order that the gulleys can be cleaned out again.

The problems with both parking and speeding vehicles on New Street, Morton are still ongoing and the Clerk will try and arrange a site meeting between an officer from the County Council and Councillor Easden as soon as possible.

16/07 Members Present. Mrs M. Daykin, Mrs M. Treweek, Mrs L. Henshaw and Mrs J. Easden.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk, Chris Birks - North East Derbyshire and Chesterfield UK Youth Parliament Member and 1 member of the public.

17/07 Apologies. Mr B. Darby, Mrs E. Goodwin, Mr A Goodwin and Mr G. Antcliff.

18/07 Councillors Absent. Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor.

19/07 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

20/07 Non-Exempt Minutes - Annual General Meeting 17th May 2006.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 17th May 2006.

21/07 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

22/07 Clerk of the Council's Report. Streetlighting - funds are still being allocated for the upgrading of existing pylons and the provision of new facilities but it is not yet known what will be provided in Morton. It was agreed that this item would be taken off the agenda as there is no clear timescale for the allocation of additional resources in this respect.

Fly tipping - this matter is now being pursued with the private landowners by Ms S. Verovkins at the District Council and she will be following this up if an acceptable response has not been received. The Clerk will also raise this again with Ms. Verovkins together with the two burned out cars in the village; one of these is at the rear of the old pit tip near to the electricity sub-station and the other one is on the football field behind the Village Hall.

Evershill Close - the outcome of the NEDDC Scrutiny review has not yet been confirmed but no work will be carried out until all the affected local people have been consulted about the proposals. The Clerk was asked to follow this matter up again with the District Council as there has been no information received about this matter for some considerable time.

Multi-Activities Area - work on this project is now progressing well with the assistance of Susan Brighthouse from the Derbyshire Rural Community Council and an activities/consultation day with young people in the Village will take place this coming Saturday 24th June 2006 between 1pm and 5pm.

Parish Plan - good progress is being made in conjunction with local people and organisations and meetings are scheduled on a regular basis.

Bridge repairs - there was no news as to whether or not this work has been carried out and it was agreed that this needed checking out before further contact is made with the County Council.

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

23/07 Matters for Decision.

a). **NEDDC Chair's Appeal 2006/07.** The Chair of NEDDC for 2006/07 is Councillor John Holmes and he has chosen the Cystic Fibrosis Trust as his charity for the forthcoming year. Any assistance either in terms of a grant or use of premises/organising fund raising events would be greatly appreciated by Councillor Holmes.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 be made to the Chair's Appeal for 2006/07.

b). **Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living - request for financial assistance.** DCIL have written to request a grant of £25 to help cover the expenses of members and volunteers in order to continue their work.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 be made to the Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living.

c). **Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre - request for financial assistance.** The DCHC Charity has written to ask for a grant towards the Centre's annual operational costs of approximately £130,000. The Centre is in Skegness and they would be more than happy to host a visit of councillors to the Centre in order to give a better understanding of the quality of work that is carried out throughout the year.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 be made to the Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre.

d). **Chris Birks - UK Youth Parliament Member.** Chris gave the meeting a brief overview of his role and the work that he has been carrying out in Eckington together with Natascha Engel MP; this includes the election of the Eckington Youth Group that will endeavour to represent the views of the young people in the area.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will give every support to Chris in his efforts to roll out this idea of local democracy for young people in the Morton area.

24/07 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

| a). <u>Payee.</u> | <u>Cheque No.</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| Derbyshire County Council - surveyor's fees | 000862 | 25 . 00 |
| Plantscape - 5 planters and 2 towers | 000863 | 5,128 . 88 |
| Derbyshire County Council - superannuation | 000864 | 133 . 27 |
| Derbyshire County Council - lease of play area | 000865 | 60 . 00 |
| NEDDC - empty dog waste bins | 000866 | 216 . 51 |
| NEDDC - supply and fit new dog waste bin | 000867 | 286 . 62 |
| Morton VHMC - cost of consultation day | 000868 | 2,000 . 00 |
| NEDDC - Chairs Appeal 2006/07 | 000869 | 25 . 00 |
| DCIL - grant | 000870 | 25 . 00 |
| Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre - grant | 000871 | 25 . 00 |
| Mr P. Harkins - planting and various other work | 000872 | 1,000 . 00 |
| Page Kirk - year end and payroll fees | 000873 | 43 . 48 |

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 21st June 2006 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £21,264.82
Current Account £ 3,067.24

The District Auditor has written to confirm that the date of this year's audit is the 11th September 2006; the Clerk has completed the audit return and this was signed by the Chair of the Council and the Clerk at the meeting. The Internal Audit has not yet been completed. Notices will be displayed stating that the accounts can be inspected between the 10th July and the 14th August 2006. Of course, the account book is available for anyone to read at every Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED to authorise the payments listed above, to note the current level of balances and the date of the external audit.

25/07 Planning. The following planning application has now been granted :-

06/00418/FL - Proposed first floor rear extension over existing single storey at 36 Evershill Lane, Morton Alfreton, Derbyshire for Stephen and Bessie Sterland.

27/07 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **20/2006** - General and **21/2006** - Training.

27/07 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the members present. A letter of thanks has been received from both Childline Midlands & East Anglia and NEDDC in respect of the recent grants of £25 each that we made.

The minutes of the meeting of the Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group held on the 24th April 2006 have been received together with an agenda for the next meeting that is due to take place on Monday 17th July 2006 at 7:30pm in the Darby & Joan Centre, Valley Road, Holmegate, Clay Cross.

The County Council has written to confirm that with effect from the 9th June 2006 they have adopted the new development on Westwood Gardens, off Station Road, Morton as highway maintainable. The Environment Agency has sent a leaflet that provides information about the River Lower Trent and Erewash Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy; there is a review of how the water resources of the Lower Trent and Erewash are managed and the leaflet outlines how this will be achieved together with details about how Parish Councils and others can take part in the consultation process. Comments need to be submitted by the 28th July 2006 and the Environment Agency need to know if the comments or opinions should be kept confidential. If there are no comments at the moment but further information is required as the strategy is developed then the response card still needs to be completed.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and although no comments will be submitted to the Environment Agency at the moment regarding the Lower Trent and Erewash Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy the Clerk will request further information to be sent as the strategy is developed.

NEDDC has just carried out an 'ethics initiative' exercise using some real examples of cases that went to the Standards Board or the Adjudication Panel for England; these examples together with the Standards Board video entitled 'A code for you' are available for use by all Parish Councils if required.

RESOLVED to note this information and it was agreed that the Chair and the Clerk would familiarise themselves with the 'real life' examples that have been sent.

A letter of resignation has been received from Councillor Plumb; the reason for this is the lack of time available to put what he feels is the required amount of commitment to the Parish Council and this was accepted by the members present.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write a letter of thanks to Councillor Plumb. The vacancy will not be immediately advertised as there had been no interest from the previous advert that was placed just a few months ago.

28/07 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - Councillor Daykin stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment in respect of the possible purchase of a strip of land at the side of the Village Hall that would enable a proper access point for disabled people to access the premises.

Church - Councillor B. Darby was not in attendance at the meeting and there was nothing further to report at the moment.

School - Councillor Daykin reported that the Headteacher had been off sick recently but the questionnaires for the children regarding what they would like to see in the Village have been recently distributed.

Cricket Club - There is nothing further to report at the moment.

Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group - The next meeting that Councillor Henshaw is able to attend is not until September 2006.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - Councillor Daykin and the Clerk both attended the recent Partnership meeting on the Parish Council's behalf and the main item to report is the possibility of the Partnership being used to gather information about local issues/difficulties being encountered and this will subsequently be used by the police to assist them in developing their priority areas for action.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.40pm

Chairman

19th July 2006

