

Morton Parish Council

At meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 13th September 2006.

Informal Session.

Items from members of the public. A concern was raised regarding the close proximity of an electric fence near to public footpath number 4 and the fact that the path is not clearly depicted with a waymarker. This matter will be raised with the District Council for advice.

The hedge between the pit wheels and the school needs cutting back and as the landowners are not known this work will have to be carried out at the Parish Council's expense. A question was raised about the planted area at the pit wheels which is now full of weeds and it was explained that this will be tidied up and planted with winter flowers; the contractor will cut the hedge back at the same time that this work is carried out and he will also be asked to move the notice board adjacent to the school field to a position near to the Corner Pin public house.

A discussion took place regarding the possible provision of flower baskets on lampposts again during 2007 and it was agreed that the views of local people will be sought on this subject in the next Parish Council newsletter. The costs would be in the region of £2500 to £500 depending upon how many are purchased and there would be an additional cost of £300 to £400 for the services of a surveyor to inspect all of the lampposts.

A request was made for the temporary sign depicting the Sitwell Arms situated on the 'triangle' of land near the Village Hall to be removed and this was agreed as there is no authority for it to be there.

The football field off New Street that is owned by the County Council is being used again and unfortunately soiled bandages and other general litter are being left on the pitch after use. The players are also parking their cars on New Street which is causing major congestion when the games are being played. These problems will be raised with the County Council as the landowner.

Police. There was no report as PC Small was not in attendance at the meeting. The Clerk distributed the crime statistics for the area that showed there had been no reported crime in Morton during July which is excellent news.

District Council. There was no report as Councillor Antcliff was not in attendance at the meeting. The Clerk reported that the official complaint registered with the District Council concerning refuse collection was acknowledged on the 1st August 2006 (case number 31188) but a reply has not yet been received.

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

42/07 Members Present. Mrs M. Daykin, Mrs M. Treweek, Mrs J. Easden and Mrs E. Goodwin.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 3 members of the public.

43/07 Apologies. Mr B. Darby, Mrs L. Henshaw, Mr A Goodwin, P.C. Small (on holiday and replacement officer nominated by the local Sergeant for this meeting had an interview booked for 7pm).

44/07 Councillors Absent. Mr G. Antcliff and Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor.

45/07 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

46/07 Non-Exempt Minutes - 19th July 2006.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th July 2006.

47/07 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

48/07 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. A further request has been made for additional lighting, this time on Evershill Lane but we are still waiting to hear from Councillor Cotterill regarding the outcome of his discussion with the officer concerned.

Fly tipping - this matter is still being pursued with the private landowners by Ms S. Verovkins at the District Council and the Clerk will ask for an update on the latest position as a matter of urgency.

Evershill Close - the NEDDC Scrutiny review was completed in November 2005 but there is still no information available with regard to what, if any, action is going to be taken with regard to the problem areas identified within the review. The Clerk will contact the Chief Executive's office at the District Council in order to try and gain some information about the Council's intentions.

Multi-Activities Area - Councillor Daykin reported that there has been no further work on this project during August but a meeting has been arranged with Susan Brighthouse from the Derbyshire Rural Community Council on the 20th September in order that the project can be moved forward.

Parish Plan - good progress is being made in conjunction with local people and organisations and a further meeting will be taking place on the 25th September 2006.

Bridge repairs - this work has not been carried out and the Clerk will follow this up again with the County Council.

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

49/07 Matters for Decision.

a). **Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice.** A letter has been received asking the Parish Council to consider making a grant towards this much needed facility that will be opening during 2007; the hospice will cover the South Yorkshire, North Midlands, North East Derbyshire and North West Lincolnshire areas.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 is made to this most worthwhile organisation.

50/07 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DCC - superannuation	000883	133 . 27
Fireworks International - supply of fireworks	000884	491 . 49
Gary Wilkes - bus shelter cleaning	000885	150 . 00
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins (April to June)	000886	266 . 24
DCC - superannuation	000887	133 . 27
Mrs E.R. Goodwin - production of 540 newsletters	000888	240 . 00
Mr S. Gough - prune overhanging willow tree	000889	15 . 00
Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice - grant	000890	25 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 13th September 2006 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £28,362.53
Current Account £ 2,989.66

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

51/07 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

06/00894/FL - Proposed creation of new vehicular access at 34 Stretton Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire for Mr P. & Mrs J. Wheeldon.

52/07 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **27, 29, 30** and **33/2006** - General, **28** and **32/2006** - Training and **31/2006** - DALC AGM.

53/07 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Childline Midlands & East Anglia have written to thank the Parish Council for the recent donation of £25 that was made to their organisation; they have also sent a certificate confirming this together with re-cycling bags for mobile phones and computer printer cartridges, the profits from which will also benefit their organisation.

Home-Start Bolsover District & Clay Cross Area have written to thank the Parish Council for the recent donation of £25 that was made to their organisation

In respect of the North East Derbyshire Local Plan Review (Pre-Inquiry Changes) - comments on the changes must be made on the form provided by 5pm on Thursday 17th June 2004; it was agreed that there were no comments that this Council wanted to make in respect of the Local Plan Review (Pre-Inquiry Changes).

A letter has been received from the Standards Board confirming that a recent allegation of misconduct made against two Morton Parish Councillors is not to be investigated; the complainant has 30 days from the receipt of this decision in which to request a review.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

Gambling Act 2005 - Draft Statement of Principles Consultation.

RESOLVED to note the introduction of this new piece of legislation but there are no comments that this Council would like to make about the Draft Statement of Principles.

Councillor A. Goodwin has submitted his resignation with immediate effect due to home commitments; his letter stated that he had enjoyed his short time with the Council and wished everyone all the best for the future in Morton.

RESOLVED to reluctantly accept Councillor A. Goodwin's resignation and note his kind comments. Due to the fact that the next elections are due in May 2007, and coupled with the fact that there is already one other vacancy that has been recently advertised, it was decided not to advertise this latest vacancy.

54/07 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall – There has not been a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee since the last Parish Council meeting on the 19th July.

Church - There is nothing to report at the moment.

School - Councillor Daykin reported that a new Headteacher is now in post and that she will be meeting with her at the end of September.

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

Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group - The next meeting is due to take place on the 16th October and Councillor Henshaw will be asked to raise the lack of police attendance at Morton Parish Council meetings as a major concern to the Council.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - The next meeting is not due to take place until the 11th October 2006.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm

Chairman

18th October 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M A Day', followed by a horizontal line and a period.