

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 20th June 2007.

Informal Session.

Items from members of the public. A request was made for support from the Parish Council to have Pit Lane upgraded to a good standard to allow access for everyone including wheelchair users; this request along with others, will be considered when further consultation has taken place with as many local people as possible in order to try and determine what the opinion of the majority of people is.

A discussion took place regarding the access to various pieces of land in the Village by off the road bikers and the installation of 'A' frames in order to try and deter this from happening on a regular basis. The 'A' frames will remain in place for the foreseeable future but a further survey of views within the Parish will take place in due course and any future possible changes will depend greatly upon this.

Police. PCSO Gary Green reported that there had been 4 crimes recorded during the past month. There is a group of people in the locality trying to con people and a 'flier' has been issued to part of the village; this needs to be ignored and any available information passed through to the police immediately. The empty property at 94 Main Road has been secured again but if any young people are seen gaining entry again this should be reported to the police with names and/or descriptions of those involved. PCSO Gary Green was thanked for his efforts in this respect and also with regard to his efforts to deter the off the road bikers who are riding illegally in the Village. At this point PCSO Gary Green left the meeting.

District Council. There was no report as none of the District Councillors were present at the meeting at this point.

County Council. There was no report as Councillor Cotterill was not in attendance at the meeting. However, it was reported that the pavement and road near the back of the 5 new houses on Station Road is badly silted up again and the Clerk will report this to the County Council as a matter of urgency as a local youngster has recently broken his arm after falling off his bike at this location due to the slippery conditions.

16/08 Members Present. Mrs L. Henshaw, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mrs C.E. Kozlowski and Mr A. Southey.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk, Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor (latter part of the meeting), PCSO Gary Green and 7 members of the public.

Councillor Henshaw (Vice-Chair) chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chair, Councillor Daykin, who was away on her honeymoon.

17/08 Apologies. Mrs M. Daykin and Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

18/08 Councillors Absent. Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor.

19/08 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

There were three people present who wanted to be co-opted to the Parish Council namely Mrs Gaynor Dyer, Mr Clive Parkin and Mrs Betty Roe. Mrs Eileen Rowarth had sent a letter in support of her wish to become a Parish Councillor as she was not able to be present due to a pre-planned holiday; however, she had since indicated that she would be too busy to fully contribute to the role and had therefore decided to withdraw her request. Under the circumstances it was unanimously decided that Mrs Gaynor Dyer, Mr Clive Parkin and Mrs Betty Roe should be co-opted on to the Parish Council and they all signed the declaration of acceptance of office form that were witnessed. Mrs Dyer completed the register of members' interests form and Mr Parkin and Mrs Roe will complete their forms at the next meeting. All 9 seats on the Parish Council have now been filled.

20/08 Non-Exempt Minutes - Annual General Meeting 16th May 2007.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 16th May 2007.

21/08 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

22/08 Clerk of the Council's Report. 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 again if an acceptable response has not been received.

Evershill Close - a site meeting took place on the 30th May with members and officers of the County Council, District Council and Parish Council; also in attendance was Paul Brightmore from Rykneld Homes, Gary Green Police Community Support Officer and 21 local residents. Councillor McCullough explained briefly what had been reported at the meeting and the Clerk confirmed that notes of the meeting had now been received from Brian Offiler that outlines the possible solutions to the problem and the action that is now required in order to try and resolve these long outstanding issues. The possible solutions are as follows:

- Remove bollards and tarmac grassed area to provide access to 10 properties - several residents indicated a willingness to then install hardstanding to park vehicles off the road - (the location of services are being investigated - none identified to date under the grassed area.)
- Provide parking bays on the road outside the bungalows (no services under one side).
- Widen the road outside the bungalows and on the corners.
- Remove garages from the garage site to provide marked parking spaces for residents, with security fence, lighting and barrier - several residents indicated that they would still be reluctant to park vehicles there due to poor visibility from the surrounding properties.

A progress report is to be provided to the Parish Council Clerk in two months to include:

- The timescale for undertaking the prioritisation of parking problems on estates across the District.
- The level of priority attached to the problems at Evershill Close and the timescale for any work to be commenced.
- Costing of the four possible solutions suggested above with the first priority being the removal of the bollards and tarmacing of the grassed area.

Councillor Taylor and Paul Brightmore agreed to take issues from the meeting to Councillor E. Hill, NEDDC Portfolio Member for Housing and Member of Rykneld Homes Board, and to Rykneld Homes Management Team to enable progress report to be provided in two months.

Multi-Activities Area - work on this project is still in progress with the assistance of Susan Brighthouse from the Derbyshire Rural Community Council; the next project meeting is being held in July in the Rectory Rooms.

Parish Plan - this has now been completed and as well as approximately 100 copies there are also executive summaries available for distribution. Thanks are due to many people but in particular Elizabeth Goodwin for producing the final copies and Mr Harrop for proof reading the document.

Parish Council Website - the Clerk has sent copies of the minutes and Parish Council contact details to Mr A. Goodwin and he is currently working on setting the site up again. However, he has still not received any further information from anyone else.

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

23/08 Matters for Decision.

a). **Toxic waste site.** Councillor Henshaw gave a brief update on the progress to date and stated that all requests for information from the relevant Authorities must be channelled through the Parish Council and in this respect the Clerk will be writing to the County Council, District Council and Severn Trent Water within the next week or so. A further update will be provided in October when hopefully some further information might be available.

RESOLVED to note the verbal report by Councillor Henshaw.

b). **Morton Colliery Cricket Club - Request for financial assistance.** Morton Colliery Cricket Club is trying to raise the remaining funds in order to provide a two-lane artificial practice surface for this successful local club that provides many opportunities for local people, including youngsters, to pursue a useful interest within their own Village community.

RESOLVED that a grant of £50 should be made towards the two-lane artificial practice surface.

c). **Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living - Request for financial assistance.** DCIL has written to request a grant towards the costs incurred by their volunteers in providing support for people with disabilities.

RESOLVED that the request be noted but that no grant is to be made at the moment.

d). **NEDDC - Chair's Appeal 2007/08.** The Chair of NEDDC, Councillor Ken Savidge, has made a request for a grant towards this years Chairs' Appeal that is in support of The Stroke Association and Weston Park Cancer Research Centre.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 be made to the NEDDC Chair's Appeal 2007/08.

e). **County Air Ambulance Appeal 2007/08.** The County Air Ambulance Charity has written to request that consideration be given towards the work that they do within Derbyshire. Each year £3.5 million has to be raised in order for the service to operate.

RESOLVED that this request be noted but no grant is to be made at the moment.

f). **Morton (Live and Let Live) Football Club - Request for financial assistance.** Morton Football Club are trying to raise funds to purchase some junior nets in order that the local youngsters who are now wanting to play football can fully participate in the game.

RESOLVED that a grant of £50 should be made towards the purchase of the junior nets.

24/08 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Morton VHMC - refund planning application fee	000932	135 . 00
NEDDC - contribution towards grounds maintenance	000933	663 . 88
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins (Jan - March 07)	000934	269 . 17
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	000935	133 . 27
Derbyshire County Council - lease of land	000936	60 . 00
Peter Harkins Services - landscaping and planting	000937	1,125 . 00
Mr P. Goodwin - clerk's expenses	000938	54 . 17
Morton Carnival Committee - grant	000939	750 . 00
Mrs E.R. Goodwin - produce and print Parish Plans and 540 Parish News Booklets	000940	1,222 . 00
DALC - Parish Councillors' training	000941	45 . 00
NEDDC - Grant towards the Chair's Appeal	000942	25 . 00
Morton (Live and Let Live) Football Club - grant	000943	50 . 00
Morton Colliery Cricket Club - grant	000944	50 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 20th June 2007 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £27,659.97
Current Account £1,523.69

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

b). The Review of the Effectiveness of the System of Internal Audit - The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.

John Marriott, Internal Auditor, attended for this item and explained the need for a different approach to the internal audit role resulting from this latest guidance. There is now a need to review the effectiveness of the internal audit function as well as the systems of internal control and this needs to be done by a small group of councillors in the form of a working party or the Council as a whole. The working group can give direction to the Internal Auditor regarding any particular areas of the Parish Council's activity that they would like him to concentrate upon. John was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting after this item had been dealt with at the beginning of the meeting.

RESOLVED that Councillors Daykin and McCullough be tasked with reviewing the internal audit process and systems of control with the assistance of John Marriott who will attend another meeting later in the year in order to give a report on the up to date position.

15/08 **Planning.** None.

26/08 **DALC Circulars.**

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circular **15/2007** - Training and that Councillors McCullough, Kozlowski and Roe will attend the training being put on by DALC for Councillors at Tibshelf Village Hall on Thursday 26th July 2007 at 6pm.

27/08 **General Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The District Council is holding a second major event with Parish/Town Councils on issues of mutual interest and on this occasion the topic will cover issues around Streetscene; the event is due to take place on Monday 25th June in the Council Chamber, Council House, Saltergate, Chesterfield from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

NEDDC has issued its Draft Recreation and Open Space Supplementary Planning Document and any comments need to be submitted between the 31st May 2007 and 5pm on Thursday 12th July 2007 using the representation forms that have been provided; the District Council has also published the Sustainability Appraisal Report for public consultation and this can be commented upon at the same time.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and that the Clerk will attend the Streetscene event on behalf of the Parish Council..

A group known as 'Community Environmental Action Projects' has written to offer a free consultation with the Parish Council, up to August 2007, in respect of any projects that we might be trying to get started. Following any consultation a price quote for the individual project would be given.

RESOLVED that this would be taken to the next project meeting for consideration as to whether there would be any value in taking up this offer or not.

28/08 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - Councillor Daykin was not in attendance at the meeting but the Clerk reported that he has sent all the relevant paperwork and requests to the Solicitor again as they have recently moved office within Chesterfield and the original correspondence could not be located earlier today. Once actioned the Parish Council would take legal ownership of the small strip of land next to the Village Hall, (on the Morton Manor side), and this will enable a proper ramped access for disabled people to be created.

Church - The mechanical road sweeper is not cleaning the highway in front of the Church Lichgate and Councillor Cooper kindly offered to raise this issue with the District Council.

School - The school roll is currently very low and it is the hope that some young families move into the small developments that are occasionally built within Morton.

Cricket Club - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group - The next meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 18th July 2007.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - The meeting held on the 6th June was the first in a new approach to neighbourhood working and these are to be known as 'Community Workshops'. This workshop focused on the District Council's Local Development Framework that covers such issues as housing, leisure and retail development. Councillor Southey reported that 4 people from Morton attended the meeting, including himself, and they took the opportunity to advocate for local people in the Village on such issues as public transport, access problems on Evershill Close and public footpaths. The next meeting is not due to take place until October and Councillor Southey will be attending that on the Parish Council's behalf.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.45pm

Chairman 11th July 2007

