Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 19th March 2008.

Informal Session.

Police. PC Adam Podam attended the meeting and reported that there had been a drugs related arrest in Shirland today. There were 3 crimes recorded during the past month consisting of one incidence of violence and 2 of criminal damage.

A person was arrested in the Village in the early hours of the morning for carrying equipment clearly intended for breaking into vehicles. There have been 2 reports of vehicle nuisance on Pit Lane recently and apparently there are groups of young people and cars congregating on Doe Hill Lane; however, there is no evidence of any criminal activity or anti-social behaviour in respect of the latter point.

PC Podam was thanked for his attendance, particularly as this was his evening off, and he left the meeting at this point.

District Council. Councillor Cooper had nothing new to report other than the comments he made on the agenda items concerning Evershill Close and the Toxic Waste Site.

County Council. Councillor Cotterill stated that Love Lane is about to re-open shortly as part of the final phase of the restoration of the former opencast site.

111/08 Members Present. Mrs L. Henshaw, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mrs C.E. Kozlowski, Mr A. Southey, Mrs G. Dyer and Mrs B. Roe.

Also in attendance were Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor, Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor and Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk.

112/08 Apologies. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mr C. Parkin and Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

113/08 Councillors Absent. None.

114/08 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

115/08 Items from members of the public. None, as there were no members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

MAS

116/08 Non-Exempt Minutes - 20th February 2008.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th February 2008.

117/08 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

118/08 Clerk of the Council's Report. Evershill Close - there is nothing further to report at the moment but Councillor Cooper stated that he would be meeting with Alan Riley again at the District Council with regard to a number of local issues including the Parish Council's proposed works on Evershill Close. If the work does eventually go ahead it was mentioned that an assurance would be required in writing from the District Council that this would not jeopardise any potential future work that they may be able to carry out in order to improve the access and parking problems even further.

Multi-Activities Area - work on this project is still in progress with the assistance of Susan Brighouse from the Derbyshire Rural Community Council; there is no date fixed for the next project meeting and this will be followed up by Councillor Hawkins when she returns from holiday.

Parish Plan - an update has now been carried out on all the issues raised and these were included in the latest Parish Council Newsletter that was recently distributed.

Damaged Footbridge - Shirland and Higham Parish Council have now completed the restoration work together with the assistance of a number of volunteers; the Clerk was asked to write to Shirland and Higham Parish Council in order to thank them for the excellent work that they have done to restore this small footbridge.

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

/08 Matters for Decision.

a). Toxic waste site. The Clerk has been contacted by the Environment Agency to provide them with a further copy of the Non-Statutory Public Enquiry Report dated the 17th December 1981 and he has now done this. Neville Haslam from the Environmental Health Department has also been in contact with the Clerk and Councillor Cooper confirmed that there are now two representatives from the Environment Agency communicating with Neville Haslam regarding this issue.

Councillor Cotterill informed the Clerk that it is Roger Caisley at the County Council who has some of the testing information that may be of interest to the Parish Council and the Clerk stated that he would now write to him and ask that this information be provided to him for the benefit of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that given the recent increased activity from all of the relevant agencies this issue will be left for a further month in order to see what further progress can be made.

b). Position of new seat in the village. After another discussion on this issue it was unanimously agreed that the replacement seat would be sited as close as possible to the frontage of number 78 Main Road, Morton in the safest position possible bearing in mind health and safety considerations and also any possible implications in respect of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998; this will also be subject to the approval of the County Council as the proposed site is on a grass verge that forms part of the highway. Prior to the work being carried out the owner of 78 Main Road will be notified that the work is going to take place.

RESOLVED that subject to the approval of the County Council a new seat will be purchased and installed at this location.

c). MENCAP - request for financial assistance. MENCAP has written to ask the Parish Council to consider making a grant to them in respect of the 1 in 7 children and adults living in North East Derbyshire who are affected by a learning disability.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 is made in order to assist local people with a learning disability in North East Derbyshire.

120/08 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). Payee.	Cheque No.	Amount
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	000990	143 . 16
Gary Wilkes - bus shelter cleaning	000991	50 . 00
Morton Parochial Church Council - grant	000992	1,000 . 00
Page Kirk - payroll fees to 31-12-07	000993	18 . 80
HM Chambers & Partners - structural design fees	000994	722 . 63
Mr P. Goodwin - expenses	000995	51 . 42
Mr W. Edson - reimbursement for cost of weedkiller	000996	9 . 99
MENCAP - grant	000997	25 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 19th March 2008 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £22,173.18
Current Account £ 3,133.60

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

121/08 Planning. The following planning application has now been granted :-

07/01464/FL - Proposed construction of a detached garage to rear at 40 Evershill Lane, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire for Mr Mark Jones.

122/08 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in General Circulars **10 and 13/2008, 11/2008** - Local Council Review Subscription Form, **12/2008** - Consultation in Respect of Orders and Regulations Relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England, **14/2008** - Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and **15/2008** - Training Course for Clerks and Councillors.

123/08 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The minutes of the Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group Meeting on the 14th January 2008, together with the agenda for the next meeting which is due to be held at 7:30pm on Monday 21st April 2008, were made available for everyone present to read.

The County Council are proposing to close Deincourt Community School and increase the planned admission number for Tibshelf Community School when it relocates to a new site; one of the effects of this would be to change the intake of children leaving Morton Primary School from Mortimer Wilson School to Tibshelf Community School which would be popular with most parents in the village.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and to send a positive response to the County Council in respect of their proposals for Deincourt Community School and Tibshelf Community School.

RESOLVED that as agreed at the March meeting in future no correspondence will be sent to Parish Councillors by e-mail unless this is of sufficient importance to be discussed at a Parish Council meeting in which case it will be sent but also be printed off and brought to the relevant meeting; the exception to this decision will be cases of individual communication where in effect the e-mail is simply taking the place of a telephone conversation as this can be much more time and cost efficient for everyone concerned.

124/08 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - The Clerk reported that he had received a copy of a more detailed plan of the boundary of the Village Hall and this has now been sent to our solicitors in order that the transfer of the ownership of the required land belonging to Mr Chris Milner can take place.

Church - the Church have asked if it could be arranged for Community Services to clear a path through the Churchyard again as they did a few years ago. Councillor Edson will try and arrange for this work to be carried out.

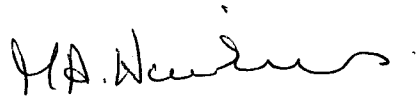
School - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Cricket Club - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group - The next meeting is due to take place on Monday 21st April 2008.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - The next meeting is due to take place during April 2008.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.20pm

Chairman 16th April 2008