

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 16th April 2008.

Informal Session.

Police. There was no report as the police were not in attendance at the meeting. However, it was agreed that a get well soon card would be sent to PCSO Gary Green as he is still recovering from his recent operation.

District Council. There was no report as Councillor Cooper and Councillor Holmes were not in attendance at the meeting although the Clerk confirmed that Councillor Cooper had been in regular contact with him since the last meeting regarding a few outstanding issues.

County Council. Councillor Cotterill confirmed that the order for the new barriers that are to be used on Pit Lane has now been placed and that the work will begin shortly.

Also, Cath Turkington from the County Council has now visited Love Lane and drawn up some detailed proposals for the area in question that will eventually be maintained as a community facility by interested local people. Councillor Cotterill stated that details of how this is intended to work will be sent to all relevant Parish Councils and they will have the opportunity to nominate people for this group.

125/08 Members Present. Mrs M. Hawkins, 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 P. Goodwin - Clerk and 4 members of the public.

126/08 Apologies. Mr C. Parkin, Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor and Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

127/08 Councillors Absent. None.

128/08 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

129/08 Items from members of the public. An expression of thanks was made to Councillor Edson in respect of the work that he had carried out to assist Shirland and Higham Parish Council with the repair to the bridge between the two parishes recently. Also integral to this work was the Stonebroom Teenage Action Group (ATAG) and they are also helping with a number of other local community projects. It was agreed that young people in Morton will be approached to see if they would be interested in forming a similar group or even joining the STAG's in order to combine their efforts. The young person present at the meeting agreed to approach his friends in the village in order to try and promote this idea.

Apparently it would only cost £5,000 to appoint another PCSO for the area as the police would provide the remaining funds and it was suggested that Morton and Shirland and Higham Parish Councils could share these costs in order to make it cost effective for everyone. In principle this was thought to be a good idea and as such it will be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting in order that a decision can be made.

A request was made for the junction on Bacchus Way/Penfold Way to be properly marked out in order that traffic priorities are clear and this will be referred to the County Council for their consideration.

The road and gully on Station Road between the bus shelter and the new small housing development need cleaning out again and there is quite a large pothole on Pilsley Road between Penfold Way and the Corner Pin public house; both of these matters will also be reported to the County Council. The Clerk confirmed that at any point members of the public can report this type of problem directly to the County Council by ringing **08456 058 058**.

The hedge between the school and the old pit yard is overgrown again and arrangements will be made for this to be cut back as soon as possible.

There is some local concern about the possibility that the site the Sitwell Arms Public House occupies might be intended for future development especially as the rent for the premises has increased significantly. The Clerk has obtained all of the relevant information from English Heritage regarding what information would be required in order to make an application for listed building status. The Sitwell Arms is in a Conservation Area and as such no buildings could be demolished without the prior approval of the District Council. This was discussed in some detail and it was decided that at this point the Parish Council will not pursue an application for listed building status; primarily this is because the building is afforded some protection from being in a Conservation Area. Also, once listed building status is granted the ongoing expense of maintaining and improving it would potentially become prohibitive and at the worst could result in it becoming unoccupied and derelict. However, this does not preclude local people from applying for the building to be listed if they feel that this is the right course of action.

130/08 Non-Exempt Minutes - 19th March 2008.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th March 2008.

131/08 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

132/08 Clerk of the Council's Report. Evershill Close - the Clerk had nothing further to report but he will continue to follow this up with the District Council in conjunction with Councillor Cooper.

Multi-Activities Area - work on this project is still in progress although due to the recent illness of Susan Brighthouse it has been slower than anticipated. Also, the initial bid for funding was not successful and it would be really helpful if some young people and their parents could be engaged with trying to move the project forward; efforts will now be made in order to try and achieve this aim.

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

133/08 Matters for Decision.

a). **Toxic waste site.** A letter from the Environment Agency was read out to the meeting and its content was not satisfactory or reassuring in any way as they appear not to have been carrying out the testing/sampling required on the toxic site and dioxin site for over 20 years. The County Council has recently carried out some tests of its own and these will now be made available to anyone who wants a copy; these did not show any levels of risk to the health of local people.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to the County Council and the District Council in order to try and bring this situation to an acceptable conclusion for local people where it is clear what testing is to be carried out and who is responsible for this; the subsequent reporting of any findings also needs to be absolutely clear to everyone.

134/08 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	000998	143 . 16
Gary Wilkes - bus shelter cleaning	000999	50 . 00
DALC - annual subscription	001000	267 . 27
Allianz Insurance PLC - annual premium	001001	1,654 . 69

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 16th April 2008 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £32,306.47
Current Account £ 5,018.48

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

135/08 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

07/01458/FL - Proposed erection of sun room extension to nursing home at Morton Grange Nursing Home, Stretton Road, Morton, Alfreton for Malcolm M. Rye.

136/08 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **16/2008** - New Clerk's Induction Course, **17/2008** - Review of NALC Publication: Standing Orders and Chairmanship (July 2003), **18/2008** - Derbyshire County Training Partnership: Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) and **19/2008** - General.

137/08 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Morton Parochial Church Council has sent a letter of thanks in respect of the recent grant of £900 that we made towards the maintenance of the Churchyard and also the payment of £100 for the hire of the Rectory Rooms; the grant of £900 was in respect of 2007 and this year's grant for the same amount will be paid in July.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

138/08 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall – The Clerk reported that he has continued to follow up the transfer of land from Chris Milner to the Parish Council but unfortunately there has been no further progress in this respect since the last meeting.

Church - Nothing further to report at the moment. Councillor Edson will continue to try and ensure that Community Services are available to carry out the work that is required around the Church grounds.

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.

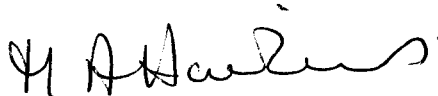
South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - Councillor Dyer reported that there had been some interesting discussions at the last meeting regarding the proposals for secondary school education in this area. Also, the new Junction 29A of the M1 motorway is due to be open by the end of May 2008 although all of the local infrastructure improvements will not have been completed by then. Councillor Dyer's overall assessment of the meeting was that it was very much run by the principle authorities, there was less focus on local issues/concerns and therefore a very limited opportunity to contribute any views in this respect.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.50pm

Chairman

21st May 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. A. Dyer', written over a horizontal line.