

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 18th June 2008.

Informal Session.

Police. There was no verbal report as the police were not in attendance at the meeting; however, the Clerk had received the crime statistics by e-mail and there were no recorded crimes in Morton during May.

It was reported that local people have noticed some drug related activity on Love Lane, Morton and this is an issue that the police need to monitor.

District Council. Following the notice that has been issued regarding the fly tipping on the land adjacent to the Corner Pin Public House the situation is now being monitored by the District Council and if it is not removed within 21 days they will carry out the work and recharge the full cost of the work to the landowner.

County Council. Councillor Cotterill reported that two new classrooms are being provided at Morton Primary School at a cost of £500,000.

The trees at the side of the highway beyond the bus stop looking towards Tibshelf have still not been pruned back and this will be brought to the attention of the County Council again.

The gully on Station Road, Morton has been recently cleaned again but there needs to be a longer term solution to this ongoing issue. Local people have to walk on the road for large parts of the year due to the condition of the pavement caused by the flooding; also, it appears that the retaining wall is gradually being pushed over towards the highway and this is also a major cause for concern. The main problem is caused by water pouring off the adjacent land which is also presumably causing the wall to deteriorate. The Clerk and Councillor Cotterill will raise this again with the County Council.

17/09 Members Present. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mrs C.E. Kozlowski and Mrs B. Roe.

Also in attendance were Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor, Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor, Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 5 members of the public which included 2 young people.

18/09 Apologies. Mrs L. Henshaw, Mr C. Parkin and District Councillor Mrs A. Holmes.

19/09 Councillors Absent. None.

20/09 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.



21/09 Items from members of the public. The Clerk reported that a price is being obtained for a farmer to use a tractor to cut the hedge back on Main Road, Morton and if it is less than £300 the work will be carried out as soon as possible.

The Parish Council was complimented on the flower baskets and planters that have been provided at various locations throughout the Village.

The area around the three arch bridge in Morton is badly affected by fly tipping and it is proposed that the Stonebroom Action Group (STAG) and local Morton youngsters carry out the work to remove all of the rubbish under appropriate supervision. It is hoped that by creating this sort of working partnership the youngsters in Morton may eventually form their own group similar to the STAGS.

There is to be a Young Peoples Forum on the 30th June 2008 at 6.30pm and as many young people as possible are being encouraged to attend in order that a clear view of what they would like to see happening in Morton can be determined.

22/09 Non-Exempt Minutes - Annual General Meeting 21st May 2008.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st May 2008.

23/09 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

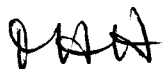
24/09 Clerk of the Council's Report. Evershill Close - an operative has recently visited in order to pump out the flooded area and he will now be preparing a report on the work that is required in order to try and resolve this longstanding issue. Quotes are still needed from either the County Council or the District Council's approved contractors in respect of the Parish Council's proposals to improve the parking facilities in this area; Councillor Cooper and Councillor Cotterill will continue to follow this up on our behalf at the District Council.

Multi-Activities Area - a discussion took place with the 2 young people present regarding the work that is being planned for this area. Councillor Hawkins asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to fund an additional basketball post at a cost of £1,000 if the consultation with young people on the 30th June indicated that this would be well used; this was unanimously agreed.

Toxic Waste Site - the full letter from the Environment Agency, in response to our request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, has now been forwarded to Neville Haslam as Head of the Environmental Services Department at the District Council in order that this can be followed up on our behalf.

New seat for the village - two possible locations for the seat have been marked on the plan supplied by the County Council and this will now be returned to them in order that they can give an opinion about the best place for the seat to be situated from a Highways perspective.

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



25/09 Matters for Decision.

a). **Risk Assessment.** The Clerk presented a copy of an updated risk assessment document for consideration by the Council.

RESOLVED that the new risk assessment is fit for purpose during the 2008/09 financial year and a copy will be distributed to all councillors.

b). **Request for financial assistance - Home-Start.** A request for financial assistance has been received from Home-Start (Bolsover District & Clay Cross Area) an organisation that helps young families through difficult times.

RESOLVED that a grant will not be made as there is a local group that has recently set up to provide support to families in Morton and they may need some financial assistance in the near future.

26/09 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001009	158 . 42
SLCC Enterprises Ltd. - regional conference	001010	52 . 88
Derbyshire County Council - lease of land	001011	60 . 00
Exlen Technology Limited - new pc and printer	001012	685 . 63
Banner Jones Solicitors - legal fees	001013	881 . 25
Civic Pride UK Ltd. - hanging baskets and planters	001014	3,643 . 68
Mrs E.R. Goodwin - 540 newsletters	001015	422 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 18th June 2008 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £27,306.47
Current Account £ 2,792.71

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

27/09 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

08/00522/FL - Proposed construction of new detached dwelling and garage at land immediately adjacent 1 The Laurels, Station Road, Morton, Alfreton for Mr and Mrs Byard.

The following planning application has now been granted :-

08/00378/FL - Proposed subdivision of one dwelling into two dwellings (Conservation Area) at Sycamore Farm, Church Lane, Morton, Alfreton for Cristiano Tramontano.

28/09 DALC Circulars. None.

29/09 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The minutes of the Clay Cross Police Consultative Group meeting held on the 21st April 2008 and the agenda for the next meeting on the 21st July 2008 were made available for anyone to read.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

30/09 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - Councillor Hawkins stated that Chris Milner, the owner of the small strip of land required to enable the creation of a proper access to the Village Hall for disabled people, has received a 'closure' invoice from his solicitors due to the lack of progress that is being made in order to transfer the ownership of the land in question from himself to the Parish Council. The Parish Council has already agreed to meet any legal costs incurred by Mr Milner and in this respect a cheque will now be sent to the Parish Council's Solicitors (Banner Jones Ltd) to be held by them in order to cover Mr Milner's estimated legal costs of £750 + vat.

Church - The police have confirmed that they are not able to supply parking cones for services such as funerals and weddings at the Church but it is entirely acceptable for these to be put in place locally as and when required.

School - The Headteacher has written to all parents asking if anyone would like to have a stall at this Year's Carnival Event but to date there have been no responses which is extremely disappointing as the main purpose of the Carnival is to strengthen the community spirit within the Village.

Cricket Club - Nothing further to report at the moment.

Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group/Safer Neighbourhood Team - The next meeting of the Consultative Group is due to take place on Monday 21st July 2008. Local people who have walked along Love Lane during the past month have noticed the smell of drugs being smoked and this has already been raised with the police in order that they can try and keep on top of the problem.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - The next meeting is due to take place on Tuesday 24th June 2008 and Councillor Hawkins and Councillor McCullough will be attending on the Parish Council's behalf.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.40pm

Chairman

30th July 2008

