

Morton Parish Council

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

Informal Session.

Police. The Clerk was pleased to report that there had only been two recorded crimes during the month of October; unfortunately, both of these crimes were in respect of violence.

PCSO Gary Green reported that there is to be a seat belt campaign taking place and anyone found not complying will be strictly dealt with. Speed cameras have been present on the A61 in the past month and will continue to be a regular feature. The annual Drink Drive campaign will be taking place again this year and this will be publicised by the County Council.

PCSO Green is currently dealing with an anti-social behaviour problem with a family in Morton and he had also recently recovered some alcohol from 2 Morton youngsters drinking in Stonebroom; the shop who had served them has received a fixed penalty fine and Trading Standards have since visited them to give them appropriate advice.

There have been a number of distraction burglaries in the area recently and it was agreed that the police mobile unit should visit both Sitwell Villas and Evershill Close in order to try and increase the awareness of older people in the community to this problem. There is also an ongoing parking/driving on the pavement problem with a property in Morton and PCSO Green is keeping an eye on this situation; he was also asked to try and arrange some presence around the school occasionally when it opens and closes as there are real problems with inappropriate parking by parents dropping off and collecting their children.

PCSO Green was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at this point.

District Council. There was no report as Councillor Cooper and Councillor Holmes were not in attendance at the meeting. However, Councillor Cooper had rung the Clerk to state that he was still following up with Alan Riley at the District Council the issue regarding parking improvements on Evershill Close. We are now waiting for the full specification for the scheme in order that a minimum of 3 competitive prices can be obtained.

A question was raised as to why there had not been a 'mini-clean up in Morton for residents to use for unwanted items such as happened in Mickley recently. Councillor Cotterill stated that this might be possible if there was sufficient need within the Village for such an event but this is primarily aimed at Council 'estates' and is organised by Rykneld Homes.

County Council. Councillor Cotterill confirmed that George Brydon and Simon Kimmons from the County Council had investigated the problem of water escaping onto the highway from the former pit tip; as a result of this the County Council has agreed to clean out the interceptor and if this doesn't resolve the problem it will be replaced altogether.

73/09 Members Present. Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mrs C.E. Kozlowski, Mrs B. Roe and Mr C. Lawton.

Also in attendance were Mr D. Cotterill - County Councillor, Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 1 member of the public.

74/09 Apologies. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mr C. Parkin and District Councillors Mr A. Cooper and Mrs A. Holmes.

75/09 Councillors Absent. None.

76/09 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

The Clerk confirmed that due to the non-attendance of Councillor Henshaw for a period of longer than 6 meetings, and the fact that she is now in France for a further period, she no longer qualifies as a Parish Councillor.

77/09 Items from members of the public. It was reported that there is a lot of water running out of a services c over on Pit Lane just onto the old colliery site. This has been reported to Severn Trent Water, the County Council and the District Council but no action has yet been taken; when there is a sharp frost the conditions will present a significant hazard to pedestrians and Councillor Cotterill agreed to take this up with the County Council as a matter of urgency in order to find out who is responsible for carrying out any repairs.

78/09 Non-Exempt Minutes - 15th October 2008.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th October 2008.

79/09 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

80/09 Clerk of the Council's Report. Evershill Close - Councillor Cooper will continue to raise this issue with Alan Riley at the District Council until all the relevant information has been received to enable 3 competitive quotes to be obtained for the work to be carried out.

New seat in the centre of the Village - the Clerk is still pursuing with the District Council the possibility of putting a seat in a convenient position at the centre of the Village for older people in particular to use.

Toxic Waste Site - a firm of consultants has now been commissioned by the Environment Agency to carry out soil and water testing in the areas around the toxic site on both sides of the road, at the back of Bacchus Way and around the visible boreholes in the area. Councillor Cotterill agreed to confirm this with Neville Haslam, Environmental Services Manager at North East Derbyshire District Council, in order that the work can commence as soon as possible. A request will also be made again for annual checks on this area to be carried out.

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

81/09 Matters for Decision.

a). **The Freedom of Information Act - New Model Publication Scheme.** The Clerk explained that either the New Model Publication Scheme or a bespoke version must be adopted by all Councils before the 31st December 2008 in order that it can be effective from the 1st January 2009. In addition, each Council is required to publish on its website, and/or a prominent place in the community, a guide to all of the information that it holds and which is routinely available for inspection by the Council; any charges levied for accessing this information must also be publicised e.g. cost of photocopying or stating that it is available free of charge e.g. Website.

RESOLVED that the Council adopts the New Model Publication Scheme and that the new guide to information held by the Council will be displayed on the Parish Council's notice boards.

b). **Precept 2009/10.** The Clerk presented a draft precept for the financial year 2009/10. After a brief discussion it was agreed to accept the figures as presented.

RESOLVED to increase the precept for the 2009/10 financial year from £28,000 to £32,000. Wages will remain in accordance with the nationally agreed rates of pay although the increase due on the 1st April 2009 has still not yet been finalised; however, an interim agreement of 2.45% has been determined. The pay rates for 2009/10 are likely to be agreed at the same time as the 2008/09 inflation increase is finalised and this will probably be in the region of 2.5%.

82/09 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wages for October, November and December	-	1,303 . 10
HM Revenue & Customs - tax and NI July to Sept. 08	-	934 . 20
Exlen Technology Ltd. - computer repair	001046	76 . 38
Amenco (Poole) Limited - youth shelter and net	001047	6,833 . 81
Allianz Insurance PLC - additional premium	001048	176 . 42
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001049	185 . 72
DALC - Quality Parish Council training	001050	15 . 00
HM Chambers & Partners - design fees (replacement)	001051	722 . 63
Page Kirk - payroll fees 1-7-08 to 30-9-08	001052	29 . 38
The RBL NW & District Poppy Appeal - grant	001053	25 . 00

MAN

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 19th November 2008 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £17,549.67
Current Account £ 1,818.52

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

83/09 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

08/00968/FL - Proposed construction of a single-storey kitchen extension, two-storey dining room and bedroom extension and a rear porch (Conservation Area) (Affecting Setting of a Listed Building) at 3 Stretton Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire for Mr P. Hallam.

The following planning applications have now been granted :-

08/00795/FL - Proposed re-submission application for demolition of vacant farm house and outbuildings and erection of 3 bedroom replacement dwelling and detached garage (revised scheme of NED/08/00446/FL) at 9 Padley Wood Lane, Pilsley, Chesterfield for Mrs Smith.

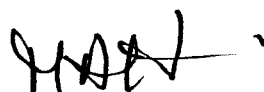
08/00751/FL - Proposed retention of smoking shelter at 45 Main Road, Morton, Alfreton for Mrs S. Goodwin.

84/09 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **37/2008** - Crash Course on the Planning System, **51, 52** and **55/2008** - General Circulars, **53/2008** - Quality Parish/Town Council Scheme Training and **54/2008** - Existing and Prospective Internal Auditors Course Re: Governance and Accountability for Local Councils (2008 Practitioner's Guide).

85/09 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. A consultation paper entitled "Communities in control: Real people, real power: Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees - A consultation" has been available on the Communities and Local Government website since the 1st October and now a paper copy has been received for councillors to read.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and any comments that councillors would like to make in respect of the consultation paper need to be sent to the Clerk by the 19th December 2008 in order that these can be submitted in time for the deadline date of the 24th December 2008.



86/09 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - The Clerk reported that a letter has now been received from Mr Milner's Solicitors requesting confirmation that the steps are removed at the side of the Village Hall and that access across his land is for emergencies only once the transfer of the land ownership to the Parish Council has taken place. The Clerk has already responded in writing to confirm that both of these requirements will be adhered to. A meeting with the Village Hall Management Committee and the Architects has been provisionally planned for 10am on the 4th December in order to try and progress this matter further.

Church - Councillor Edson has arranged to collect the Christmas trees for the Church and everyone is encouraged to attend and decorate these in due course.

School - 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 12th January 2009.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - There has not been a recent Partnership meeting and therefore there is nothing further to report at the moment.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.10pm

Chairman

21st January 2009

