

Morton Parish Council**Minutes of the meeting of Morton Parish Council held on 18 March 2015, 7.30pm, at the Village Hall****Present**

Cllr A Coates (Chair)
Cllr W Edson
Cllr C Lawton

Cllr A Cooper
Cllr R McCullough
Cllr B Roe

Cllr M Morris
Cllr S Cashin

In Attendance

Mrs J Taylor (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer until 31 March 2015)
Ms L Ghent (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer from 1 April 2015)
Members of the public

1/03/15 Apologies

None.

2/03/15 Councillors Absent

None.

3/03/15 Declaration of Members' Interests

None.

4/03/15 Recording and Filming of Council Meetings

None.

5/03/15 Public Speaking**a) Public**

Several members of the public attended and raised concerns regarding the Local Plan containing expected housing development for the district over the next 20 years. NEDDC has identified sites that would support 201 new dwellings in Morton, but they state that they are only seeking 64 dwellings (in addition to planning permissions already granted). Following a discussion, members of the Parish Council and members of the public were advised to respond to the consultation on NEDDC's website individually.

Other issues raised by members of the public:

- Speeding vehicles through the village – **RESOLVED** that the current clerk contact the local PCSO Gary Green to request that a speed check be carried out at the Sitwell Villas end of the village.
- Several residents along Stretton Road (those with a Sitwell Villas postal address) have not received a 'Stop Speeding' bin sticker – **RESOLVED** that Cllr A Coates post some through the doors of houses affected.
- Potholes at Sitwell Villas – **RESOLVED** that the current clerk report these to Derbyshire County Council.

b) District Council

In response to the concerns raised by residents concerning the potholes, flooding etc Councillor A Cooper arranged to carry out a site visit to Sitwell Villas and surrounding area.

c) Police

PCSO Gary Green was unable to attend the meeting but the crime report was read out to the meeting. There was one incident of a domestic nature reported on 3 February 2015.

d) Derbyshire District Council

None.

5a/03/15 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st January 2015

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2015.

6/03/15 To determine whether any item on agenda should be taken with the public excluded

There were no items.

7/03/15 Finance**Payments**

Supplier	Description	Chq No	Net	Gross
Ashover Print	Newsletter	001357	£445.00	£445.00
DALC	Subscription	001403	£393.67	£393.67
Streetscape	Bidding fees	001358	£500.00	£500.00
NEDDC	Dog bins	001359	£341.12	£409.34
Salary & expenses (stamps) J Taylor	March 2015	001360	£684.60	£684.60
Salary L Ghent	March 2015	001401	£187.80	£187.80
HMRC	March 2015	001402	£43.20	£43.20
Plantscape	Notice board	001404	£755.00	£906.00
Holy Cross Church	Bench	001405	£150.82	£180.98

RESOLVED to approve the above listed items for payment, and these were signed, on behalf of the Council by Cllr Edson and Cllr Lawton.

RESOLVED to approve the bank statement and bank reconciliation. The bank reconciliation was signed.

The Annual Return paperwork has been received from Grant Thornton. **RESOLVED** that the new clerk should prepare the submission for return by the deadline of 8 June 2015.

8/03/15 Matters to report

- Chair welcomed Lynne Ghent as the new clerk. Both clerks have been working during March to ensure a smooth handover and Lynne will take over completely with effect of 1 April 2015.
- Playground inspections – Nothing to report. The current clerk reminded Councillors that weekly inspection sheets must be completed and returned to her. NEDDC will carry their annual inspection May/June.
- Outdoor gym equipment at park off New Street and play area at Bacchus Way–It is expected that the new picnic bench, swingset and gym equipment will be installed by the end of March. **RESOLVED** that the current clerk to contact NEDDC and order a 1.8 m picnic bench for Bacchus Way.
- School patrol crossing – the current clerk has received a response from Councillor D Collins at DCC that he thanked the Parish Council for their offer and that the email has been passed to officers.
- Noticeboard – Councillor M Morris has received the new noticeboard and he will erect it soon to replace the one at Sitwell Villas. He hopes to complete this work within the next month.
- Donation – a resident has expressed how pleased she is with the work which the Parish Council has carried out at the Pit Wheels and she would like to make a £50 donation to be used for further planting. **RESOLVED** that the current clerk writes to the resident accepting her donation and Cllr A Coates will include a thank you in the next edition of the Morton Messenger.
- Parish Council Election on 7 May 2015 – the process has been covered in the pre-meeting session. The current clerk has offered to contact NEDDC to request nomination forms which she will pass to all those interested in standing for election.

9/03/15 Matters for decision

- DALC subscription – there are two levels of membership open to Parish Councils: Basic £303.67 or enhanced £393.67. The enhanced fee includes free training for members on courses put on by DALC (excluding CiLCA courses). **RESOLVED** to approve payment of the enhanced amount of £393.67.
- Ongoing maintenance of Pit Wheels – Cllr M Morris raised the need for regular maintenance to be carried out at the Park as well as the Pit Wheels. **RESOLVED** that the new clerk to seek quotations from Brian and Steve for 7 to 10 hours bi-monthly maintenance of the Pit Wheels and the park.

- c) Purchase of new planters – waiting for the quotations which Cllr M Morris has requested from two suppliers. Once received Cllr M Morris will forward to the new clerk.
- d) School patrol crossing – awaiting decision of DCC.
- e) Bank mandate changes – new ones to be considered at the meeting in May.
- f) Financial Regulations Review – Cllr A Coates gave a brief overview of the revised Financial Regulations. **RESOLVED** to approve the revised Financial Regulations.

10/03/15 Planning

- a) Local Plan –NEDDC are seeking sites to build 64 dwellings in and around Morton. It was strongly believed that the main site identified by NEDDC was not suitable for a number of reasons including flooding, access issues and that the field identified does not form part of the village (inappropriate location). Alternative sites were discussed including infill from Morton Grange Residential Home through to Evershill Avenue and land behind the Village Hall part of which is owned by the Parish Council with access from Red Lane. It was further suggested that a request for \$106 payments for rebuilding of the Village Hall be made one of the conditions of any planning applications. **RESOLVED** that the current clerk make a submission to NEDDC to object to their proposal for the reasons discussed.
- b) Proposed solar farm at Averil Farm – the development was discussed and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council has no objections. The clerk read a letter from Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd informing the Parish Council of a Community Benefit Grant amounting to a payment of approximately £5,000 per year for 20 years. It was made clear that this would be payable whether or not the Parish Council submitted objections. **RESOLVED** that the new clerk should write to Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd accepting the grant.
- c) Proposed solar farm at Padley Farm – this proposal is only partly in Morton. **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council has no objections and the current clerk should write to Sun and Soil asking if they run a Community Benefit Scheme similar to that offered by Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd.
- d) 15/0018/FL – amendment to previously approved house type – **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council has no objections.
- e) None.

11/03/15 DALC circulars

- a) Spring seminar is to be held on Thursday 26 March at Stretton Village Hall, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

12/03/15 Correspondence

- a) DCC Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation – all those present were asked to go online and tell DCC about the flooding issues in and around Morton.
- b) NEDDC Local Plan Consultation – discussed previously in the meeting.
- c) NEDDC District and Liaison Group meeting is to be held on 8 April 2015, 6.00 pm at Saltergate Offices, Chesterfield. They will be discussing the relationship between the district and the parishes. New clerk is to forward the agenda to Cllr A Coates to consider whether to attend.

13/03/15 Reports from Parish Council representatives on outside bodies

- a) Church – two new benches have been installed and the window repaired.
- b) Morton Park play area, New Street and youth activities – the 5-a-side pitch has been marked out.
- c) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – nothing to report but would like to encourage people to attend the next meeting mid-April.
- d) School – nothing to report.
- e) Morton Events Committee – the next meeting is Tuesday 24 March. Fun runs and the gala are being organised.
- f) Village Hall – both the current clerk and M Morris have attempted get five companies to quote for the roof repairs but no one is interested as it is a difficult job.

14/03/15 Items for the next agenda

- a) Objectives for the next 4 years.