

Morton Parish Council**Minutes of the meeting of Morton Parish Council held on 20 May 2015, 8.00pm, at the Rectory Rooms, Church Lane, Morton, DE55 6GU****Present**

Cllr R Austin
Cllr A Coates
Cllr R Martin

Cllr J Browne
Cllr J Funnell
Cllr S Pleming

Cllr S Cashin
Cllr C Lawton
Cllr B Roe

In Attendance

Cllr A Cooper (NE Derbyshire District Councillor)
Cllr G Butler (NE Derbyshire District Councillor)
Cllr K Gillott (Derbyshire County Councillor)
Ms L Ghent (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)
Members of the public

1/05/15 Appointment of chair and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Coates was nominated, seconded and following a vote by a show of hands it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Coates be appointed as Chair for 2015/2016.

2/05/15 Appointment of vice-chair and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Cashin was nominated, seconded and following a vote by a show of hands it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Cashin be appointed as Vice-chair for 2015/2016.

3/05/15 Appointment of representatives to outside bodies

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Funnell and Cllr Pleming be appointed as parish council representatives on the Village Hall Management Committee for the next 12 months.

4/05/15 Apologies for absence

None.

5/05/15 Councillors absent

None.

6/05/15 Declaration of Members' Interests

None.

7/05/15 Public Speaking**i. Public**

- Two members of the public raised the ongoing issues of flooding at Sitwell Villas/Heron Homes properties. In particular they informed the meeting that their home being the end property has had drainage issues since they bought the property in particular the ditch which Heron Homes filled illegally which has since required being re-instated (through their garden). This ditch did not appear on any plans or searches undertaken when they purchased the property). As the new land owners it is their responsibility not Heron Homes. A meeting has been arranged on 27 May with representatives from Heron Homes and DCC highways department.

It was generally agreed that the possible source of the flooding is surface water overwhelming the drainage system which should be fed into a pond which has not been installed. It was also discussed that the future development which is being proposed on the land behind the affected properties may experience the same problems.

Cllr Gillott intends to try to attend the meeting on the 27 May on site. Cllrs Roe and Pleming will also attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

- A resident addressed the meeting over concerns of speeding on the stretch of Pilsley Road on the way to Morton Farm where several cars have ended up in his field causing damage to his hedge. He asked the Parish Council to support a request to start the 30 mph speed restriction earlier or a staged reduction to 40 mph before the current 30 mph point. Cllr Gillott informed the meeting that it is national policy to start a 30 mph at the first house within a residential area and it is unlikely that DCC will be able to consider this request however they may be able to consider improved signage. He also informed the meeting that although the resident has had several cars caused damage to his hedge DCC only have 1 recorded incident and so advised the resident to report all incidents in the future to build a truer picture.
- The gully at the old pit entrance is in a poor state of repair and causing flooding across the pavement. Cllr Gillott confirmed that DCC are aware of the problem but that no works are planned due to lack of resources. It was agreed that this item be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

ii. District/County Council

- Cllr K Gillott advised the meeting that the installation of a zebra crossing at the school has been approved subject consultation with affected residents. This will be tied in with planned resurfacing works. There are some issues to be addressed such as access to the school which may require the installation of a barrier system. It is expected that the crossing will be installed during the current financial year.
- Upgrade of footpaths to Morton from Pit Lane to bridleway – a planning appeal inquiry is scheduled to be held at Stretton Village Hall in October. It was agreed that this item be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

iii. Police

- PCSO Green was unable to attend the meeting. He has submitted his report of crime figures for March 2015: 19/3, unknown offender slashed vinyl roof of vehicle overnight. No ASB reported.
- Cllr Roe spoke on behalf of the Neighbourhood Watch to report of an incident at 39 Stretton Road where a silver Raleigh mountain bike was stolen by a youth. The incident was reported to the Police but unfortunately it was not found.

8/05/15 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 March 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 March 2015 be approved as a true record.

9/05/15 To determine whether any item on agenda should be taken with the public excluded

There were no items.

10/05/15 Election 2015

Cllr Coates informed the meeting that Morton Parish Council was one of only two parishes in NE Derbyshire contested in the recent election and as a result five new parish councillors were elected. Cllr Coates took the opportunity to welcome the new councillors and to say thank you for their service to the two former councillors who were not elected as well as the two former councillors who chose not to stand for re-election.

11/05/15 Finance

- a) Payments:

| Cheque No. | Supplier | Description | Total |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 001406 | HAGS SMPS | Outdoor gym & swingset | £16,840.14 |
| 001407 | Cubit Ultrasonic | Lamp post testing | £168.75 |
| 001408 | NEDDC | Emptying dog bins | £460.51 |
| 001409 | Morton Village Hall | Senior citizens Xmas dinner | £385.28 |
| 001410 | Clip 'em & Fell 'em | Felling of damaged tree | £80.00 |
| 001411 | L Ghent | Salary & expenses | £414.00 |
| 001412 | HMRC | PAYE tax | £96.00 |
| 001413 | J S Marriott | Internal audit | £300.00 |

RESOLVED to approve the above listed items for payment and these were signed, on behalf of the Parish Council, by Cllrs Coates & Lawton.

- b) The clerk has contacted the bank for the relevant form to change signatories and shall do so again as it has not been received to date.
- c) The internal audit has been completed and the following items were raised:
 - o Standing orders, financial regulations and risk assessment must be reviewed annually and would usually be included in the agenda for the annual meeting;
 - o The asset valuation should be either the cost value or the insurance value; and
 - o There are 2 invoices from NEDDC for grounds maintenance which appear to be for the same period with one showing VAT and one not. NEDDC will need to be contacted to clarify the situation.
- d) The Annual Return 2014/2015 was presented to the Council for approval and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Return 2014/2015.

12/05/15 Matters to report

- a) Village notice board –It was reported to the meeting that due to concerns regarding safety the notice board in front of the Village Hall had to be removed. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk be authorised to order a replacement notice board.
- b) New planters –A resident has already planted up one of the present planters and Cllrs Browne & Martin offered to plant up the others. It was suggested that local businesses be approached to sponsor planters in the future. To be included on agenda for next meeting.
- c) Lamp post testing has been completed in advance of the hanging baskets being installed.
- d) Light Source Ltd – the clerk has formally accepted their offer of an annual grant of £5,000 per year for 20 years. The planning application has now been submitted to NEDDC.
- e) Soil & Soil Ltd – following the enquiry made by the clerk regarding a community benefit payment the company have responded to advise the Parish Council that yes they do have such a scheme and that it normally takes the form of the installation of solar panels on community buildings free of charge. Alternatively, if the Parish Council has other community schemes on our programme they will consider putting funds towards these. During a discussion it was agreed that ideas for the improvement of the Village Hall include a new roof which could be incorporated to include solar panel installation. It was agreed that a consultation must be undertaken with the village residents to identify if this project is a priority for them and if not to identify other community projects. To be added to the agenda for the next meeting.
- f) Hanging baskets – now ordered.
- g) Picnic bench (Bacchus Way) – the clerk has ordered this and it is expected to be installed within the next few weeks.
- h) Damaged tree on land behind the Village Hall. This was reported to the clerk by NEDDC following a grass cut. The tree was inspected and the damage was considered severe and urgent works were required. The clerk arranged for Clip'em and Fell 'em Ltd to undertake the felling of the tree at a cost of £80.00. Cllr Coates organised the removal of the tree.
- i) Precept & grant payment of £16,500 has been received.

- j) Padley Wood Farm consultation response submitted by the clerk as agreed at the last meeting.
- k) Football pitch marking out & grass cutting by NEDDC has been confirmed for 2015/2016.
- l) Potholes reported to DCC and the works have been carried out.
- m) Local Plan consultation comments submitted by the clerk as agreed at the last meeting.

13/05/15 Matters for decision

- a) Parish Council key objectives for next 4 years – all councillors were asked to consider ideas for the setting of future objectives and bring them to the next meeting for discussion.
Ideas discussed for consideration:
 - o Fireworks display – could possibly be held at Sitwell Arms. Possible date 6 November 2015. It is estimated that it would cost in the region of £2,000 inc VAT. Cllr Funnell is to liaise with the events committee. It was agreed in principle for Cllr Funnell to approach Sitwell Arms & fireworks company;
 - o Video film club;
 - o Travelling theatre company;
 - o Luncheon club for senior citizens;
 - o Additional events for senior citizens;
 - o Panto;
 - o More community events in Village Hall;
 - o Inclusion of new residents in community events;
 - o Live & Local – clerk to find out information
 - o Village Hall steering group – Cllrs Coates, Cashin, Funnell, Martin & Pleming.
- b) Park & pit wheels maintenance – quotations have been received from two of the three companies approached. It was **RESOLVED** to offer the contract to Brian Waterfall. Clerk to confirm with both companies.
- c) Speed scheme request from Stretton PC – Brampton PC have asked to join the scheme and it has been suggested that they pay the annual calibration charge for 2015/2016, approximately £160, which will mean that other members of the scheme will have a 'year off' from payment. It was **RESOLVED** to agree to Brampton PC join the scheme.
- d) Purchase of new planters – see minute number 12/05/15 (b) above. This item to be considered at the next meeting.
- e) Morton Colliery Cricket Club – a request has been received to make a contribution towards the 25% of the grant funding applied for. Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Martin & Roe to visit the cricket club and invite them to address the next meeting to provide clarification on the bid and contribution requested.
- f) Speed limit on Pilsley road – see minute number 7/05/15 above. DCC to be approached to look at signage.
- g) Morton Messenger – items to be included: gala; fun run; introduction to new councillors – to provide a photograph and bio. It was suggested that additional advertising be sought, Cllr Funnell to attempt to secure advertising and research alternative printing.
- h) Councillors' training – it was **RESOLVED** that the clerk to book induction training for councillors with DALC.

14/05/15 Planning

- a) 25 Church Lane, Morton – NEDDC has asked for the parish council's comments regarding this application – it was **RESOLVED** that a 'no comment' submission be made.

15/05/15 DALC circulars

- a) Circulars previously circulated.
- b) Clerk has attended the induction course on 15 April 2015.
- c) New CiLCA course is scheduled to commence in November 2015 – it is expected that the clerk will start the training at this time.

16/05/15 Correspondence

- a) DCC Parish & Town Councils' Liaison Forum , 22 June 2015, Matlock. The clerk will circulate the agenda when received for members' to consider whether they wish to attend.
- b) Derbyshire Police Hate Crime Project – request to utilise notice boards. Clerk to request a pdf for the website.
- c) Oral history training – previously circulated to members.

17/05/15 Reports from Parish Council representatives on outside bodies

- a) Church – nothing to report.
- b) Morton Park play area, New Street and youth activities –nothing to report.
- c) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – no meeting scheduled.
- d) School – notification has been received from DCC that a fully funded zebra crossing is programmed to be installed at the school subject to the outcome of a consultation with affected residents.
- e) Morton Events Committee – the next meeting is Tuesday 2 June to finalise the gala on 21 June. Volunteers are still required to work on the day, anyone able to help please contact Cllr Lawton.
- f) Village Hall – nothing to report.

18/05/15 Items for the next agenda

- a) Footpath to Morton from Pit Lane upgrade to Bridleway, meeting at Stretton Village Hall October 2015.
- b) Pit entrance – gully problems causing water flow over pavement.
- c) Bonfire night fireworks event.
- d) Future projects for the next 4 years, all to consider ideas for discussion.