

# **Morton Parish Council Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting of Morton Parish Council held on **Tuesday 15 March 2016** at 7.30 pm at the Rectory Rooms, Church Lane, Morton, DE55 6GU

## **PRESENT**

Cllr R Austin, Cllr J Browne, Cllr A Coates (Chair), Cllr J Funnell, Cllr C Lawton, Cllr R Martin, Cllr S Pleming, Cllr B Roe.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr A Cooper – N E Derbyshire District Councillor

G Green – PSCO

Tina Frost Morris – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Members of the public

## **01/03/16 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

## **02/03/16 - COUNCILLORS ABSENT**

None

## **03/03/16 - DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

## **04/03/16 - RECORDING AND FILMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the council was noted.

## **05/03/16 - PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Matters raised by members of the public and by councillors: It was reported that trees and hedging were overhanging the Main Road below the pit wheels which looked untidy and obstructed the footpath. The Parish Clerk agreed to obtain a quotation to trim back the overgrowth.

## **06/03/16 - COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

None

## **07/03/16 - DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

Cllr Cooper updated the meeting on the devolution plans for Derbyshire and he also stated that North East Derbyshire District Council had approved a Council tax increase of 1.9%.

## **08/03/16 - POLICE UPDATE**

The written report was noted which showed three crimes during February 2016, two of which were burglaries to properties on Main Road and Stretton Road, Morton and one attempted burglary on Stretton Road, Morton.

**09/03/16 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2016**

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 January 2016 be approved as a true record.

**10/03/16 - TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY AGENDA ITEM SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

There were no items

**11/03/16 - MATTERS TO REPORT**

- a) Lorries on Evershill Lane – Lorries were no longer presented a problem on Evershill Lane.
- b) Parking on New Street – Inconsiderate parking continued to be an issue with fire appliances and refuse collection lorries unable to access some properties. Two leaflet drops by the Police and the Fire Service had taken place. PCSO Green suggested that improved line marking and street lighting to the car park adjacent to the Playground would increase the use of this area for resident parking. PCSO Green agreed to provide the contact details for Derbyshire County Council to pursue the possibility of improved street lighting.
- c) Resignation of Councillor – Cllr Sean Cashin had tendered his resignation as Councillor and Vice Chair and he was thanked for his service to the Council. The councillor vacancy had been advertised and the 14 days would expire on 25 March 2016.

**12/03/16 MATTERS FOR DECISION**

- a) Election of Vice Chair and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office – John Funnell was proposed and seconded followed by a vote by a show of hands.

**RESOLVED** – that Cllr Funnell be appointed as Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the remainder of the year 2015/16.

- b) Community Grants Applications – Discussed the two applications from Mr S Smith on behalf of Morton Athletic FC and Ms J Lynk on behalf of Take My Hand I'll Teach You to Dance.

Mr Smith agreed to finalise the costings for the club and look at other sources of funding and then return to the next meeting of the Parish Council when a decision regarding funding from the Community Grant would be made.

**RESOLVED** – to approve a payment of £60 for 3 months rent of the village hall paid directly to Morton Village Hall in support of the Community Grant application of Take My Hand I'll Teach You to Dance.

- c) Village Hall Lease – Cllr Funnell would present the item at the next meeting.
- d) Seat for the top of the pit tip – Permission would be required from the owner of the land, Derbyshire County Council (DCC), to site a bench at the top of the pit tip. Planning permission may also need to be obtained.

**RESOLVED** – to contact Cllr Gillett to request consent to site a bench at the top of the pit tip on DCC land.

**RESOLVED** – to obtain quotations for the purchase and installation of a wood/concrete bench.

- e) New Planters – Three quotations were received for new/replacement planters to be situated at Baccus Way and two at Sitwell Villas.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the payment of £900 (plus VAT) to Woolley Moor Nurseries Ltd for the purchase of 3 black plastic 1m x 1m planters.

- f) Parish Council Meeting Dates and Location – Wednesdays were retained as the preferred day to meet. It was felt that a larger venue would be more appropriate for future meetings.

**RESOLVED** – to hold all future Parish Council meetings in the Village Hall.

- g) Annual Parish Meeting – A separate meeting was preferred with all community groups representative of the village invited.

**RESOLVED** – to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Morton.

- h) Review Financial Regulations – Councillors reviewed the Financial Regulations.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the Financial Regulations.

- i) Review Standing Orders – Councillors reviewed the current Standing Orders but asked that they be updated and simplified prior to the next review.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the Standing Orders.

- j) Direct Debit Payment for NEDDC and 1and1 – Direct debits would speed up payments of approved expenditure by the Council.

**RESOLVED** – to set up a direct debit for all payments to NEDDC and 1and1.

- k) Football Pitch behind Morton Manor – the football pitch was unsafe for playing football and required the ground levelling in order to make it safe.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the payment of up to £1,000 for the levelling of ground to the football pitch at the rear of Morton Manor.

- l) Highways Asset Infrastructure Management Strategy – no response would be made to the strategy.
- m) External Audit opt in/out – The Council had the option to opt out of the external audit arrangements that Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited (SAAA) were putting in place.

**RESOLVED** – not to opt out of the external audit arrangements with SAAA.

- n) Community Bus Consultation – The link to the consultation would be put on the website for individuals to respond to and posters would be placed on the village noticeboards.
- o) Hanging Baskets – Three quotations were received for the supply, maintenance and watering of hanging baskets. An additional 3 hanging baskets were also identified making the total now 18. The same number of lampposts would also need testing.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the additional 3 hanging baskets to a total of 18 and test the equivalent number of lampposts.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the payment of £2,160 (plus VAT) to Woolley Moor Nurseries Ltd for the purchase of 18 hanging baskets.

- p) Neighbourhood Planning Grants – The document was noted.
- q) Training courses – Any requests to attend the DALC training course should be made to the Parish Clerk.
- r) Morton Messenger – The next issue would be produced by 30 April 2016 and any articles should be forwarded to Cllr Coates and the Parish Clerk.
- s) Traffic Calming – a meeting was due to be held in the Village Hall on 11 May 2016 to discuss the issue of speeding within the village.

### 13/03/16 - FINANCE

- a) Payments (including those approved earlier in the meeting)

<b>Cheque Number</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Amount</b>
001464	R Martin	Bulbs for planters	£35.05
001465	T Frost Morris	Clerk's salary (18 Jan–29 Feb)	£336.00
001465	T Frost Morris	Clerk's expenses (18 Jan–29 Feb)	£34.06
001466	HMRC	PAYE tax (C Wharton)	£142.60
001467	DALC	Subscription	£408.23
001468	Cubit Ultrasonic	Lamppost testing of (18 lampposts)	£202.50 (+VAT)
001469	HMRC	PAYE tax (T Frost Morris)	£84.00
001470	Clayton, Mott and Lawton Solicitors	Seller's legal costs in relation to transfer of land	£1,500.00 (+VAT)
001472	Village Hall	3 months rental for dance exercise classes	£60.00
001473	Woolley Moor Nurseries Ltd	Plastic planters x3	£900.00 (+VAT)
001474	Woolley Moor Nurseries Ltd	Hanging baskets x18	£2,160.00 (+VAT)

**RESOLVED** - to approve the above items for payment and these are to be signed on behalf of the Parish Council by Cllrs Coates and Lawton.

b) DALC Subscription – Renewal of subscription for the year 2016/17

**RESOLVED** - to approve the payment of £408.23 for the DALC 2 subscription including Group 1 training.

#### **14/03/16 PLANNING**

- a) Extension on Station Road – planning submitted for a two storey side extension and single storey extension to the rear.
- b) Widening access road at Morton Grange nursing home – retention of widened access road and extension of existing car park. Mr S Rye from Morton Grange attended the meeting and apologised to residents for any distress caused as a result of the road widening work which commenced prior to planning consent being obtained. Mr Rye offered to contribute to tidying up the area in front of the bus shelter at Sitwell Villas.
- c) Drilling in field behind Sitwell Villas - Members of the public reported that drilling had taken place in the fields behind Maltby Avenue, however no planning application had been submitted to North East Derbyshire District Council to date.

#### **15/03/16 DALC CIRCULARS**

Noted

#### **16/03/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

Macmillan Chesterfield Appeal– Asking for a donation for the new Cancer Centre at Chesterfield Royal Hospital. The Council did not wish to donate funds at this time.

Chairman .....

Date 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Air Cadets – Requesting publicity for their forthcoming recruitment day on 12 April 2016.

NEDDC – Report highlighting the reduction in Council Tax Support Grant commencing 2017/18.

### **17/03/16 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Funnell reported on the activities for the village hall.

Agreement had been reached for a small parcel of land adjacent to the village hall to be transferred to the Parish Council. A commitment to legal costs up to £1,500 (plus VAT) had been requested from the seller's solicitor.

**RESOLVED** – to approve the payment of up to £1,500 (plus VAT) for the seller's legal costs in relation to the transfer of land to the Council.

### **18/03/16 ANY ITEMS FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2016**

- a) Community grant application by Morton Athletic
- b) Village hall lease
- c) Replacement litter bins at Sitwell Villas
- d) Frequency of Parish Council meetings

### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

- a) Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday 28 April 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Main Road, Morton, DE55 6GS
- b) Annual Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 18 May 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Main Road, Morton, DE55 6GS