

Morton Parish Council Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of Morton Parish Council held on **Wednesday 21 September 2016** at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Main Road, Morton, DE55 6GS

PRESENT

Cllr R Austin, Cllr J Browne, Cllr A Coates (Chair), Cllr A Dean, Cllr J Funnell, Cllr C Lawton, Cllr L Rodgers, Cllr B Roe.

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr A Cooper – N E Derbyshire District Councillor
 Cllr G Butler – N E Derbyshire District Councillor
 Tina Frost Morris – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
 Members of the public

01/09/16 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Sally Pleming had resigned as Councillor and she was thanked for her services to the Council.

02/09/16 - COUNCILLORS ABSENT

None

03/09/16 - DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST

None

04/09/16 - RECORDING AND FILMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

05/09/16 - PUBLIC SPEAKING

Matters raised by members of the public and by councillors: a concern was raised regarding speeding through the village where a member of the public had to jump out of the way of a speeding vehicle to avoid an accident. Individuals from the village were being trained under the speed check scheme and this would soon be operational within the village.

06/09/16 - COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

None

07/09/16 - DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllrs Butler and Cooper updated Councillors on the Constituency Boundaries Consultation which is open until 5th December 2016. The proposal is for Morton Parish to fall into the Alfreton and Clay Cross constituency.

08/09/16 - POLICE UPDATE

The PCSO's would no longer be able to attend the Parish Council meetings unless there was an increase in crime in the area. In future the Council would have to retrieve their own crime statistics from the Police website and upon checking the website the only statistics held on there were up to June 2016.

09/09/16 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JULY 2016

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

10/09/16 - TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY AGENDA ITEM SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED

None

11/09/16 - MATTERS TO REPORT

- a) Village Hall development update – Data was being collected for the Stage 2 application due in next week and the Council would hear back from the Big Lottery in 4 months' time. An architect had been engaged to draw up plans and cost up the project.
- b) Footbridge corrosion – The matter had been reported to Building Control at NEDDC who stated that the footbridge was not in imminent danger of collapse. A search of the land registry revealed that the footbridge was not registered to an owner. The cost of the repair to the footbridge would be established and Shirland and Higham Parish Council approached to see if they would be willing to contribute towards the cost.
- c) Flooding on Stretton Road – NEDDC had cleared out the gullies on Stretton Road and the hedging had been cut back so that the ditch was exposed. The clearing of the ditch was still outstanding and Cllr Gillott would be contacted to see if he could pursue the matter further.
- d) Dog fouling – Incidents of dog fouling had been reported on Stretton Road. NEDDC had been contacted and they had agreed to put up signs and stencil warnings onto the pavement near to the affected area.
- e) Waste bins – NEDDC has installed new bins on the Triangle and at Corner Pin to replace the damaged ones.

12/09/16 MATTERS FOR DECISION

- a) Oakview Gardens outstanding issues – A number of the outstanding issues at Oakview Gardens had been completed by Harron Homes and some were still in progress. The planning permission was thought to be presented to the Planning Committee at NEDDC in early October. The issue of flooding at Oakview Gardens and Sitwell Villas was still a concern.
- b) War Memorial cleaning/tidying – Notification had been received from Historic England that the war memorial had been listed at Grade II. Official guidance upon the cleaning of the war memorial recommended that a professional conservation cleaner be engaged, but that cleaning should not be undertaken too frequently.

RESOLVED – To obtain quotes for the professional cleaning of the war memorial.

- c) Set date for village tidy up day – NEDDC could provide bags and litter pickers and also collect the bagged rubbish at the end of the tidy day. A skip would cost between £170 to £200 (plus VAT) to hire.

RESOLVED – To set the village tidy day for 1st April 2017 at 9.00am.

- d) Village hall lease – The new lease had been received in draft form but not in time to be circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Do to the urgency of the matter the Chair had agreed to the quotation of £450.00 (plus VAT) for the drawing up of the lease by Clayton Mott and Lawton prior to the meeting. The draft lease would be sent to the Big Lottery to support the bid and also circulated to Councillors for consideration at the next meeting.

RESOLVED – To retrospectively agree the cost of £450.00 (plus VAT) for the drawing up of the new Village Hall lease by Clayton Mott and Lawton.

- e) Proposal for maintenance of “What’s on” section of Website – Cllr Coates agreed to undertake a Parish Council website demonstration for representative from the village groups to demonstrate how to add information to the website.

RESOLVED – To run a website demonstration for village groups.

- f) Preparation of newsletters – Cllr Dean agreed to take on the production of the Morton Messenger newsletter with a handover from Cllr Coates.
- g) Cost of seat for the top of the pit tip – Two quotations had been received for the fixing of a seat at the top of the pit tip.

RESOLVED – To appoint A C Smith at a cost of £225.00 to install and fix the new bench.

RESOLVED – To purchase the Eco-Rest bench at a cost of £353.40 (plus VAT).

- h) Fireworks update – An invoice from Britannia Firework displays for £1,250.00 (plus VAT) had been received after the publication of the agenda and was due for payment. The Events Committee had agreed to undertake the entry gate and glow stick sales at the firework display. Confirmation would need to be sought from the new landlord of the Sitwell Arms of their continued support for the event. The printing of the posters would also be required.

RESOLVED – To approve payment of the invoice from Britannia Firework displays for £1,250.00 (plus VAT).

RESOLVED – To seek confirmation from the new landlord of the Sitwell Arms of their continued support for the Fireworks display.

RESOLVED – To arrange the printing of the posters for the Firework display.

- i) Solar Christmas Trees – The solar powered Christmas trees agreed at the July meeting were found not to fit on lampposts and the type designed for lampposts would cost £95 per half tree to hire. The cost was felt to be prohibitive at this time, but other solar Christmas decorations would be investigated.

RESOLVED – Not to pursue the hire of solar powered Christmas trees, but instead to source the possible purchase of solar Christmas decorations for the village.

The Council were asked to consider a request to once again fund the purchase of a Christmas tree for outside the Village Hall. A quotation would be obtained and considered at the next meeting.

- j) Continuation of grounds maintenance after 30th September B Waterfall – Due to the clement weather, the growing season was continuing longer than usual and it was felt that the grounds maintenance should also be continued.

RESOLVED – To approve the continuation of the grounds maintenance service by Brian Waterfall for another month, up until the end of October at the same price.

- k) Mowing of field at the rear of Morton Manor – A number of options and costs were presented to Councillors in order to resolve the issue of mowing due to the limited access. Mr S Smith of Morton Athletic Football Club offered to obtain the name of a mowing contractor currently used at Stonebroom.

- l) Village Hall lease compliance with Big Lottery Fund – this was covered under item 11d.
- m) Unregistered land at Bacchus Way – It was understood that part of the land that made up the Bacchus Way play area and the access lane to it, had been gifted to the Parish by the developer of Bacchus Way as long as it continued to be a play area. The area of land concerned, was not registered with the Land Registry and as the Parish Council had maintained the play area for almost 40 years consideration was given to having the land registered by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED – To pursue the registration of the play area and the associated access lane into the Council’s ownership.

RESOLVED – To obtain costs for the registration of the land with the Land Registry.

- n) Community Grant application – Take My Hand I’ll Teach You to Dance – Half of the initial grant of £60 had been approved by the Council on 15 March 2016 and Ms J Lynk had resubmitted her application for the final part of the grant.

RESOLVED – to approve a second 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.

13/09/16 - FINANCE

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

| Cheque Number | Supplier | Description | Net Amount | Gross Amount |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|------------|--------------|
| DD | NEDDC | Emptying dog bins Apr – Jun 16 | £476.58 | £571.90 |
| 001494 | Brian Waterfall | Mowing, weeding, tidying of play area, pit wheels and triangle (Jun-Aug) | £225.00 | £225.00 |
| DD | NEDDC | Marking out football pitch at New Street x3 | £87.00 | £104.40 |
| 001495 | Derbyshire County Council | Annual lease of children’s play area at former Morton Colliery site due 1/6/14 | £60.00 | £60.00 |
| 001495 | Derbyshire County Council | Annual lease of children’s play area at former Morton Colliery site due 1/6/15 | £60.00 | £60.00 |
| 001495 | Derbyshire County Council | Annual lease of children’s play area at former Morton Colliery site due 1/6/16 | £60.00 | £60.00 |
| 001496 | Brian Waterfall | Mowing, weeding, tidying of play area, pit wheels and triangle (Aug-Sept) | £150.00 | £150.00 |
| 001497 | Grant Thornton | External audit of 2016 Annual Return | £200.00 | £240.00 |
| 001498 | T Frost Morris | Clerk’s salary (01 July–31 Aug) | £460.80 | £460.80 |
| 001498 | T Frost Morris | Clerk’s expenses (01 July–31 Aug) | £36.60 | £36.60 |
| 001499 | HMRC | PAYE tax (01 July–31 Aug) | £115.20 | £115.20 |

Payments approved during the meeting

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|--------|-----------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 001500 | Britannia Firework Displays | Fireworks display on 4 th Nov 2016 | £1,250.00 | £1,500.00 |
| 001501 | Morton Village Hall | Community Grant – 10 weeks rent for Come with me I’ll Teach you to Dance | £60.00 | £60.00 |

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

- b) The budget monitoring and bank reconciliation for the period ended 31 August 2016 were noted and approved.
- c) The external auditors report for year ended 31 March 2016 was noted and approved.

14/09/16 PLANNING

- a) Land south and east of Oakview Gardens and south of Maltby Avenue, Morton – The date of the Planning Committee at NEDDC was awaited.
- b) Felling of yew tree covered by TPO at Morton Manor – Derbyshire County Council were due to visit the site to assess the planning request.
- c) 46 Stretton Road - Construction of a detached dwelling and outbuilding – A concern was raised regarding the main drain on Stretton Road which was understood to run through the land concerned.

RESOLVED – To make NEDDC aware of the possibility of a main drain running through the land at 46 Stretton Road, Morton which had been earmarked for development.

15/09/16 DALC CIRCULARS

Noted.

16/09/16 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Mrs & Mrs Middup – Outstanding issues at Oakview Gardens – Noted

17/09/16 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Lawton reported on activities at the Church, School and Morton Events Committee. Cllr Roe reported on activities at the Neighbourhood Watch.

18/09/16 ANY ITEMS FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2016

- a) Approve Quantity Surveyor fee for Village Hall
- b) Purchase of village Christmas tree
- c) Village Hall lease

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 19 October 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Main Road, Morton, DE55 6GS