

Morton Parish Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 9th May 2012.

1/13 Members Present. Mr A. Coates, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mr A. Cooper, Mr C. Lawton, Mr S. Cashin, Mr M. Morris and Mrs L. Taylor.

Also in attendance were Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 1 member of the public.

2/13 Apologies. Mrs B. Roe and Mr B. Lewis - County Councillor.

3/13 Councillors Absent. None.

4/13 Election of Chair for the year 2012/13. The Clerk asked for nominations for the position of Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. Mr A. Coates was proposed and seconded as Chair of the Parish Council for the year 2012/13.

RESOLVED that there was no further nominations received for the position and Councillor Mr A. Coates was unanimously elected as Chair of the Parish Council.

5/13 Election of Vice-Chair for the year 2012/13. Mr Coates asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. Councillor Mr S. Cashin was proposed and seconded as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for the year 2012/13.

Thanks were expressed to Councillor McCullough for all of her work on behalf of Morton during the many years that she has been Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that there was no further nominations received for the position and Councillor Mr S. Cashin was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

6/13 Appointments and Subscriptions.

a). To appoint representatives to outside bodies.

The following people were agreed to represent Morton Parish Council on outside bodies and also for nominated areas of responsibility that the Parish Council is involved in:-

Councillor Coates - Audit, Accounts & Annual Return, Website and Village Hall.

Councillor Cashin - Morton Park, Youth Activities and the Village Hall.

Councillor McCullough - Audit, Accounts and Annual Return, South Eastern Partnership and Police, Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and Rykneld Homes.

Councillor Lawton - Housing and the Environment, Planning and Morton Church.

Councillor Roe - South Eastern Partnership and Police, Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Morton Cricket Club and Older People.

Councillor Morris - Building projects and infrastructure repairs.

Councillor Edson - Morton Primary School, Morton Gala, Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Public Footpaths and Morton Walking Group.

Councillor Cooper - District Council issues.

Councillor Taylor - Newsletter, Advertising, Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and pre-school Children.

RESOLVED that the above representations and responsibilities were unanimously agreed.

b). To appoint committees and sub-committees if required.

RESOLVED that no committees or sub-committees are required.

c). To consider the payment of any subscriptions falling to be paid annually if required.

RESOLVED that the annual subscription to DALC is unanimously agreed.

7/13 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

8/13 Public Speaking.

Items from members of the public. Concern was raised again regarding the proposed upgrade of Public Footpath No.3 in the Parish of Morton and Public Footpath No.46 (formerly part of public footpath No. 18 in Shirland and Higham Parish) to a Bridleway. It was agreed that the Clerk would e-mail the County Council later in the evening in order to confirm the fact that a number of local residents have made representations to members of the Parish Council and the Clerk that they wish to dispute the assertion that this public footpath has been used continuously for 20 years by horse riders prior to the installation of the 'A' frame barriers that were funded and installed at a cost of several thousand pounds by the County Council, District Council and ourselves.

The Clerk isn't sure if these residents have written separately to the County Council but their claims are strong in that some of them live in properties that are immediately adjacent to this footpath.

It was reported that the sunken grate at the junction of Station Road and Pilsley Road, Morton has been repaired which is very good news as this issue was only raised at the April meeting.

Police. The crime figures have been received from PCSO Gary Green and there were 3 recorded crimes in Morton during April; these were in respect of one incidence of criminal damage on Bacchus Way and two crimes of violence on Stretton Road.

There was one report of nuisance during April and this was on Main Road.

It was reported that there is now a further problem with cars blocking the public highway in the Village when they are parking across the pavement and the new location where this is now happening is Sitwell Villas.

District Council. Councillor Cooper had nothing new to report to the meeting.

County Council. There was no verbal report as Councillor Lewis was not in attendance at the meeting.

9/13 Non-Confidential Minutes - 18th April 2012.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th April 2012.

10/13 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

11/13 Clerk of the Council's Report. War memorial - an estimate from Hopkinson Memorials Ltd. has now been received and once a second price has been received from another company the Clerk will be able to submit the final bid for the grant to assist with the cost of carrying out the work.

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's report.

12/13 Matters for Decision.

a). **Morton Park Play Area.** Councillor Cashin reported that due to the recent extremely wet conditions the play area would now be completed towards the end of May.

Also, it is hoped that there will be a balloon release of more than 500 balloons symbolising every household in the village as each of these will benefit from this park in some way.

RESOLVED that Councillor Cashin's report is noted.

13/13 **Finance.** The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wages for April, May and June	-	1,425 . 33
HMRC - tax and NI January to March 2012	-	1,023 . 24
Page Kirk - payroll fees	Direct Debit	33 . 00
J.S. Marriott & Co. - internal audit fee 2011/12	001265	325 . 00
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	Standing Order	170 . 70

b). The Clerk reported that the Council's financial activity and balances from the 18th April 2012 up to and including the 9th May 2012 are as follows :-

Balances at the 18 th April 2012 :-	Capital Reserve Account	£ 3,001.87
	Current Account	£ <u>2,280.10</u>
	Total	£ 5,281.97
	Income Received	£16,248.04
	Expenditure Incurred	£ 2,977.27
Balances at the 9 th May 2012 :-	Capital Reserve Account	£15,002.24
	Current Account	£ <u>3,550.50</u>
	Total	£18,552.74

The Clerk reported that the date of this year's audit is the 24th May 2012; the Clerk has completed the audit return and John Marriott, Internal Auditor, has also signed off the section of the return that is relevant to his review of the records. Notices have been appropriately displayed informing local people of the availability of the accounts for inspection but the account book is available for anyone to read at every Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED that the accounts are unanimously approved and the Chair and the Clerk duly signed the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2012 to confirm this. The payments listed above were authorised and the current level of balances and the date of the external audit were noted.

13/13 **Planning.** None.

14/13 **DALC Circulars.**

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **17/2012, 19/2012, 20/2012** and **21/2012** - General Circulars and **18/2012** - DALC Clerk's Day 2012 - Update.

15/13 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. BCN Consultancy has written to give the address details of four new properties on Main Road, Morton and these are numbers 95, 97, 99 and 101 Main Road, Morton all with a postcode of DE55 6HL.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

16/13 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - It was reported that there is a blocked sink and also a blocked exterior drain at the Village Hall and Councillor Morris agreed to investigate these problems as soon as he had the time available.

Church - Councillor Lawton stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment.

School - Councillor Edson stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - There was nothing to report as there has not been a Partnership meeting since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

Youth Activities - Councillor Cashin stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme - Councillor McCullough reported that the meeting held on the 19th April 2012 in the Village Hall that was attended by Nicky Atkinson from the police to talk about home security was extremely interesting and useful but unfortunately not very many people were present.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

17/13 Items for the next agenda.

a). Application for funding towards the Churchyard grass maintenance (John Culverhouse, from Morton Parochial Church Council, is to attend for this item only).

b). Annual Accounts and Audit Return 2011/12.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm

Chairman

13th June 2012