

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 17th June 2009.

Informal Session.

Police. The crime figures and a written report have been received from PCSO Gary Green and there was one recorded crime in Morton during May and that related to an offence of violence. It was also stated that there were no reports of nuisance made within Morton during May.

PCSO Green has also submitted a comprehensive update report on local issues and the main three of these that are of relevance to Morton relate to the purpose and operation of Safer Neighbourhood Teams, the recent tragic incident where a young male was drowned whilst playing in deep water within a quarry at Ashover and also the ongoing concern regarding distraction burglaries in the area.

District Council. There are 7 Lime trees on the perimeter of the Bacchus Way play area and the District Council has recommended that 5 of these should be removed because of the problems these are causing for the neighbouring property; the cost of this work would be in the region of £700 and it was agreed that Councillors will look at the area in question before a decision is taken on whether to remove the trees.

It was reported that the grass verge on Pilsley Road has not been cut back and apparently Church Lane does not appear to be covered by the street cleaning team on their regular visits to the Village. Also, the services cover on the private land at the old pit yard is still in a dangerous condition due to the depth it is below the level of the land surrounding it. Councillor Cotterill agreed to raise all of these issues with the District Council and report back to the next meeting.

County Council. The Clerk stated that a Highways Inspector has looked at the pavements reported as being in a poor condition, particularly Station Road, and at the moment these are not considered a priority for repair by the County Council.

The footpath through the Churchyard is still slippery and the Clerk will follow this up again with the County Council. Other matters to follow up are the overgrown trees on the opposite side of the road to Westfield Gardens and the fact that the grass immediately around the play area on New Street needs strimming back

17/10 Members Present. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mrs B. Roe, Mr C. Parkin, Mr C. Lawton, Mr D. Cotterill and Mr A. Sams.

Also in attendance were Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor, Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 3 members of the public.

18/10 Apologies. Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

19/10 Councillors Absent. None.

Morton Parish Council

20/10 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

21/10 Items from members of the public. The ongoing issue regarding the improvement to the car parking problems on Evershill Close, Morton was raised again together with concerns about the flooding near to one of the drains, which is apparently being investigated. The Clerk has written to the Chief Executive of North East Derbyshire District Council as requested at the last meeting and he has given Councillor Cotterill an assurance that he will follow this matter up with the relevant officers until a satisfactory outcome is achieved.

A question was raised again regarding the work that was carried out near to the highway on Station Road where there has always been a problem with silt on the road and flooding. Councillor Cotterill stated that the County Council had investigated the problem of water escaping onto the highway from the former pit tip and, as a result of this, they agreed to clean out the interceptor that is supposed to disperse the draining water; if this hasn't resolved the problem satisfactorily it will need to be replaced altogether. If the problem then still persists a fresh look at the problem will have to take place. The Clerk will attempt to get an up to date report on the current situation from Simon Kimmins at the County Council.

There is a conifer blocking the streetlight near to the Bacchus Way play area and the Clerk will follow this up once an exact address is known for the property concerned.

It had been reported to Councillor Cotterill that a local resident had slipped and fallen on some oil that had run from a four wheel drive vehicle across the pavement even though it was parked away from the highway; this is obviously a matter for the individual concerned to take up in terms of a potential compensation claim if they feel strongly about this.

22/10 Non-Exempt Minutes - Annual General Meeting 20th May 2009.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 20th May 2009.

23/10 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

24/10 Clerk of the Council's Report. New seat for the Village - the Clerk has now ordered a seat and this will be installed somewhere near to the Old School House within the next month or so.

Toxic Waste Site - apparently the water sampling has now been carried out and this has not shown any problem with the quality of the water; soil sampling is also taking place and the full results will be given to the Parish Council in an easily understandable format in due course.

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's report and to approve the action stated against the appropriate items.

Morton Parish Council

25/10 Matters for Decision.

a). **Toxic waste site.** The Clerk reported that Nev Haslam, Head of Environmental Services at the District Council, had left him a voicemail message earlier in the day stating that the Environment Agency test results had not shown any contamination of the soil and water that is a cause for concern. Also, the District Council have commissioned a piece of work with a firm of consultants to specifically look at contaminated land throughout the District and Morton/Shirland and Higham will be included in this piece of work.

RESOLVED that the verbal report from Nev Haslam is noted and accepted.

b). **Victim Support in Derbyshire - request for financial assistance.** This voluntary group provides volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families who have been victims of crime in Derbyshire.

RESOLVED that a grant of £25 should be made to Victim Support in Derbyshire.

26/10 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NEDDC - empty dog waste bins (Dec.08 - Mar.09)	001087	295 . 18
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001088	162 . 81
Derbyshire County Council - lease of land	001089	60 . 00
Page Kirk - prepare year end tax return 2008/09	001090	24 . 15
Mr P. Goodwin - expenses	001091	63 . 00
Johnson Surfacing Limited - work on New Street	001092	7,818 . 85
Morton PCC - grant and hire of room	001093	1,000 . 00
Marmax Products Limited - 3 seater seat	001094	368 . 00
Mrs E.R. Goodwin - produce & print 540 newsletters	001095	455 . 00
Victim Support - grant	001096	25 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 17th June 2009 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £22,581.10
Current Account £ 1,720.41

RESOLVED that the payments listed above were authorised and the current level of balances noted.

Morton Parish Council

27/10 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning applications :-

09/00427/OHLN - Proposed application to rebuild approximately 2400m of 11kV overhead line on new wooden poles at the overhead line east of the rail line between Morton Lodge Farm and Old Pit Lane, Pilsley Road, Morton, Alfreton for Central Networks East.

09/00443/FL - Proposed erection of a detached 4 bedroom dwelling with integral garage on land immediately adjacent to 1 The Laurels, Station Road, Morton, Alfreton for Mr Rob Spence.

28/10 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **25/2009** - The Power of Well Being (Parish Council Training, additional Training Seminar at Draycott on the 8th June 2009), **26/2009** - Availability of Locum Clerks and Internal Auditors, **27** and **32/2009** - General Circulars, **28/2009** - Derbyshire County Training Partnership, **29/2009** - Free Energy Audits for Community Buildings, **30/2009** - VAT Workshops and Training and **31/2009** - Training Course (Responding to a Planning Application).

29/10 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. A letter has been received from the District Council regarding the North East Derbyshire Development Framework (LDF) - Village Service Provision and the results of the survey that took place during December 2008. The information that the District Council would like is as follows:-

- confirmation that the District Council's understanding of the location and type of services available in each area of the Parish is accurate and whether anything has been missed from their list.
- the District Council need to know whether there are any services that are lacking, or missing altogether within the Parish.
- the number of allotment plots in the Parish, how many of these are let and if any particular allotments have a waiting list.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above and that the Chair of the Council and the Clerk will gather the relevant information regarding Village Service Provision and return it to the District Council as soon as possible.

An invitation has been received for the Chair of the Council and a guest to attend the unveiling of the Sherwood Foresters Western Front Memorial at Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery near Ypres at 11am on Saturday 24th October 2009 by the Lords Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, hosted by the Burgomaster and Commune of Zonnebeke.

RESOLVED that Councillors consider who, if anyone would like to attend this memorable occasion.

30/10 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Morton Parish Council

Village Hall - The Clerk reported that progress is still being made by the two sets of solicitors in respect of the transfer of the small strip of land required to enable the creation of a proper access for disabled people from Chris Milner to the Parish Council and he will now follow this up again as a matter of urgency.

Church - Nothing further to report at the moment.

School - The fun run is raising funds this year for Morton Primary School and marshals are still needed to assist on the day with the event; this is particularly important as no response has yet been received from the police in terms of whether they will be able to send an officer to supervise the public highway/safety issues.

Safer Neighbourhood Team - Councillor McCullough stated that there was nothing new to report

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - Councillor Hawkins reported that the next meeting is due to take place on the 25th June 2009.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.50pm

Chairman 15th July 2009