

Morton Parish Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 20th May 2009.

Informal Session.

Police. The crime figures and a written report have been received from PCSO Gary Green and there were 2 recorded crimes in Morton during April that consisted of one burglary from a dwelling and one incident of violence. It was also stated that there were no reports of nuisance made within Morton during April.

PCSO Green has also submitted a comprehensive update report on local issues and the only one with any particular relevance to Morton is in relation to the operation of Neighbourhood Panel Meetings.

District Council. Councillor Hawkins stated that the work has been carried out by North East Derbyshire District Council to resolve the problem of water running from the services cover which is just on the old colliery yard piece of land; however, the area around the services cover now needs repairing and the District Council will be contacting the owners in the first instance in order to try and get them to carry out the work. If this doesn't happen the District Council will arrange for the work to be carried out and the owner will then receive an invoice for the total cost.

The fly tipping around the bridge on Higham Lane has increased again and it is now a real eyesore; it was agreed that the local youth organisation STAG should be approached to see if they could prioritise this as one of their next projects.

County Council. A question was raised 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 footpath through the churchyard was reported as being very slippery in wet conditions and it was felt that this required some attention prior to next winter; this will be raised with the County Council.

The County Council has asked the Parish Council to let them know the areas of footpath that are in most urgent need of repair; it was agreed that this is the stretch of path from 2 Stretton Road right up to Sitwell Villas and the Clerk will now pass this information on to the County Council.

1/10 Members Present. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mrs B. Roe, Mr W.H. Edson, Mr C. Parkin, Mr C. Lawton, Mr D. Cotterill and Mr A. Sams.

Also in attendance were Mr A. Cooper - District Councillor, Mr C. Marshall - Rykneld Homes, Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 7 members of the public.

2/10 Apologies. None.

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3/10 Councillors Absent. None.

4/10 Election of Chair for the year 2009/10. The Clerk asked for nominations for the position of Chair of the Council for the forthcoming year. Mrs M. Hawkins was proposed and seconded as Chair of the Parish Council for the year 2009/10.

RESOLVED that as there were no further nominations received for the position Councillor Mrs M. Hawkins was duly elected as Chair of the Parish Council.

5/10 Election of Vice-Chair for the year 2009/10. Mrs Hawkins asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Council for the forthcoming year. Councillor Mrs E.R. McCullough was proposed and seconded as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for the year 2009/10.

RESOLVED that as there were no further nominations received for the position Councillor Mrs E.R. McCullough was duly elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

6/10 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

7/10 Items from members of the public. The items raised namely the flooding on Station Road and the proposed road/parking improvement scheme on Evershill Close were both dealt with under the relevant main agenda items.

8/10 Non-Exempt Minutes - 15th April 2009.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th April 2009.

9/10 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

10/10 Clerk of the Council's Report. New seat for the Village - the Clerk raised this matter with Clive Marshall from Rykneld Homes who was present at the meeting; after some discussion it was agreed that a seat will now be placed near to the Old School Room on the spare piece of land that is apparently not owned by anyone.

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 has also taking place and the full results will be given to the Parish Council in an easily understandable format in due course; the Clerk will contact Nev Haslam at the District Council in order to check the likely timescale for when the information will be available.

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

11/10 Matters for Decision.

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a). **Land off New Street - potential for reinstating football on the site.** There is the potential for running football and other sports activities on this piece of land if a proper pavilion and changing rooms were provided.

RESOLVED that Councillor Cotterill will forward relevant details to Councillor Parkin of a company who may be able to put together an appropriate bid for funding for a scheme in this respect.

b). **Evershill Close Parking Scheme.** The proposed improvement scheme was discussed again following the expression of concern that had been raised by one resident on Evershill Close; also, it is possible that the approval of Rykneld Homes may be required even though it appears that planning permission is not needed for this scheme. It has also been stated by Rykneld Homes that a licence agreement might be needed for all of the properties involved in terms of access over the land and if this is the case the District Council will be asked to absorb this expense particularly as the Parish Council are funding the whole cost of the groundwork.

RESOLVED that the District Council, Rykneld Homes and any other relevant parties will be called together in order to ensure that the best scheme possible is produced out of the funds available from the Parish Council who are commissioning the work.

c). **Vitalise - request for financial assistance.** This voluntary that provides support to enable disabled people to have a short break, which also enables their carers to have a break, has written to ask for a small amount of financial support.

RESOLVED that the request is noted but no grant is to be made at the moment.

12/10 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wages for April, May and June	-	1,426 . 46
HM Revenue & Customs - tax and NI Jan. to Mar. 09	-	1,129 . 81
Page Kirk - payroll fees (1-1-09 to 31-3-09)	001080	28 . 75
Gary Wilkes - bus shelter cleaning (22-4-09)	001081	50 . 00
J.S. Marriott & Co. - internal audit fee 2008/09	001082	315 . 00
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001083	162 . 81
NEDDC - supply of school milk (Jan to March 09)	001084	53 . 48
Cubit Ultrasonic - lighting column testing	001085	250 . 00
Mr P. Goodwin - expenses	001086	74 . 32

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 20th May 2009 were as follows :-

Capital Reserve Account	£33,581.10
Current Account	£ 992.40

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The District Auditor has written to confirm that the date of this year's audit is the 20th July 2009; 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 2009 to confirm this. The payments listed above were authorised and the current level of balances noted together with the date of the external audit.

13/10 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

09/00333/FL - Proposed replacement detached garage to side of house at 29 Stretton Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire for Mr J. Adkin.

The following planning applications have now been approved :-

09/00141/FL - Proposed construction of a two-storey extension to rear at 54 Evershill Close, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 6HA for Mr Simon Mark Taylor.

09/00154/CM - Proposed County Council application for the erection of single temporary classroom unit to facilitate the extension of the existing school building at Morton Primary School, Main Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 6HH for Derbyshire County Council.

14/10 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **17 and 22/2009** - General Circulars, **18/2009** - Action with Communities in Rural England, **19/2009** - Government Responds to Matthew Taylor's Report on the Issues Facing Rural Communities, **20/2009** - Employment Act 2008, **21/2009** - New Quarterly Service (Quick Employment Tips), **23/2009** - Derbyshire Constabulary Annual Parish Council's Evening and **24/2009** - Possible Changes to the Administration of Concessionary Travel.

15/10 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. Inspector Jon Rawlinson retired on the 16th April and he has sent an update report about the North East Derbyshire CCTV and Radio Project for anyone to read. Also, information has been supplied regarding the North East Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership Plan for 2009 - 2012.

Councillor Claire Kozlowski has sent a letter of resignation from the Parish Council and this vacancy has now been advertised.

North East Derbyshire District Council has issued a North East Derbyshire Development Framework Core Strategy Issues and Options consultation document for local people to consider and copies of this are now available locally; comments need to be submitted by the 26th June 2009 and pre-paid envelopes are available for returning the completed forms.

The Chief Constable has sent a copy of the Have Your Say report for 2008; this was the most extensive

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face-to-face public consultation exercise that has been undertaken by Derbyshire Constabulary and the Derbyshire Police Authority.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

16/10 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

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. It was reported that a price of £6,563 has been received from the KAM Consultancy in order to move this Village Hall Improvement Project forward. This would include all the initial costs including the funding applications; a further cost of between 1% and 3% of the total capital costs (this will be agreed when the final project costs are known) is also payable if the scheme is successfully completed.

Church - Nothing further to report at the moment.

School - Councillor Edson stated that the Friends of the School are looking for some funding in respect of a gardening project that they are hoping to undertake and one local business has already agreed to donate some materials towards this. The Clerk advised that a letter should be sent providing some details of the scheme, the likely costs involved and how much they are asking for from the Parish Council.

Safer Neighbourhood Team - Councillor McCullough stated that there was nothing further to report at the moment.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - Councillor Hawkins stated that there was nothing further to report at the moment as there hadn't been a Partnership meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received and to authorise the expenditure of £6,563.00 in order to move the Village Hall Project forward and also the estimated future costs of between 1% and 3% of the total capital costs that are payable if the scheme is successfully completed.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.50pm

Chairman

17th June 2009

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