

Morton Parish Council

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 18th November 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 October and that was in respect of a theft from a non-dwelling.

PCSO Green has also submitted a report on local issues and the main two of these that are of interest to Morton relate to raising awareness about the possibility of distraction burglaries and reminding people to take care of their personal belongings whilst shopping.

District Council. Councillor Cooper has forwarded an e-mail from the District Council to the Clerk in respect of the problem with weeds on Bacchus Way and Penfold Way and this read as follows:-

“Thank you for your email concerning the second application of herbicide in Morton. The village was scheduled to be treated last week but because of changes in weather (rain and wind) the quads have not been able to be out applying herbicide.

The part of the main road was treated but we have not had the opportunity to return.

The area is scheduled to be treated as soon as possible but you will note that the mortality rate will take longer than normal since the plants are not actively growing.

I trust that the works programme can be delivered to your satisfaction.”

Councillor Cotterill reported that the District Council is going to repair the hole that has developed in the old pit yard off Main Road.

County Council. Councillor Lewis was not able to attend the meeting but he has sent an e-mail to confirm that he will be arranging a site meeting with the landowner and the Derbyshire County Council Highways Officers to see if there is anything that can be done to advance the issue with regard to the flooding and silting up of the road and pavement on Station Road, Morton.

Councillor Hawkins reported on the meeting with the County Council that she had attended with the County Council together with Councillor McCullough; a number of issues were raised including the problem with the wall on Station Road, fly tipping and also the fact that no-one from the County Council appears to be aware of the Morton Parish Plan even though three copies have been sent to them.

The streetlight is still being obscured outside 16 Penfold Way and the Clerk will follow this up again with the County Council.

The gullies on Church Lane are partly blocked and following any rainfall the water is only dispersing very gradually; the Clerk will report this problem to the County Council.

It was reported that the potholes in the road near to Sitwell Villas are worsening and this will be reported to the County Council again.

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73/10 Members Present. Mrs M. Hawkins, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mr C. Lawton and Mr D. Cotterill.

Also in attendance was Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk.

74/10 Apologies. Mr A. Cooper, Mrs B. Roe, Mr A. Sams and Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

75/10 Councillors Absent. Mr C. Parkin .

76/10 Declaration of Members' Interests. There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

77/10 Items from members of the public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

78/10 Non-Exempt Minutes - 21st October 2009.

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st October 2009.

79/10 Items in Exclusion. There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

80/10 Clerk of the Council's Report. 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 Neville Haslam from the District Council has agreed to come to a Parish Council meeting in order to explain the findings; the Clerk will follow this up with Neville Haslam.

Fly tipping - there is still a problem with fly tipping under the bridge on Higham Lane and this will be raised with the 'STAG' organisation in case they are able to assist in any way; once the area has been cleared the land needs to be fenced off in order to avoid the same problem quickly arising again.

Evershill Close - Johnson Surfacing Ltd have now provided a revised estimate based upon the drainage requirements specified by the District Council in order for this proposed improvement to the car parking problems on Evershill Close to go ahead. Now that there is a clear idea about the associated costs involved in carrying out the revised scheme it will be necessary to arrange a site meeting with the County Council, District Council and Rykneld Homes in order to ensure that they are completely satisfied with the proposals. Councillor Cotterill and Councillor Cooper have met with Alan Riley at the District Council and Councillor Cotterill has subsequently spoken to Clive Marshall at Rykneld Homes and asked him to make the arrangements for the site meeting as soon as possible.

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

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81/10 Matters for Decision.

a). **Precept and staff wages 2010/11.** The Clerk presented a draft precept for the financial year 2010/11. After a brief discussion it was agreed to accept the figures as presented.

RESOLVED to keep the precept at £32,000 for the financial year 2010/11. Wages will remain in accordance with the nationally agreed rates of pay although the increase due on the 1st April 2010 has not yet been finalised; however, it is unlikely that this will exceed 1%.

b). **Village Monument Embellishment.** An e-mail has been received regarding this matter and it details the sort of work that can be carried out to maintain and improve village monuments such as war memorials.

RESOLVED that a request should be made for the lettering on the war memorial to be improved.

c). **Rainbows Children's Hospice - request for financial assistance.** This local charity has written to ask for financial assistance and/or local publicity for their organisation.

RESOLVED that Councillor Hawkins will take this information to the Vicar to see if they are interested in inviting a speaker from Rainbows to attend Morton.

82/10 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HM Revenue & Customs - tax and NI July to Sept.09	-	1,046 . 34
Page Kirk - payroll fees to 30-9-09	001114	28 . 75
Royal British Legion poppy appeal - grant	001115	25 . 00
Mr W. Edson - costs incurred on Council trip to Ypres	001116	564 . 00
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001117	164 . 41

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 18th November 2009 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £10,583.89
Current Account £ 2,408.28

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

83/10 Planning. The following planning application has been approved :-

09/00514/FL - Proposed change of use of derelict former hospital ward to daycare centre, offices and training facility including new roof and windows erection of conservatory and external alterations at Morton Grange Nursing Home, Stretton Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 6HD for Inverhome Limited.

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84/10 DALC Circulars.

RESOLVED to note the information contained in Circulars **59** and **60/2009** - General Circulars.

85/10 General Correspondence. Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. NEDDC has sent details of the North East Derbyshire Development Framework Draft Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document and any comments about this need to be submitted in writing by 5pm on Thursday 10th December 2009.

RESOLVED that the correspondence is noted and Councillor Lawton will look at the Draft Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document on the Parish Council's behalf.

RESOLVED to note the correspondence as listed above.

86/10 Reports from Parish Council Representatives on other bodies.

Village Hall - The Clerk reported that he has now spoken to the Council's Solicitor and subject to there being no issues relating to shared services with Morton Manor such as drains the transfer of the land can now be finalised; it was confirmed that there were no shared services and the Clerk will now report this to the Solicitor.

A new caretaker/cleaner has now been appointed by the Village Hall Management Committee. An extractor fan is required for the kitchen and the gutters also need cleaning out again; the clerk will contact Peter Harkins in order to arrange for this work to be carried out.

Church - The electricity conductor has already been installed and the Church is delighted with this and particularly how quickly it has been achieved.

School - Nothing further to report at the moment.

South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership - there has not been a Partnership meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.50pm

Chairman 20th January 2010

Morton Parish Council