

Morton Parish Council**Minutes of the meeting of Morton Parish Council held on 17th September 2014, 7.30pm, at the Rectory Rooms****Present**

CLlr A Coates (Chair)
 CLlr W Edson
 CLlr C Lawton

CLlr A Cooper
 CLlr R McCullough

In Attendance

Mrs J Taylor (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)
 1 member of the public

1/09/14 Apologise

CLlr M Morris - working
 CLlr S Cashin – Other commitment
 CLlr B Roe – Other commitment

2/09/14 Councillors Absent

CLlr E Taylor

3/09/14 Declaration of members' interests

None

4/09/14 Public Speaking**a) Public**

A member of the public thanked the Council for cutting back the overhanging trees and hedges.
 3 members of the public had approached CLlr McCullough to complain about the absence of school crossing.
 The planters in the village have been painted and repaired, but due to their poor condition new ones will require purchasing next year.

b) District Council

None

c) Police

PCSO Gary Green was unable to attend the meeting but had emailed the crime report for August 2014. A theft had occurred on Main Road and a non dwelling burglary had occurred at the Corner Pin. No ASB reported.

5/09/14 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th July 2014

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th July 2014

6/09/14 To determine whether any item on agenda should be taken with the public excluded

There were no items

7/09/14 Finance**Payments**

			Net	Gross
Plantscape	Noticeboards	001376	1265.00	1518.00
Grant Thornton	Audit	001377	200.00	240.00
NEDDC	Dog bins	001378	432.96	519.55
Came & Company	Insurance	001379	1966.20	1966.20
S Ashlee	Pit wheels / village general	001380	1337.98	1337.98
Salary	July 14-Sept 14	001356	582.00	582.00

Chairman

Date

RESOLVED to approve the above listed items for payment, and these were signed, on behalf of the Council by Cllr W Edson, Cllr C Lawton and Cllr A Coates.

RESOLVED to approve the bank statement and bank reconciliation, the bank reconciliation was signed.

The Annual Return has been received back from Grant Thornton and states that *'on the basis of our review, in our opinion the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.'* Matters drawn to the attention of the Council is the requirement for an annual review of the risk assessment.

A letter has been received from HMRC demanding payment of underpaid Nic contributions from 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. The Clerk to investigate.

8/09/14 Matters to report

- a) The play area inspections are being carried out by a volunteer member of the public and Cllr W Edson. Cllr Edson had reported that the 'stepping logs' at New Street play area had lifted and had nails on the underside to secure them to the ground. Logs to be removed and replacements found. Cllr Cashin asked if the white lines can be marked on the football pitch all year round. Clerk to contact NEDDC.
- b) The Awards for All application required two questions answering and is ongoing.
- c) The notice boards have not yet been erected in the village. Cllr Coates informed the Council that Cllr Morris is very busy and doesn't know when he can put them up. **RESOLVED** It was agreed that the Clerk find a contractor and the budget for the work to be £250.
- d) The land for the village hall has been registered with the Land Registry. This has taken a longer than expected. Clerk to contact solicitor and request monies on account are refunded.
- e) No correspondence has been received after Cllr Coates met with a planner from NEDDC. This information is required to help make decision regarding village hall. Clerk to contact planner and ask for response.
- f) Cllr Coates to attend Chairman's training course.
- g) There was a temporary closure of Bridleway No. 8 awaiting repair, which has now been carried out.
- h) The Speed Awareness Campaign Partnership is underway, Cllr Coates to attend the official handing over of the camera to Clay Cross Police Station.
- i) Late Item – The Doe Hill Country Park liaison group are looking for funding for continued support for maintenance of Doe Hill Country Park. Item to go on next meeting agenda.

9/09/14 Matters for decision

- a) Remembrance Sunday
Cllr Coates wants to encourage as many people as possible to come to the war memorial for the laying of wreaths on the 11th November 2014. A reminder of the event to go into the newsletter. **RESOLVED** Clerk to order poppy wreaths, and Cllr Coates to contact Sitwell Arms to provide food, tea and coffee. A contribution of £200 agreed by the Council.
- b) Newsletter
Cllr E Taylor is currently working on the Newsletter. The newsletter takes a lot of time and effort and permanent solution is required as to who will do it and what will be produced and how often. **RESOLVED** Cllr Coates will assist Cllr Taylor to produce November's newsletter. Council to consider long-term solution, including the option to pay someone.
- c) Parish Plan
Cllr Coates suggested a new parish plan be produced. The Parish Council have a plan which hasn't been changed or reviewed recently. **RESOLVED** to review the parish plan.

d) Elections 2015

Cllr Coates suggested that Councillors actively promote the Parish elections, and encourage people to become a Parish Councillor and make a difference in their community.

RESOLVED to advertise the elections, and to have an open evening for current Councillors to explain the role and the work of the Council.

e) Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations Review

The draft Risk Assessment was circulated and approved. The Financial Regulations review was postponed until the next meeting.

RESOLVED to adopt the Risk Assessments.

f) Contracting work

Councillors discussed the process by which work is given to contractors. It was agreed that work below the limit of £300 could be given to our casual grounds man, but work exceeding this amount must go to quotes.

RESOLVED Clerk to amend Financial Regulations to reflect change.

10/09/14 Planning

None

Council requested Clerk to find out if the bus turning circle was removed from the planning on Stretton Road.

11/09/14 DALC circulars

Previously circulated

12/09/14 Correspondence

None

13/09/14 Reports from Parish Council representatives on outside bodies

- a) Church – Cllr Lawton reported a successful commemoration of the 1st world war, which was well attended.
- b) Morton Play Area (New Street) – See item 08/09/14(a)
Goalpost require repairing. Clerk to contact NEDDC.
- c) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – AGM took place but was not well attended. Stonebroom and Morton had a joint meeting with police.
- d) School – a zebra crossing has been requested outside the school
- e) Morton Events Committee – 7 events arranged for between now September and December. It was suggested a notice board get erected at the new development on Stretton Road.
- f) Village Hall – No response has been received from the planner. Clerk to contact.

14/09/14 Items for the next agenda

- a) Financial Regulations Review
- b) Newsletter
- c) Doe Hill Country Park
- d) Parish Plan