

# Morton Parish Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Rectory Rooms on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

## **Informal Session.**

**Police.** The crime figures have been received from PCSO Gary Green and there were no recorded crimes in Morton during April.

**District Council.** The Clerk reported that the District Council is pursuing the landowner in respect of getting the fly tipping removed from under the bridge on Higham Lane; in respect of the tipping around the Corner Pin Public House the landowner is not known and this problem is likely to remain for some time. However, Councillor Cotterill agreed to check how much it would cost to remove it and the procedure for applying a charge against the land in order that the amount could be recovered if the landowner is ever identified. If the rubbish is cleared it would then be possible for local residents to fence the area off in order to try and avoid a repetition of this problem.

Councillor Edson has spoken to the Headteacher at Morton Primary School and she has confirmed that they would like the supply of school milk to continue if the Parish Council will fund this; also, she feels that a smaller quantity would suffice as not everyone takes up the offer and it was agreed to support this request for next year and then review the situation annually. Councillor Edson will liaise with the school in order to make all of the necessary arrangements.

**County Council.** Councillor Lewis has sent an e-mail from the Bolsover Countryside Partnership Ranger which reads as follows:-

“I have eventually managed to trace the landowner of the footpath that you made an enquiry about Tibshelf 2. This path goes from Stonebroom Lane to Station Road, Morton. I have looked at the path and the main problem seems to be the state of the stile as it exits onto Stonebroom Lane. Now that I have found the landowner, after an hour door knocking in the village, I have informed him that he is responsible and liable for the structure. After some wrangling we have come to the compromise that we will replace the stile with a metal kissing gate. Once the paper work is in place which should be about 10 day's time we will get it done the week after.”

Councillor Hawkins attended the Parish and Town Council event with the County Council in April and again raised the ongoing problem with the wall on Station Road, this time with the Strategic Director of Environmental Services, but a response has not yet been received; the Clerk will follow this up with the County Council as a matter of urgency.

**1/11 Members Present.** Mrs M. Hawkins, Mrs E.R. McCullough, Mr W.H. Edson, Mr A. Cooper, Mr C. Lawton, Mr D. Cotterill, Mrs B. Roe, Mr A. Sams and Mr S. Cashin.

Also in attendance were, Mr P. Goodwin - Clerk and 2 members of the public.

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**2/11 Apologies.** Mr B. Lewis - County Councillor and Mrs A. Holmes - District Councillor.

**3/11 Councillors Absent.** None.

**4/11 Election of Chair for the year 2010/11.** 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 2010/11.

**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.

**5/11 Election of Vice-Chair for the year 2010/11.** 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 2010/11.

**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.

**6/11 Declaration of Members' Interests.** There were no declarations made in respect of any of the agenda items.

**7/11 Items from members of the public.** The footpath near to the post office is still overgrown with ivy and the clerk will arrange for this to be removed as soon as possible.

The Parish Council and the police were thanked for resolving the problem of vehicles parking on the grass verges on Evershill Close after this was raised at the April meeting.

Someone is tipping piles of turf and soil near to the planter and notice board next to the Corner Pin Public House and if this is not removed soon it will be reported to the District Council.

**8/11 Non-Exempt Minutes - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010.**

**RESOLVED** to confirm as a correct record the Non-Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

**9/11 Items in Exclusion.** There were no items to be taken in exclusion.

**10/11 Clerk of the Council's Report.** Evershill Close - due to the delays, and changes to the specification, the

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anticipated cost of the proposed improvements has increased by about £9,000; this will inevitably delay the work unless additional funding can be obtained and in this respect the Clerk will write to Rykneld Homes to see if they are prepared to contribute towards the cost of this improvement scheme. Also, enquiries will be made to see if it would be possible to obtain a loan from the Public Works Loan Board in order to fund either part or all of this work.

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

## 11/11 Matters for Decision.

a). **Request for financial assistance - Chesterfield and District Shopmobility.** This voluntary organisation provides a service in our area for people with mobility problems and they have requested a grant towards their overall costs.

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £25 should be made to Chesterfield and District Shopmobility.

## 12/11 Finance. The following payments have been made :-

a). <u>Payee.</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wages for April, May and June	-	1,422 . 66
HM Revenue & Customs - tax and NI Jan. to Mar.10	-	1,057 . 14
NEDDC - supply of school milk (Spring 2010)	001145	68 . 20
St John Ambulance Brigade - grant	001146	25 . 00
J.S. Marriott & Co. - audit fee 2009/10	001147	325 . 00
Derbyshire County Council - superannuation	001148	164 . 41
AON Limited - annual insurance premium	001149	2,259 . 14
Cubit Ultrasonic - lighting column testing	001150	300 . 00
Morton P.C.C. - grass cutting and hire of room	001151	1,000 . 00
Chesterfield & District Shopmobility - grant	001152	25 . 00

The Clerk reported that the Council's balances up to and including the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 were as follows :- Capital Reserve Account £11,599.82  
Current Account £ 2,000.00

The District Auditor has written to confirm that the date of this year's audit is the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010; 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

## 13/11 Planning. There were no objections to the following planning application :-

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**10/00218/OL** - Proposed application for outline planning permission (with all matters reserved) for the erection of a three bedroom detached bungalow on land adjacent the north side of 54 Evershill Lane, Morton, Derbyshire for Mr Philip Barratt.

## **14/11 DALC Circulars.**

**RESOLVED** to note the information contained in Circulars **23/2010, 24/2010, 25/2010, 26/2010** - General Circulars and **27/2010** - Land Registry Training Event.

**15/11 General Correspondence.** Various items of correspondence were distributed amongst the councillors present. The County Council has written to confirm that the extension of the Ordnance Survey Sub-Contractor License will automatically take place and as before there is no cost to the Parish Council for this License.

The County Council has written regarding a claim to upgrade to a Bridleway Footpath No.3 known as Pit Lane, Parish of Morton and Footpath No's 46 and 18 Parish of Shirland and Higham and to add a bridleway from the junction of Footpath No's 46 and 47 to meet the road serving Stonebroom Industrial Estate.

On this subject the Clerk has received the following e-mail from a local resident:-

“Comments: Mr Goodwin, I would be interested to know the Parish Councils view regarding the upgrading of Footpath no.3 (between Main Road & Stonebroom Industrial estate) to Bridleway status. As you may recall both Morton and Shirland & Higham Parish Councils campaigned for this path to be resurfaced to allow pushchair users & mobility scooters to use this path. I feel that if this path is upgraded to allow horses to use it, something which is being pushed by Shirland/Higham Parish who have a large number of horse owners, the footpath will become unusable by these people very quickly as it wasn't constructed to carry the weight of a large amount of horses. It will also result in the removal of the 'K' barriers, which have been successful in reducing the amount of motorbikes riding along here, again something which the Parish was very keen to deal with. I look forward to your reply.”

**RESOLVED** to note the correspondence as listed above and to write to the County Council to say that the Parish Council are strongly opposed to this scheme on the above grounds and in addition we would like to add the following comments/objections in addition to those already raised:-

“There is already a safer access for horse riders between Stonebroom and Morton that is well used namely from the access point near to Stonebroom School leading through to the rear of Morton Manor.

The residents on Pit Lane object to this proposal and we have advised them to write to you separately together with all the other residents who have objections.

There are serious health and safety risks associated with opening this route up to horse riders when it is used by people of all ages on foot together with motorised scooters; additionally the potential for increased

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use by off the road bikers would be opened up again hence I have copied this e-mail to our local police contacts. The Parish Council feels that any local authority supporting or agreeing to this proposal would be potentially open to challenge under the Crime and Disorder Act should there be any incidents given that concerns are being raised by a number of local people.”

## **16/11 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. Councillor Hawkins stated that a meeting had taken place with the VHMC and the consultant working on our behalf and they are now at the stage of looking in detail at the most appropriate sources of funding in order to try and bring this project to fruition.

**Church** - Nothing further to report at the moment.

**School** - Councillor Edson will liase with the Headteacher in order to ensure that the provision of free school milk continues in the 2010/11 school year even though the District Council has withdrawn its funding for this scheme.

**South Eastern Neighbourhood Partnership** - There has not been a partnership meeting since the April Pariah Council meeting.

**Youth Activities** - Councillor Cashin and Councillor Sams gave an update on the work that they have been doing and they are now considering how best to spend the £500 grant from CHART that has now been received.

**RESOLVED** to note the verbal reports that were received.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.55pm

**Chairman**

16<sup>th</sup> June 2010

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