

**A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall,
Morton on Tuesday 26th February 2008 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT Councillors; D. Creasey (Chairman), B. Hyde (Vice Chairman), G. Lack, W. Lawrance, P. Chubbuck, C. Friend and S. Reynolds.

Also in attendance Mr. T. Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O)
District Councillor F. Cartwright

Members of the public present None

1. APOLOGIES.

Received and accepted from Councillors L. Taylor, J. F. Richardson and R.J. Wells.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None

3. MINUTES.

The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd January 2008 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Dog Fouling The Clerk had highlighted this problem, as requested, in the press report for the last meeting.

Fen Road Signs The Clerk had contacted the District Council regarding the provision of signs for North & South Fens. As there are no definitive names for the fen roads the Parish Council would need to consider an official naming process and the Clerk was asked to investigate the necessary procedure.

Pond Clearance The Clerk had received a letter from Mr Empson assuring the Council that a qualified freshwater biologist would be advising on any future activities.

LALC Area Forum An open area forum of the Association will be held at Cranwell Village Hall at 7.15pm on 13 March 2008.

Lincs Rural Transport Partnership - a leaflet highlighting the work of voluntary or community car schemes, has been received.

Lincolnshire Waste Partnership – The Clerk was asked to complete a survey form on behalf of the Council.

National Probation Service – A suggested presentation 'Local Crime, Community Sentence' was not considered appropriate by the Council.

Calor Village of the Year It was agreed not to enter this competition.

Morton Village Hall The Village Hall committee had decided, on the grounds of expense, to withdraw its earlier request for the Parish Council to become Custodian Trustee of the hall.

Quarterly Safety Inspection The Clerk had carried out the safety inspection of the play equipment, at the playing field, on 22 February and completed records accordingly.

Internal Audit The Chairman has carried out the half-yearly inspection of the account books and records to ensure that all money is being paid into the Council's bank account, that accounts are being kept up to date and bank statements are reconciled.

Cemetery Since the last meeting there has been One Exclusive Rights application. Receipt £88.00

Planning matters Due to time constraints the following application was dealt with by consultation and there were no objections -

J Featherstone. Side extension & boundary wall. 29 Edenham Road, Hanthorpe.

SKDC has granted planning permission for the following applications –

Alston Country Homes. Conversion & restoration of barn. East Lane

Mr Tosney. Rear conservatory. 26 Millfield Road.

Mr. & Mrs. Freemantle. Rear single storey extension & detached garage. 35 Edenham Rd, Hanthorpe.

External Auditor The Audit Commission has informed the Council that Clement Keys have been appointed external auditors for a five year period, commencing with the 2007/08 accounts.

Moore Stephens The LALC has advised the Council that, at present, it need take no further action.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT & MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Risk Assessment & Management Policy (Document 1/08) had been presented to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

It was resolved, by unanimous agreement, to approve and adopt the document as the Council's policy.

6. INTERNAL AUDIT PROCEDURES & TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Internal Audit Procedures & Terms of Reference (Document A1/08) had been presented to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

It was resolved, by unanimous agreement, to approve the procedures and terms of reference, as presented.

7. INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDITOR – REVIEW

The Councillors resolved that they were satisfied with the continued appointment of Mr David Thomas as Independent Internal Auditor and that, as required, he was considered competent and independent of the operations of the Council.

8. ACCOUNTS.

The following payments were approved in accordance with the budget -

Fovia	Printing Winter N/letter	12. 00
S.Sorrel	Pond Clearance	70. 00
N Wilkie	Litter Coll. To 16.2.08.	48. 00.
T Barnatt	Feb Salary	366. 15.
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire 26.2.08	6. 00.
Lincs County Council	Playing Field Maint. 06/07	744. 13

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the council will be held at the Church Hall on Tuesday 1st April 2008 preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, commencing at 7.15pm.

10. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

District Councillor Cartwright informed the meeting that although the District Council was to receive what amounts to a decrease in annual settlement from the Government there were increasing expectations of more services and additional efficiency savings. The Police service would also need greater local funding.

OTHER MATTERS

The clerk was asked to –

- a) Contact the Lincolnshire Highways to ask why the A15 foot/cycle path has not been completed.
- b) Ask for the Haconby Lane verge along the Cemetery hedge to be included in council cut.
- c) Investigate the ownership of the hedge along the north side of the Cemetery.
- d) Contact SKDC with the suggestion of Knott's Close or Court for the East Lane development.

There being no other business the meeting then closed.