

**Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Church Hall Morton  
on Tuesday 27th September 2005 at 7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT:-** Councillors: D. Creasey (Chairman) G. Lack, J. Lees, P. Chubbuck, B Hyde, D. Ward & R.J. Wells.

**Also in attendance:** - District Councillor F. Cartwright, & Mr D.J. Thomas (Clerk & R.F.O.)

**Members of the public present:** - One

**1. APOLOGIES:** - Apologies were received from Councillors N. Needham & W. Lawrance.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** - There were no declarations of interest on any of the items on the Agenda.

**3. MINUTES:** - The clerk's notes of the meeting of Tuesday 23rd August 2005 were approved as the Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

**4. MATTERS ARISING & CLERK'S REPORT:-**

**Jubilee Close/ Stock cars:** - The clerk was asked to take this matter up yet again with the District Council

**Dyke to south of Hanthorpe Road:** - The dyke has now been cleaned out, but some of the rubbish had been left on the verge, and part of this had now found its way back into the dyke. The clerk has asked the District Council to make arrangements to collect the rubbish as soon as possible. He has also been in contact with the Area Highways Manager to see if there is any chance of the verge on this side of Hanthorpe Road being included in the amenity grass cutting schedule, but he has been told that this will not be possible.

**Cemetery Maintenance:** - No bill has yet been received for the work to cut back the hedge.

**Standing orders for signatures on cheques:** - This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Rabbit droppings The Broadway:** - An environmental health officer has now visited the premises, and at the time of his visit, there was no evidence of rabbit droppings on the highway or the verge, an inspection was made of the garage where the animals are being kept, this was found to be clean and the animals well cared for. The inspector concerned is to make an unannounced visit at some time in the future to ensure that the standards are being maintained

**Planning Application:** - A letter has been sent to the District Council objecting to the application to erect a bungalow at 25 Bourne Road, as resolved by the Council at the August meeting.

**S.K.D.C. Environmental Health/Lincs County Council Highways & Planning Customer Service Centres:-** The clerk told the meeting that he was finding the customer service centres very frustrating to deal with. He can understand why both Councils have set up such a scheme for dealing with complaints and queries from the

public, but feels that clerks to parish & town councils should be able to phone directly to an officer. He had found that although the service centres said that they would arrange for an officer to phone back within 24 hours, this did not always happen, and was not practical in any event for clerks working from home on a part time basis.

**E.M.D.A. News/ L.A.L.C. Annual Report:-** Copies of these are available from the clerk.

**Lincolnshire Police:-** The new divisional commander is T. Hackett.

**L.C.C. Capital Grant Aid:-** Application packs for 2006/07 are now available.

**Best Kept Village Competition:-** The large village/small town section of this competition has been won by Saxilby, with Burgh le Marsh second and Pinchbeck third. Morton has failed to get through the first round of the competition, but has received some very favourable comments from the judges, with the cemetery being singled out as "immaculate"

**Planning Matters:-** The application to erect a pre-school building adj. to 27 High Street, by Mr & Mrs T. Hammond has been approved by the District Council as has the Application by Mr & Mrs D.M .Parker to convert a barn to a dwelling at 29 Stainfield Road.

**Cemetery:-** There has been one burial since the August meeting, fees received £50.

**Security at Village Halls:-** Following a spate of burglaries the police are advising that furniture in halls should be overtly marked.

**Internal Audit:-** Councillor Creasey has carried out his half yearly audit to ensure all accounting records are being kept up to date, and that all money collected is being paid into the bank promptly.

**Annual External Audit:-** This has now been completed by Moore Stephens of Leicester, who have found no matters on which to comment or bring to the attention of the Council. The clerk has advertised the completion of the audit on the High Street notice board.

**Morton & Hanthorpe 2000+ Committee Quiz Night:-** This will be held on Friday 14th October, teams of up to 4 are invited.

**Street Lights out at The Crescent and Jubilee Close:-** These have been reported for repair.

**Countryside Agency Open Access Maps:-** The map from the agency shows no land in the Parish as "Open Country".

**S.K.D.C. Issues & Options /Questionnaire:-** Copies of this document were given to Councillors for perusal, and the questionnaire will be completed at the November meeting.

**S.K.D.C. Creation of Leisure Trust:-** The District council is seeking to consult with Parish Council's about the creation of a Leisure Trust, it has commissioned a report from consultants about the feasibility of this, but is not prepared to let the Parish

Council have more than one copy, saying that it is available on their web site. The clerk has explained that not all councillors can access this information, and that it is impractical and unworkable for the Council to make a response from just one copy in the timescale allowed, but this has made no difference to the District's decision. The clerk was asked to make contact once more to see if a précis version of this report might be obtained.

**5. R.O.S.P.A. REPORT ON PLAY EQUIPMENT:-**

This years report has not highlighted any areas of major concern, but has identified some low risk areas which require monitoring. It was again pointed out that the old wooden trim trail is beyond economical repair, and the Council is in the process of removing it.

**6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:-** There were no objections to the following planning applications:-

Mr & Mrs R. Barwell	Extensions	1 St John's Close	Full Planning
David Hughes	New Access	Morton Baptist Church	Full Planning
Alston Country Homes	Substitution of house type	Plot 5 East Lane	Full Planning

**7. ACCOUNTS:-** Paid since last meeting:-

Anglian Water	£28.92	Cemetery water supply
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**For Approval:-**

D.J. Creasey	£19.28	Paint for cemetery railings.
Playground Management Ltd	£90.48	Inspection of Play equipment.
Moore Stephens	£141.00	Annual audit.
Morton P.C.C.	£6.00	Hire of hall.
W. Lawrance	£156.00	Litter collection at Playing Field to 30th Sept.
Mrs M. Gibson	£257.50	Caretaking to 30th Sept.
D.J. Thomas	£1,081.00	Clerk's salary to 30th September.
Mr N. Wilkie	£40.00	Litter collection to 23rd September.

**8. NEXT MEETING: -** The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday 8th November 2005.

**9. THERE were no reports from outside bodies.**

**10. RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION: -** It was proposed by Councillor R.J. Wells, seconded by Councillor G. Lack that due to the confidentiality of the next item on the agenda the Council should move into closed session, and all were in favour.

**11. STAFFING MATTERS: -** Various staffing matters were discussed in view of the Clerk's decision to retire in March 2006.

**OTHER MATTERS: -** The Clerk was asked to look into the following matters:

1. Blocked gully East Lane
2. Litterbin for Station Road

There being no other business the meeting then closed.