

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 30th Oct., 2024 at The Village Hall – commencing at 7pm

Present: J.Tibbetts (Chair), C.Ward, M.Harrison, R.Metcalf, and the Clerk. Also present were V.Holliday (NNDC) and three members of the public.

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.C.Bean. Apologies were also received from M.Dalby (NCC) and V.Egan (NT).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

MH declared an interest in 5d.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 25.9.24.

The minutes, which had already been circulated, were accepted as a true record. (Prop: CW, Sec: JPT).

3a. Public Participation (requests to speak on agenda items)

No requests to speak on agenda items.

3b. To receive reports from District/County Councillors and the Police

** V.Holliday (NNDC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members. It referred to the following :- (a) update re NNDC Local Plan (b) update re benefits (c) appointment system for recycling centres (d) increase in car park charges (e) medicine collections at Blakeney still being sorted (f) NCC Scheme, “Tech skills for life”; assistance with phones, computers etc.. VH also spoke further re medicine collections, NNDC Local Plan, and car park charges.

3c. To receive report from NT.

V.Egan (NT), referring to the planning application, emailed stating that they were “still reviewing the comments made”.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £377.90 (clerks net salary), HMRC £94.60 (tax on salary)
T.Leach 100.00 (cleaning), P.Bullimore £57.70 (clerks exp),
Kerridge Glazin Ltd £108.00 (repr windows), F.Newton £150.00 (grass cut)
S.Meakin £12.00 (copying paper), Charge Surveys £864.00 (traffic survey)
Local Lynx £250.00 (donation)

The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, were approved (Prop: RM, Sec JPT)

(b) To further consider management of PC funds.

The Clerk’s report had been circulated on 7.10.24 outlining the types of investments suitable for a parish council. The Chair spoke further about the Unity Bank which seemed suitable for the PC’s needs and it was agreed that RM and the Chair investigate opening an account with them (Prop: RM, Sec: CW).

5. Planning:

(a) To note decisions & information received from NNDC since last meeting.
None received.

(b) To consider planning applications received since agenda was printed
None received.

(c) PF/24/1492; To receive update re NT planning application.
No further news (see 3c). RM spoke briefly on the NNDC Landscape Officers report which objected to the application and the Clerk referred to the recent negative press statements and reports.

(d) To consider advertising boards at east end of village (adjacent A149)
MH agreed to deal with this matter.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

(a) To receive update re traffic surveys
A payment to Charge Surveys (see 4a) would generate a date for the second traffic survey which was agreed to be carried out in November.

(b) To receive update re bus stop problems (including signage)
The no parking signs had been purchased but there was no further news from NCC Highways Dept. regarding the other agreed works. The Clerk was instructed to follow this up.

(c) To consider NCC Highways Partnership Scheme 2025/26.
Members had no suitable projects and it was agreed to remove this matter from the agenda as receipt of applications was soon.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

The Clerk reported on a successful training night on 8/10/24 run by the NPTS, which was attended by three members and also supported by Beeston Regis PC.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

(a) Update on Maintenance Log & Work.
The Chair reported that (a) the window latches had been repaired in the village hall (b) the wooden posts east of the pub would be replaced this week and (c) a price for the roof repairs had been obtained. The Chair asked members to keep the quotation regarding the roof confidential because, if such work was to be carried out, the financial regulations required other quotations be submitted. Members were unable to agree a way forward and the Chair stated that the PC needed a strategic plan. She stated that a long term plan was required for the village hall, the site, and the village. This was agreed and the matter would be placed on the next agenda.

9. To consider Christmas Card mailing to planning respondees

RM gave a brief report on this and it was agreed to leave the matter for the time being

10. To consider Christmas Hampers for parishioners.

It was agreed to send Christmas cards to parishioners this year and also donate £500 to a local food bank (Prop: JPT, Sec: MH).

11. Governance: To further consider talk by the “First Responders”

It was agreed the Chair makes further enquiries and arranges a first-aid course in the new year. A FR’s talk could be included in this course.

12. To receive update re the Morston Regatta, 2025

CW had not received an update re 2025 from NH and asked for this to be placed on the next agenda.

13. To receive correspondence (not included in agenda items above)

An acknowledgement from the land owners regarding the PC's thank-you letter on the regatta had been received.

The Langham Road pothole had been reported to NCc Highways.

The water leak in Quay Lane had been reported to AWA.

14. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

The deteriorating road surface opposite the church car park on the A149 was noted and would be reported to NCC Highways.

15. To confirm date of next council meeting and new agenda items

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 27th November, 2024 - 7pm.