



# Morton-On-Swale

## Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 26 November 2025 commencing at 7.30 pm  
At Morton-on-Swale Village Hall**

Present: Councillors: A Poulter (Chair), K Weston, J Sanderson  
Clerk / RFO: A W Lambert, R Dale  
NY Councillor: A Wilkinson  
Public: 3 Members of the Public

| Agenda Item                                       | Detail   | Action |
|---|--|--------|
| <b>25 / 67 Welcome / Apologies for Absence</b>    | The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.<br><br>Apologies had been received from Councillors H Rees Jones and P Weighell.   |        |
| <b>25 / 68 Declarations of Business Interests</b> | There were no declarations of business interests / dispensations.  |        |
| <b>25 / 69 Minutes</b>                            | The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 September 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting.<br><br><b><i>Resolved: The minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</i></b>   |        |
| <b>25 / 70 Matters Arising</b>                    | <b>Litterpicking</b><br>It was noted that the recent issues by North Yorkshire Council with emptying of bins had been resolved.<br><br><b>Playground</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The tree survey had been booked.</li><li>➤ Signage had been ordered.</li><li>➤ Spraying had been undertaken.</li><li>➤ Hedges had been cut – it was noted that the cuttings would need to be cleared away.</li><li>➤ Repair work to the play equipment had been undertaken.</li><li>➤ Quotes for the quarterly inspections for 2026 were being sought.</li><li>➤ A new padlock had been purchased for the gate.</li></ul> <b>Community Resilience Plan</b><br>Work to the Community Resilience Plan was ongoing.<br><br><b>Fund-Raising &amp; Events Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ It was noted that the 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins had arrived</li></ul> |        |

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|                                     | <p>➤ The first meeting of the Committee will be arranged for January 2026</p> <p><b>Highways Issues</b></p> <p>➤ A pothole in the village had been repaired.</p> <p>➤ Flood signage was in place and working well.</p> <p>➤ It was noted that a roundabout sign had been knocked over. The Clerk to inform Highways.</p> <p>➤ The litterbin at the entrance to Morton Grange had not yet been repaired / replaced.</p>  | <b>Clerk</b>                                     |
| <b>25 / 71 Public Forum</b>         | There were no matters from the public.  |  |
| <b>25 / 72 Clerk's Report</b>       | There was nothing to report.  |  |
| <b>25 / 73 Police Report</b>        | No Police report had been received.   |  |
| <b>25 / 74 NY Councillor Report</b> | <p>Councillor Wilkinson reported on the following:</p> <p>➤ North Yorkshire Council Liaison – circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>➤ North Yorkshire Proposed Development – Call for Sites. It was noted that the information collated will feed into the Local Plan.</p>  |  |
| <b>25 / 75 Communication</b>        | <p><b>Proposed Community Survey</b></p> <p>Councillor Weston explained that she has drafted a community survey to ascertain the key priorities of the community. A draft survey had been circulated to Council for consideration and it was agreed that Councillors will form a working group to finalise this to ensure it is sent out to residents prior to the next Council meeting.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded about the last survey in 2018 which had highlighted speeding through the village, along with litter and dog waste. Funding was also required for repairs and improvements to the playpark. The results of the 2026 Community Survey would be considered in January.</p> <p><b>Action tracker</b></p> <p>Councillor Weston had drafted an action tracker for consideration which is a tool to monitor any outstanding actions. It is proposed that this tracker is to be completed following each meeting and that Councillor Weston would be happy to be the custodian of the tracker.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p><b>(a) That a Parish Council working group is established to finalise and distribute a Community Survey to residents prior to the next full Council meeting.</b></p> <p><b>(b) That the action tracker be added to the agenda at the next meeting.</b></p> | <p><b>Parish Council</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> |
| <b>25 / 76 Community Donations</b>  | <p><b>Shared:</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Project Plan</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Draft Donations Policy and application process</b></p> <p>➤ <b>CIL Investment Strategy</b></p>   |  |

|                               |   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------|-----------------|------------|--|
|                               | <p>Councillor Weston explained the Project Plan which sets out key milestones for developing a Community Donations Policy and application pack and a CIL Investment Strategy. A further update will be brought to Council In January with full adoption sought in March 2026 so that it can ‘go live’ from the new financial year.</p> <p><b>Resolved: That the Parish Council should form a working group to progress the development of the:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Draft Community Donations Policy and Application Pack</b></li><li>• <b>Draft CIL Investment Strategy</b></li></ul> <p><b>Biscuits Donation</b><br/>Councillor Weston requested that biscuits be donated to those in the village who were alone. These will be funded by Councillor Weston with no cost to the Council but wanted to do this under the banner of the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Resolved: That nominations be sought for recipients of biscuit donations under the banner of the Parish Council.</b></p>  | <b>Parish Council</b>   |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| <b>25 / 77 Finance</b>        | <p><b>The following financial information had been circulated:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>RFO Report – November 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>Accounts Summary – November 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>Bank Reconciliation – November 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>CIL Summary 2026 - 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>Expenditure Transactions – November 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>Receipts – November 2025</b></li><li>➤ <b>Final Precept Calculations for 2026/27</b></li><li>➤ <b>New HSBC Mandate</b></li></ul> <p>The RFO explained that the Synergy quotation for the quarterly inspections had been received. One other quote was awaited.</p> <p>It was noted that the new HSBC mandate had been completed. This was part of the five yearly reviews.</p> <p><b>Budgetary Update</b><br/>The current budgetary information had been circulated:</p> <table><tr><td>➤ Current A/C Balance –</td><td>£511.42</td></tr><tr><td>➤ BMM A/C Balance -</td><td>£18,804.93</td></tr><tr><td>➤ Cash in hand to be banked -</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>➤ Payments pending -</td><td>- £2,027.33</td></tr><tr><td>➤ Receipts pending -</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>➤ Balance C/F -</td><td>£17,289.02</td></tr></table> <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p><b>(a) That a precept of £13,200 be sought from North Yorkshire Council. It was noted that this equates to 0.5% increase in the Parish Council share of the Council Tax.</b></p> <p><b>(b) That a budget heading for S137 be created with a budget figure of £500 for 2026/27.</b></p> <p><b>(c) That the Fundraising and Events Committee budget should be £750 for 2026/27.</b></p> | ➤ Current A/C Balance – | £511.42 | ➤ BMM A/C Balance - | £18,804.93 | ➤ Cash in hand to be banked - | £0.00 | ➤ Payments pending - | - £2,027.33 | ➤ Receipts pending - | £0.00 | ➤ Balance C/F - | £17,289.02 |  |
| ➤ Current A/C Balance –       | £511.42   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| ➤ BMM A/C Balance -           | £18,804.93  |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| ➤ Cash in hand to be banked - | £0.00   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| ➤ Payments pending -          | - £2,027.33   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| ➤ Receipts pending -          | £0.00   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| ➤ Balance C/F -               | £17,289.02  |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |
| <b>25 / 78 Correspondence</b> | <b>Our Morton</b>   |                         |         |                     |            |                               |       |                      |             |                      |       |                 |            |  |

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|---|--|---------------------------|
|   | Following the previous meeting, correspondence had been received from Our Morton seeking further clarification about funding and the Friends of Morton-On-Swale. The Parish Council responded asking if it would help to have a meeting between the two organisations. The meeting had taken place which had helped to seek clarification regarding available funding. |                           |
| <b>25 / 79<br/>Planning</b>             | There had been no planning applications to consider.   |                           |
| <b>25 / 80<br/>Member Reports</b>       | <p>Members asked to note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The broken snicket barrier</li> <li>➤ Loose cobbles</li> <li>➤ The white railings.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Wilkinson agreed to use some of the North Yorkshire Locality Budget to pay for the snicket barrier but needed an estimate of cost to proceed.</p>                     | <b>Clerk</b>              |
| <b>25 / 81 Future<br/>Meeting Dates</b> | <p>Wednesday 28 January 2026</p> <p>Wednesday 25 March 2026</p> <p>All meetings to commence at 7.30 pm.</p>  | <b>Parish<br/>Council</b> |

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

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