



Morton-On-Swale

Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 28 January 2026 commencing at 7.30 pm
At Morton-on-Swale Village Hall**

Present: Councillors: A Poulter (Chair), K Weston, J Sanderson, P Weighell
Clerk / RFO: A W Lambert, R Dale
NY Councillor: A Wilkinson
Public: 9 Members of the Public

Agenda Item	Detail	Action
26 / 01 Welcome / Apologies for Absence	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Councillor H Rees Jones.	
26 / 02 Declarations of Business Interests	There were no declarations of business interests / dispensations.	
26 / 03 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 26 November 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Resolved: The minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
26 / 04 Matters Arising	Litterpicking There were currently no issues. Playground <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pruning of the willow tunnel required.➤ Steps to the zip wire were slippy.➤ Painting of springs required➤ Tree inspection was awaited. Community Resilience Plan Work to the Community Resilience Plan was ongoing. Highways Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Cobbles outside the old butchers are slippy. Resolved: To use the newly set up Parish Council Action Tracker each meeting to review matters arising and provide an update on progress	Clerk
26 / 05 Public Forum	There were no matters from the public.	

26 / 06 Clerk's Report	It was noted that the Clerk would be attending a webinar on Parish Council Casual Vacancies.	
26 / 07 Police Report	No Police report had been received.	
26 / 08 NY Councillor Report	<p>Councillor Wilkinson reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Road safety / speeding. ➤ Footpaths / cycleways safety. ➤ Flooding / drainage. ➤ Community and Social Value. 	
26 / 09 Fund-raising & Events Committee	<p>Fund-Raising & Events Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Committee has created a draft Google calendar for the whole village to add events to which should ensure co-ordination of activities and raise awareness for residents on what is going on. The Committee sought Parish Council authority to embed this as part of Parish Council website (with disclaimer) and to share with other key groups in the village. It was agreed the Committee would also consider how to cover those parishioners who do not have access to the internet and/or social media. ➤ The Committee held their first meeting on 27 January 2026, and draft minutes have been circulated to the Parish Council. ➤ The Committee sought Parish Council authority to organise and run a 2026 fun day and potentially a couple of smaller events when there are volunteer numbers to organise. ➤ The Committee sought Parish Council authority to reach out to other groups to see if there was an appetite to do a village weekend with various events to suit different audiences and for those groups to raise money for their own causes. ➤ Events to be arranged include a Fun Day, events for families and a Village weekend. ➤ The minutes and the terms of reference had been circulated to Parish Council for their consideration. <p>Resolved:</p> <p>(a) That the request from the Committee to change the terms of reference to 'Quorum of 3 (including the Chair)' be approved.</p> <p>(b) That the Community Calendar be embedded on the Parish Council website and for other groups to be invited to use the calendar be approved.</p> <p>(c) That the Committee can plan a 2026 Family Fun Day and some other smaller events should there be the capacity from volunteers to do so be approved.</p> <p>(d) That the Committee can contact other groups and organisations in the village to see if there is appetite to hold a 'village festival' be approved.</p>	<p>FEC</p> <p>FEC</p> <p>FEC</p> <p>FEC</p>
26 / 10 Communication	<p>Community Survey</p> <p>It was noted that the community survey had been based on similar Parish Council surveys, the last one being 2018. There had been seventy responses so far which equates to 25%. It was noted that the deadline is 31 January 2026. A full update will be brought to the next meeting, and the key priorities will feed into the final versions of the Donations Policy and CIL Investment Strategy.</p>	

	<p>Action tracker The action tracker would be completed on an ongoing basis and will be used to inform 'matters arising' going forward.</p>	<p>KW / Clerk</p>
<p>26 / 11 Finance</p>	<p>The following financial information had been circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RFO Report – January 2026 ➤ Accounts Summary – January 2026 ➤ Bank Reconciliation – January 2026 ➤ Expenditure Transactions – January 2026 ➤ Receipts – Year ending 31 March 2026 ➤ Schedule of Routine Payments for 2026-2027 as of 14 January 2026 ➤ CIL Investment Strategy ➤ Community Donations Policy and Application Pack <p>Budgetary Update The current budgetary information had been circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Current A/C Balance – £1,162.52 ➤ BMM A/C Balance - £16,380.01 ➤ Cash in hand to be banked - £0.00 ➤ Payments pending - £0.00 ➤ Receipts pending - £0.00 ➤ Balance C/F - £17,542.53 <p>It was noted that a repayment had been received regarding VAS signage not being in use for a period. The NY Locality Budget had also been offered to do varying work in the parish. The year end figure had improved significantly and looking at approximately £9,500.</p> <p>It was also noted that the CIL money had been used for playpark maintenance and community initiatives with some left in reserve.</p> <p>Resolved: (a) That the Schedule of Routine Payments for 2026/27 Financial Year be approved.</p>	
<p>26 / 12 Correspondence</p>	<p>Our Morton Two pieces of correspondence had been received from Our Morton:</p> <p>(a) Letter dated 22 January 2026 (b) Correspondence dated 28 January 2026.</p> <p>In the later correspondence, the Group suggests that the earlier letter be disregarded and removed from the Parish Council meeting agenda, and that the latest email be treated as new correspondence, with a written response provided within 21 days.</p> <p>Resolved: The Parish Council to reply in writing to the email received from Our Morton (dated 28th January 2026) within 21 days as requested.</p> <p>The Dales School Correspondence had been received asking for the Parish Council to be involved in a proposed meeting at The Dales School regarding traffic concerns. It was agreed that the Parish</p>	

	Council was happy to be involved and once the date was known then representation could be made. It was also noted that North Yorkshire Councillor Annabel Wilkinson was currently involved with this issue.	
26 / 13 Planning	There had been no planning applications to consider.	
26 / 14 Member Reports	There were no Member reports.	
26 / 15 Future Meeting Dates	Wednesday 25 March 2026 All meetings to commence at 7.30 pm.	Parish Council

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

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