

Garvald & Morham Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 August 2023 Morham Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees

Phillip White (PW) David Ramsay (DW) Anna Derricourt (AD) Roger Harris (RH) Tom Trotter (TT) David Murray (DM)

Apologies

Ian Smith (IS) Ian Middlemas (IM) John MacMillan (JM) George McGuire (GM) Shamin Akhtar (SA)

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Road Sign Finger Posts

An estimate has been obtained from Fleming Engineers and been forwarded to Roads Department. (SA)

Spring Oscars

Despite local support, the idea does not the business case for council support. (SA).

A199 Junction

The verges approaching the junction have been cut but the trees and bushes have not been cut back and the sight lines are still compromised. (RH) In the absence of JM the item to be left on the agenda.

3. Garvald & Morham Renewables

Meetings were held with Advice Direct Scotland who, (working with the Scottish Government), to provide independent consumer advice and social enterprise focussed on energy top-up grants for poorer families, and Changeworks, (who provide free advice on energy efficiency and the 'EcoCosi' home improvement retrofit service).

The priority is to identify change opportunities including the Hardship Fund, EPC's and identify those on benefits who might be helped. All options should be identified and kept open

4. Treasurer's Update

Our bank balance stands at £39,198.69. All cheques have been cashed and there is nothing outstanding, either to come in or go out. The three applications for funding that were agreed at our last meeting have not yet been processed.

5. Funding Ideas

See Minutes Part 2 previously issued

6. Update from Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership

Nothing to report.

7. Updates from Garvald and Morham Representatives

Garvald

1. We have renewed insurance for a further year. Premium was £2,439, a 37% increase, but still the most competitive the broker could source.
2. We have secured four wedding bookings for next year.
3. Regular bookings continue to be drama & yoga classes.
4. Other irregular bookings continue sporadically; three over the next couple of months for kids' parties, Lammermuir Festival on 15th September, village show on Saturday.
5. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for 30th August, where I plan to get an update from Shirley on potential works.

Morham

Poor broadband service in the area is a concern and various initiatives were proposed including :-

1. Contacting Lothian Broadband to see if download speeds can be tested and poorly performing areas improved. (RH)
2. Investigate the use of the village halls as 'Internet Hubs'. (RH)
3. Investigate the use of IT specialists to help individual householders re PC setup and router connections. (RH)
4. Design an online form for the Scottish Government Voucher Scheme (AD)
5. Update garvald.org with the information.

8. Garvald Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing To report

9. A.O.B.

Nothing to report

10. Date of next meeting - Monday 2nd October 2023