

Menston Neighbourhood Forum and Menston Parish Council and Menston Community Association Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2017 at 7.00pm

Present: Peter Finlay, Liliias McCulloch, Cllr Dale Smith, Paula Truman (Shipley Area Office), PC Martin Brearley (Police), Glyn Martill, Philip Moore, Steve Ellams (from 8.00pm), Philip Davies MP and approximately 40 members of the public

1. Welcome and Introduction

Paula Truman welcomed everyone to the joint Menston Neighbourhood Forum meeting. She gave apologies from Simon D'Vali who had been asked to deal with an emergency matter and Cllr Jackie Whiteley. Mr Vali had asked Mrs Truman to give an update about the removal of the mini roundabout at the junction of Main Street and Bingley Road.

2. Neighbourhood Police Team

PC Martin Brearley from the police gave a presentation which highlighted vulnerable aspects of domestic properties which made them attractive to burglars. He then spoke about measures which could be implemented to protect domestic properties. He also recommended not mentioning holidays on Facebook as this will serve to advertise empty properties. He also asked members of the public to report concerns to the police and to register with OWL to receive updates about police issues and crimes. Paula Truman thanked PC Preston for his presentation.

3. Annual General Meeting of the MCA including Elections, Report and Accounts

Appointment of MCA officers

Peter Finlay gave Steve Ellams' apologies and asked for any other nominations as Chairman of Menston Community Association.

It was agreed to elect Steve Ellams as Chair

It was agreed to re-appoint the following officers en-bloc:

Liliias McCulloch (Vice Chair) and Glyn Martill (Treasurer). This was agreed unanimously.

In addition to the officers, the following people are members of the committee:

Alan Elsegood, John Houlihan, Quentin Mackenzie, Dave Manson, Philip Moore, Sue Rix and Dale Smith.

Mr Finlay made a request for additional Menston residents to join the committee which meets monthly in the Methodist Church rooms. Anyone interested in taking part should contact Steve Ellams at s.d.ellams@icloud.com

Acceptance of the Community Association Accounts and the Report to Trustees

Peter Finlay introduced the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts. The Community Association Accounts were accepted by vote, and thanks were extended to Glyn Martill for preparing the accounts and to Keith Bonney for his auditing work. It was proposed to re-appoint Keith Bonney as auditor for 2017-18. This was agreed unanimously.

4. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme resurrection

Mike Goven, landlord at the Menston Arms gave a presentation about Neighbourhood Watch and asked anyone interested in becoming involved in the new scheme to either contact him in person or through the Menston Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page. Peter Finlay thanked Mike Gaunt for his presentation and for the work he has put into re-establishing the Neighbourhood Watch scheme on behalf of the village.

5. Update on the asset transfer at Kirklands

Peter Finlay gave an update about the asset transfer.

Menston Library reopened at the start of September and is now known as Menston Community Library. There has been a tremendous response from the village and there are a number of volunteers, although more are always welcome. The Parish Council is currently funding a library manager as a temporary measure. Some further refurbishment work will be carried out in October and the library may be closed for two to three days. The Parish Council has agreed to fund the purchase of some mobile library shelving which can be moved to release space for meetings or public events in the library. The Community Library is an ongoing project which will only be successful if the library is used. Mr Finlay thanked Cllr Dale Smith for the work he has carried out to ensure that the Community Library is successful – particularly organising the rota for the volunteers.

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation is being established to take over the whole of the Kirklands estate (Menston Library, Kirklands, Menston Children's Centre, Menston Bowling Club and the Doctors' Surgery). Kirklands toilet is currently closed and locked until this can be made vandal-proof and remedial work will be carried out in the winter months.

6. Update on the removal of the mini roundabout at the junction of Main Street and Bingley Road

Peter Finlay advised the meeting that the Parish Council has agreed to make a substantial contribution towards the removal of the mini roundabout at the junction of Main Street and Bingley Road. An enforceable stop sign will be installed at the junction of Bingley Road with Main Street and a road traffic order will be put in place to reduce traffic speeds on Bingley Road approaching Menston.

7. Update on the Bradford Core Strategy

Philip Moore gave an update on the Bradford Core Strategy. The Core Strategy sets out broad locations for new housing, employment and infrastructure investment. The 2015 Public Inquiry agreed that 600 additional properties should be built in Menston and 700 additional properties should be built in Burley, although specific sites were not identified at this stage. The Core Strategy was ratified by Bradford Council in July 2017 and the site allocations document which identifies specific sites is expected to be published for consultation in Autumn 2017. Philip Davies MP raised concerns in parliament about land being taken out of the green belt for development with the result that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Minister will call in any decision to remove green belt land for development.

The Department of Communities and Local Government's 2014 household projections published in 2016 have suggested a reduced rate of household growth

compared with earlier projections. Leeds City Council has agreed to examine the revised figures and consider whether to review their housing targets. It will be interesting to see whether Bradford Council does the same.

8. An update on the Bingley Road planning application

David Rhodes gave an update on the Bingley Road planning application. Following Taylor Wimpey's withdrawal from the Bingley Road site, Bellway Homes have expressed an interest in the site and submitted an outline planning application. JBA Consulting were contracted to provide a full report about the site's geology and this was submitted in support of the Parish Council's objection to this application. Bradford Council is the lead authority under the 2010 Flood and Water Management Act and has stated that the proposals submitted by Bellway Homes are unacceptable. A meeting to consider the application is due to take place in November.

The land at Derry Hill is now up for sale and bids have been invited. A similar drainage report will be carried out should any bids be accepted.

Peter Finlay thanked Professor Rhodes for his presentation and hard work.

9. Parish Council issues

Peter Finlay gave an update about the consultation being carried out by Leeds Bradford Airport. This looks at the potential for adjusting flight paths over Menston for aircraft taking off from the airport. Alan Elsegood has been acting as the village representative on the Airport Consultative Committee and has requested an extension to the consultation period and for representatives from the airport to attend a consultation meeting in the village and present the proposals in non-technical language. Mr Finlay thanked Mr Elsegood for his hard work representing the concerns of the village.

Philip Davies MP advised the meeting that he had attended a meeting at the Airport representing the views of constituents in Baildon, Menston and Burley in Wharfedale. He has suggested to the Airport representatives that they should introduce the proposed changes on a trial basis only and that this is subject to a review with a full explanation before being implemented. He invited any Menston residents with concerns to email him with their comments.

The Parish Council has organised the annual Remembrance Day Service at Kirklands on 11th November. The new vicar at St John's Church, the Reverend Steve Proudlove, has been invited to officiate. The traditional church parade will take place on Sunday 12th November.

Cllr Dale Smith advised the meeting that he had been asked to present a petition by Rideaway who wish to retain their premises at the Fairfax Club. Peter Finlay explained that an Extraordinary AGM will take place on 18th October to reach an agreement about the use of the site.

10. Open Forum

Recycling bins – some residents from the flats on St Peter's Way asked Paula Truman to contact Bradford Council's Recycling Team to request some additional recycling bins.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.50pm.