

Menston Community Association

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 5th April 2017

Present: [Committee] Steve Ellams(SE)-Chair, Liliias McCulloch (LM), Glyn Martell (GM), Quentin Mackenzie (QM), Chris Hartley (CH), Cllr Dale Smith (DS), Cllr Gerry Barker(GB), Sue Rix(SR), Philip Moore (PM), Tony Joint (TJ)

Member of the public Hilary Feather

Apologies: Michael Clarke, Alan Elsgood, John Lees, John Naylor, Cath Tully, Peter Ward

1. Welcome and Apologies

Following posting of the Agenda regularly on the Parish Council website attenders were thanked for participating.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising from both the Community Association and the Neighbourhood Forum 6th Dec 2016 & 7th March 2017 are on www.menston.org

The Parish Clerk was thanked for the Forum Minutes. (SE) stated he was still very concerned with the lack of representation from the younger age group at community gatherings.

3. Correspondence

A letter from the Co-op Local Community Fund Team was read out informing the Chair (SE) that the Bird & Bat box initiative was successful.

In addition a letter from the Speaker of the House of Commons inviting the Community Association to get involved in the UK Parliament Week event activities was also read out.

A letter via the Parish Council from Simon D'Vali (Bradford Councils Highways Department) informed the meeting there is no funding available for remedial measures on the Bingley Road speeding issues. His statement subsequently produced some debate as to how traffic on the junction of Bingley Road and Main street could be dealt with and many suggestions were put forward. Both DS and GB were in agreement that more detailed measuring of the speed and accident reporting was required. It was acknowledged the community has a monitoring device and this should be found and offered to Chartford Homes for community use. SE said he would ask Chartford Homes if they would like to help set up the equipment and get involve in monitoring.

LM distributed a leaflet from Neighbourhood Watch regarding fraud email scams.

4. Parish Council Report (meeting held 30th March 2017)

QM gave an overview of the current situation regarding the Menston Library and Kirkland Community Association.

The Library has now closed with sufficient volunteers waiting for DBS clearance. There are sufficient community volunteers who have formed a steering group to run the Library in the future. However there is no date currently for reopening and a lot will depend on Bradford Councils administration of the DBS checks.

QM spoke of the Parish Councils decision to pay Schofield Sweeney Solicitors for work undertaken on planning matters.

There was a deputation from residents of Bleach Mill Lane asking for a contribution to fund resurfacing of the road. A sum of money was agreed by the Parish Council.

There was a lengthy debate at the Parish Council with members of the public regarding the future of Kirklands Community Centre. There are many more details regarding costs of repairs etc still awaited. DS stated he along with the Chairman of the Parish Council, Peter Finlay and QM are in the process of sending out an appeal to join a working party. This would likely be a Community Interest Company involving Trustees/Directors from the MPC, MCA etc.

The issues seem to be

1. Day to day running with yearly costs and income both approximately £50,000 per year and roughly breaking even.
2. Maintenance and repairs - the Conditional Report suggests £500,000 plus over 3/5 years but requires very careful analysis. DS Thought the figures were tentative.

5. Menston in Bloom

QM stated the daffodil/crocus display this year had been greatly appreciated and SE noted the thanks from Facebook followers.

The strawberry/cream tea event this year would take place on Saturday 27th May at Heatherbank, Bleach Mill Lane.

In addition the Parish Council have granted £100 towards a Tour De Yorkshire display in the Railway Gardens. Thanks were given.

6. Forum Meeting update

QM stated it was good news that we can all still use Ellar Ghyll.

SE established the limited commitment from Bradford MDC regarding the Forum Meetings. It was pointed out the minutes were available for all to read.

In addition it was pointed out that aggressive behaviour from the public at such meetings may well be the reason for the decline in numbers. SE reiterated there was a miss match between the young and old in the community with little if any involvement from the younger age range. He also pointed out better communication was required and reinforced his continued involvement with the Menston Business Association. CH pointed out that the

village was now becoming a commuter community and this could be one of the reasons the younger age range were unable to participate.

7. Update on News Letter

SR stated she thought it was one of the best newsletters we have done but SE said it was some way off making it all things to all people. He also asked if the committee were happy to have a thank you party for all the deliverers. DS suggested we ask the Parish Council to support such an activity and hold it around September in the Menstone Club. Details to be finalised.

SE suggested the front page on the next edition continues in the same format and become a competition for the children to 'Spot the Difference'. In addition after two weeks of publication the News Letter should be posted on the Menston Village Web site.

Menston Business Association were thanked for their input in the middle pages and this will be updated regularly to coincide with the next issue of the newsletter.

8. Update on Menston Library/Kirklands Community Centre

This item has been covered under item 4.

9. Community involvement/Friends of High Royds Memorial Gardens.

QM AGM and Open Meeting Wednesday 26th April at 7.30pm in Menston Methodist Church Hall where Anna Hope, author of The Ballroom will address the meeting.

The FHRMG are to receive the Duke of York's award for Community Initiative at a ceremony in Huddersfield on Wednesday 12th April. In addition the Chairman and others will meet the Duke of York in St James' Palace on 9th May.

The High Royds Hospital railway memorial is ongoing and should be completed with the next two weeks.

SE The bird and bat box initiative is currently delayed waiting on the possibility that the woods may be used as a film set for the forthcoming The Ballroom film.

10. Community support for Local Business/Younger group engagement

SR asked for the main noticeboard to be updated with a new format for the Menston Map to be introduced by the Business Community Chairman. This was agreed and the map will only include those businesses' signed up to MBA.

SE thanked on behalf of MCA the provision of window space in two sites in the village provided by Ribston Pippin Estate Agents. The windows carry advertisements from the community at no cost and are being well used.

11. Film Show Activities plus Eggs2lpads

Thanks were given by the Committee to Tony Joint for the work he carried out for the film initiative and a debate as to why the film shows were not fully subscribed took place. Tony asked that any shortfall in funding was to be regarded as a gift to MCA and that the enterprise was not necessarily for money making but more for pleasure. He will be leaving the area in the near future and his enthusiasm will be missed. Thanks was also given to Philip Moore's daughter who gave her time to help with refreshments at the interval. Of the three films actually shown Oh What a Lovely War was the most popular and helped to promote forthcoming interest in First World War Activities in the village in September.

The Egg2lpads project resumed recently albeit with lesser numbers attending.

12. Any other business

SE asked about regular MCA meetings and it was decided that two monthly was optimum.

GB suggested that he, rather than Bradford Council, should be informed when there is an issue to do with blocked drains, broken street lighting or other community based problems.

SE thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 9.15.

13. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 28 June 7.30.