

MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting 28th June 2017

Present: Steve Ellams, Liliias McCulloch, Philip Moore, Chris Hartley, Sue Rix, Lisa Greer, Dale Smith, Hilary Feather, Malcolm Hawkyard, Quentin Mackenzie.

Apologies: Alan Elsegood, Michael Clarke, Cllr Gerry Barker, Cllr Jackie Whiteley John Naylor, David Rhodes, Chris Billington, Glyn Martill.

Minutes of meeting 5th April, which had been circulated were approved.

Matters arising: Traffic calming on Bingley Road had been raised with the Parish Council. Speed Indication Device (SID) still to be used. The provision of a Mirror on one of the telegraph poles had been discussed at the last Parish Council meeting and was progressing.

Correspondence: £990.40 received from Co-op Local Community Fund. A further sum is due to Menston Community Association later in the year and part of this will fund the Bird and Bat Box Project. The Co-op is keen for us to encourage more people to dedicate their Dividend to the Menston Community. The Project with Menston Primary School is currently on hold because of the possibility that the woodland area at High Royds Cemetery (where the boxes are to go) is to be used for a film of "The Ballroom" book. Lisa Greer suggested other alternative trees could be used but Steve pointed out the difficulties this may produce.

Cllr Jackie Whiteley has been in touch with Andy Fisher (BMDC Highways) about overgrown hedgerows, particularly near the bridge on Burley Old Lane and would like to know of other encroaching hedgerows which are Council owned. Privately owned hedges are more difficult, but Quentin said he would let Steve have a standard letter (supplied by BMDC) which Menston in Bloom has used in such cases.

Parish Council: All Officers were re-elected at the AGM on 18th May and the next meeting is 29th June (tomorrow).

Public Toilet was functioning OK but has been vandalised again and needs a plumber.

Library: 25 Volunteers have been DBS checked so far. BMDC need to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA). Plan is to employ a professional Librarian for 18 hours a week. Volunteers will then need training... IT literate people wanted for them to cascade it. Health & Safety Level 1 can be done at home.

Community Centre: MPC is applying for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) for the whole of the Kirklands site. In order to receive the transfer a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is in process of being formed under the Charities Act 2011. There will be a minimum of 5 Trustees and a maximum of 9 (including one nominated by MCA).

Menston in Bloom: The Floral Bicycle for the Tour de Yorkshire in the Railway Garden was well received.

The Strawberry Tea & Plant Sale raised £917 in spite of poor weather, which shows tremendous support from the village.

Explorer Scouts helped clear the area near the sub-station at the top of Croft Park.

Menston Show is Saturday 9th September.

Friends of High Royds Memorial Garden received the Duke of York's Award for Community Initiative at ceremonies at Huddersfield University and St James's Palace in London.

The AGM with Anna Hope, author of "The Ballroom" speaking was very well attended.

Open Day is this Saturday, 1st July. The Chapel will also be open for Heritage Week-end which is 9-10 September, finishing with a service in the Chapel at 4.00pm on 10th.

Steve has used pieces of the original railway line to create a memorial to the High Royds Branch Line in the woodland area which adjoins the Cemetery where the railway used to be. Wild flowers have also been sown in this area. A notice board with the history of the railway is under construction and will be available for the open day. Thanks were given to Worth Valley Railway for their input to this project.

Local Businesses: The Community Notice Boards are working well and Lisa suggested more use should be made of Facebook e.g. to find a plumber for the Public Toilet (see above). This was agreed though care needs to be taken not to create too many sites.

Eggs2iPADS: Tony Joint has now moved from the area, Tony did a wonderful job with this project, but now he has gone a new champion is required. After discussion, it was agreed that Steve will oversee the remaining sessions leading up to the summer break. The new sessions are to be advertised for Wednesday evenings and a decision on continuing will depend on support.

Bingley Road: MCA distributed a "Fact Sheet" at the door of the Consultation Event held at Kirklands on 15th June. Only 55 people attended the Consultation. Bellway Homes are confident they will get planning permission and expect to start building in January 2018, with a 3 ½ year 'build out'. Cllr Dale said MPC are still awaiting a reply to Gordon Metcalf's letter requiring confirmation that the drainage solution for the Bingley Road site meets the requirements of the Menston Action Group's (MAG's) Report.

Derry Hill: Five Developers are looking at the site. It was noted the advertisement for the sale of the land did not mention Derry Hill or Menston village and that any arrangements could be unconditional.

Fairfax Club: BMDC are critical of the plan... Feeling is there is not enough demand for the Club and not enough parking space. Maybe better to use the whole of the site for housing as this will help towards the housing allocation under Bradford Councils Core Strategy for Menston.

AOB : Chris Hartley suggested that we create a jigsaw out of a picture of Menston as a fund raising venture. Chris to look into this and report back. SDE Suggested the first jigsaw could be used as a children's prize in the spot the difference photograph on the front page of the next Menston News Letter.

Date of next meeting left open, but probably September.