

MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting 22nd November 2018, held in the Library

Present: Jonathan Gadd, Chris Hartley, Alan Elsegood, Don White, Matthew Gadd, Graham Booth, Gemma Kelmanson, Cheryl Thornton, Duncan Watson, Natalie Wilkinson, Glyn Martill, Ann Holmes, Dale Smith, Nigel Cawthorne, Mark Aldred, Sue Rix, Quentin Mackenzie.

Apologies: Philip Moore, Christine (MBA), Barbara Greathead, Laura Moorhouse, Gerry Barker.

1. Chairman Jonathan welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave fire and safety instructions.
2. Mission Statement: After a discussion including reference to the Objectives set out in the MCA Trust Deed, the following Mission Statement/Strap Line (proposed by Natalie) was agreed:

“To unite the village through community driven engagement, communications, events and experiences in order to enhance the wellbeing, inclusivity and amenities of the community for its residents”.

In this context Alan said he was concerned that many of the committees in the village (eg Parish Council, Kirklands Menston Trust and MCA) included the same individuals and as a result they held the ‘power’ within the village. Nigel, who is not one of the individuals on all three committees, said he could see no sinister plot and the consensus of the meeting was that we needed to ‘engage and communicate’ in order to involve more people and let them know about our activities.
3. Co-option of members willing to serve on the committee: Under the MCA constitution, committee members have to be appointed at the AGM. It was therefore agreed that members could be co-opted to serve on particular projects as required.
4. Co-op Grants: Quentin reported that the Co-op had responded to an application made by Steve Ellams last year saying that the painting of the railings in Butterfield Park would be considered for a grant payable in October next year. Quentin had informed the Co-op that the railings had already been painted (paid for by a gift from the Butterfield family and a grant from the Parish Council) and asked if a different project could be considered. The Co-op has just responded that a new application has to be made. A possible project for this new application is an outdoor gymnasium in the park... This is however slightly complicated by BMDC’s very recent proposal to install a “Trim Trail” next to the children’s play area in the park and also replace the two picnic tables. BMDC’s proposal is of course most welcome. Also, it is not entirely clear what the situation is with the Bird & Bat Boxes Grant and Quentin and Alan agreed to try and sort this out and report back.
5. Menston News: Jonathan reported that he had met with Alison Manson and agreed that the next issue of Menston News will be produced in February with March 2019 on the cover. It will again be distributed in High Royds. It is hoped to increase written contributions from non-profit organizations and increase advertising from commercial organizations. Peter Finlay is negotiating with Menston Business Association over payment for advertisements. Mark and Nigel to follow this up. A discussion followed on how to improve electronic

communication. Cheryl is to look at our web site and, with Nigel, our Facebook communications and report back; also Natalie offered to advise re Instagram .

6. Menston in Bloom: Gemma reported that the summer bedding theme of purple & white (suffragette colours) had been well received. A new big tub has been installed outside the station. Work has started on regenerating Barn Close (the area near the sub-station at the top of Croft Park). Donated bulbs have been planted in the park with the help of Scouts and Beavers. On 14th December there is a project to make your own Christmas Wreath/Garland. This will be held at the Church of the Latter Day Saints (just down from the Fox). Nigel suggested that residents who live near planters may be prepared to look after/water them.

7. Projects: The Bird & Bat Boxes project needs bringing to a conclusion... Alan undertook to do this with the help of Graham, Glyn and Jonathan.

Future Fitness Trail – referred to in item 4. Nigel offered to lead research on items required for an adult trail, locations and level of support.

Increased young adult engagement: A Teen Club has started up on Tuesday evenings in the Library, albeit on a small scale so far. It was thought that the Eggs2iPad project could be re-hatched in the library. Jonathan to speak with Jill, and Mark also volunteered to get involved with this.

High Royds: the possibility of greater involvement with their community association and social club was discussed. Carried forward to the next meeting.

8. AOB: Quentin reported that the Wharfedale Greenway between Otley and Burley is now very nearly 'shovel ready' and grants are being applied for. There will be clear and easy access points at the three new "bridges" on Otley Road, the A65 and Menston Old Lane. Next week Menston Parish Council will be discussing possible access routes from Menston.

Alan reported that Leeds Bradford Airport want to make it the Regional Hub for Yorkshire with a lot more, including long haul, flights. It was agreed that Alan should seek to arrange for Jim Wylie, Air Traffic Control Manager for LBA, to come to a public meeting in Menston in early January... This to be a joint meeting with Menston Parish Council and an opportunity to make residents more aware of MCA activities.

Date of next meeting Thursday 7th February 2019

Noticeboard:

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Our Mission Statement:

To unite the village through community driven engagement, communications, events and experiences in order to enhance the wellbeing, inclusivity and amenities of the community for its residents.

Meetings are open to all Menston Residents.

For further details, please see our section on Menston.org

Our next meeting will be in Kirklands on 7th February at 7pm

Please support us!!