

MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 28th November 2019 at 8.10pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Peter Finlay (Chairman), Philip Moore (Vice Chairman), Gordon Metcalfe, Jamie Needle, Dale Smith, Goodith White and Jo White

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2019/212 Introduction and welcome from the Chairman

Councillor Finlay welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2019/213 To receive any apologies for absence

None.

2019/214 To receive any disclosures of interest and requests for dispensation

The following disclosures of interest were noted:

Councillor Moore – Menston Action Group and resident of Hawksworth Drive

2019/215 Public participation

Two members of the public were present at the meeting. A local resident commented about road safety issues on Farnley Road, caused by flooded drains on Station Road. Councillor Finlay agreed to advise Bradford Council of the blocked gullies, Councillor Metcalfe agreed to provide the relevant lamp post numbers.

2019/216 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 31st October 2019 as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Councillor Finlay

2019/217 Updates from the Menston Community Association and Menston in Bloom

Menston Community Association there was no update from Menston Community Association.

Menston in Bloom: Gemma Kelmanson forwarded the following update:

Thank you for the recent grant for the replacement shrubs/trees in Butterfield Park. These have been planted, along with more bulbs, many donated to MIB as part of the Menston Bulb Donation scheme that we have now run for 3 years.

Our thanks to the Library for being a collection point for the donations. Over 2500 bulbs were planted in the Park and Gyrotory, continuing our programme of bulb planting to ensure a good display in spring. We are very grateful to the scouts for once again helping us with this task - without them we simply couldn't plant as many as we have!

Yorkshire Water reimbursed MIB for the replacement plants for the Railway Path, and also made an additional donation towards our work. This will help fund further planting in the Railway Garden.

We continue to liaise with Climate Action Menston to ensure both groups work together, share knowledge and avoid duplicating work and research.

Most of our autumn tasks are complete, so work parties will reduce over the winter. We have started to consider whether we enter the Yorkshire In Bloom campaign in 2020 - the decision does not need to be taken until the new year.

We will have a social gathering before Christmas'.

2019/218 Kirklands (Menston) Trust

Councillor Finlay gave an update – bookings at Kirklands have increased and regular participants are being urged to make renew any regular bookings as soon as possible.

The library will be closed from 4th – 16th December whilst new lighting is being installed, the windows are being replaced and redecoration is taking place.

2019/219 Finance

RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to pay the following invoices:

- Salary invoice
- Invoice from Schofield Sweeney
- Invoice for £1,500 for replacement and additional Christmas lights

Proposed: Councillor Finlay

Following a discussion about VAT, the Clerk was asked to investigate the maximum amount of VAT which could be reclaimed by a Parish Council.

The Clerk also agreed to investigate the requirements for the General Power of Competence.

2019/220 To agree the Parish Council precept for 2020/21

Following a discussion about the Parish Council finances for 2019/20 it was

RESOLVED to retain the Parish Council precept for 2020/21 at £54 per Band D household

Proposed: Councillor Finlay

All in favour

2010/221 Assets of Community Value

Councillor Smith advised the meeting that the maps for Menston Cricket Club and Menston Cemetery have now been produced and the applications will now be worked up.

2019/222 Fitness Trail

Councillor Jo White gave an update about the fitness trail. She agreed to arrange a meeting with representatives from the Friends of Menston Park to discuss the proposals. It was agreed to advertise the meeting at the next Neighbourhood Forum meeting and to include details in the newsletter.

2019/223 Road crossing at Menston Primary School

Councillor Needle gave an update about the discussion at the Shipley Area Committee meeting on 6th November and it was

RESOLVED that the Parish Council would write to advise Bradford Council that: 'following prolonged discussions at the Parish Council meeting on 28th November 2019, the Parish Council had resolved to make a total contribution of £10,000 if this project goes ahead'

Proposed: Councillor Smith

Councillors Finlay and Needle agreed to enter into discussions with Menston Primary School to ask them which road crossing option they would prefer.

2019/224 To consider appointing a village caretaker

Councillor Finlay reported that he has been in discussion with Damien Fisher and is awaiting some advice as to whether Bradford Council would be prepared to provide supplies for a village caretaker and whether the Parish Council is able to pay an outside contractor to carry a biannual clean of the village's gullies.

The Parish Council authorised Councillor Finlay to proceed with this matter and he agreed to prepare a report.

2019/225 Car engines idling outside Menston Primary School

Councillor Needle has been advised by Bradford Council that this matter cannot be addressed until after the General Election on 12th December.

2019/226 Response to Network Rail about proposal to fell trees and clear vegetation from verges

Councillor Goodith White offered to investigate and obtain more information about Network Rail's proposals.

2019/227 Chairman's remarks and correspondence

The Parish Council had received an email from a local resident expressing concerns about some construction work being carried out on Meadowcroft and Hawkesworth Drive as part of the Bingley Road development. Councillor Metcalfe had carried out a site visit and confirmed that the developers have excavated the roads at this location in order to connect a sewer.

Councillor Finlay has been advised by Jill Cooke that the current Service Level Agreement for Menston Library ends on 31 March 2020. The Parish Council authorised Councillor Finlay to contact Phil Barker at Bradford Council about the renewal of the Service Level Agreement.

An email from Alan Elsegood to Simon Whitby at Leeds Bradford Airport, which has been circulated to the Community Association and Parish Councillors, acknowledges the work being carried by Mr Whitby to investigate the tracking of flights departing from Runway 32 and expresses the hope that the airport will take measures to ensure that future flight departures from the airport take account of the two minutes' silence on Remembrance Day. Councillor Finlay expressed his thanks for Mr Elsegood's time and commitment.

2019/227 Agenda items for the next meeting

Community Infrastructure Levy
General Power of Competence

2019/228 Closed session

None.

2019/229 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 30th January 2020 following the Planning Committee meeting which starts at 7.00pm in Room 17, Kirklands Community Centre.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.15pm