

MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 21st May 2020 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

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

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2020/063 Introduction and welcome from the Chairman

Councillor Finlay welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was agreed that the meeting would be paused at 8.00pm to allow anyone who wanted to take part in the “Clap for our carers” to leave the meeting.

2020/064 To receive any apologies for absence

None.

2020/065 To receive any disclosures of interest and requests for dispensation

The following disclosures of interest were noted:

Councillor Finlay – Treasurer of Menston Scouts and Guides

Councillors Finlay and Smith – Trustees of Kirklands (Menston) Trust

Councillors Needle, Smith and Goodith White – members of Climate Action Menston

Councillor Moore – member of Menston Action Group and resident of Hawksworth Drive

2020/066 To receive an update about the village response to the Covid 19 pandemic

Councillor Finlay gave an update about the Menston response to the Covid 19 pandemic. Heather Norreys has been acting as a point of contact for volunteers and requests for help. She has now received approximately 30 calls for help. The number of food parcels provided has increased in the last week from two to six. Morrisons have been very helpful and provided food for these food parcels. It was also acknowledged that a lot of other activities have taken place in the village.

An email from Bradford Highways had been received which outlined a number of proposals for re-introducing local residents to local facilities like shops and parks and open spaces whilst still maintaining social distancing.

The meeting also discussed the proposal for re-opening Menston Primary School for specific year groups.

2020/067 Public participation

One member of the public was present at the meeting.

2020/068 Climate Action Menston

Marilyn Banister gave a presentation about the work of Climate Action Menston and it was agreed that their proposals for Main Street should form part of the discussions about the future layout for the centre of Menston and that any findings should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan proposals. Councillor Finlay agreed to forward a copy of the report from

Climate Action Menston to Andrew Towleron, the Parish Council's consultant for the Neighbourhood Plan process.

2020/069 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 30th April 2020 as a true and accurate record. It was agreed that a copy of the minutes would be signed at a subsequent meeting.

Proposed: Councillor Jo White

Seconded: Councillor Goodith White

2020/070 Updates from the Menston Community Association and Menston in Bloom

Menston Community Association: The latest newsletter from Menston Parish Council and Menston Community Association is currently being printed and will be ready for distribution in the next fortnight.

Menston in Bloom: Menston in Bloom had sought local residents' opinions about Menston Park and Gemma Kelmanson forwarded the following comments:

"I'm completely with you on the trees. I would love to see the path flanked by some beautiful blossom trees.

To me it looks tired. Would be great to have the tennis court upgraded at some point too"

"I have loved seeing the blossom in the park and trees of all varieties give it a definite personality. I wonder about trees that will give interest at other times of the year? A white beam perhaps (15m height). White flowers and red berries later".

"Trees Yes. The biggest growing possible, when they are fully grown as this is the space where big trees can grow. Smaller trees in the streets and gardens is usually the order of the day.

I would like an area of horticulture and flowers. Indeed a quiet area for sitting and taking in the delights of nature, colour in the gardener's way. I know these things usually take some extra care but with herbaceous beds, bulbs, roses and shrubs, surely we can design a lower maintenance bed some near the wildflower meadow. This along with extensions to the annual flower mix would be great in my view.

Also all the walls want a good check over and repair. Many of them have lost stones and generally a bit of a patched up mess in places".

"The park is such a big space I am sure there are lots that could be considered but when I think of ideas I then wonder about the maintenance issues. Trees are fine as you say and I would still like to see a couple of small groups of trees off-set from the central path. I don't think you would have the same objections as before, particularly as some of those who did are now members of the carbon action group who now have their tree-planting target to reach. Once these were established it might also be a good place to sight some seating. Maybe another seating/picnic area perhaps at the other end of the park near the skateboard area or near the hump. I wonder if stone would be a better option for seating/tables as although it would be more expensive, it would have a longer lifespan, less required maintenance and less prone to damage/vandalism

Riddlesden Hall have a flat maze in their grounds which is interesting for children and might be something we could investigate further".

Kirklands (Menston) Trust: Kirklands is now closed. Some decorating, electrical work and repair work caused by water leaking from the flat roof has been taking place. Menston Bowling Club has re-opened under strict social distancing conditions and Rideway Taxis has also re-opened.

2020/071 Finance

The Parish Council

RESOLVED to note the following payments:

£100 administration fee to West Yorkshire Pension Fund

£4,227 (includes £704.50 VAT) and £11,973.60 (includes £1,995.60 VAT) to Schofield Sweeney

Proposed: Councillor Smith

Agreed unanimously

A grant application for £2,300 had been received from Menston Scout and Guide Association to fund some redecoration (£1,280) and to purchase some storage equipment (£1,020).

RESOLVED: in view of the current Covid 19 restrictions to waive the condition that grant applications cannot be made once work has been completed and to approve this application

Proposed: Councillor Smith

Agreed unanimously

2020/072 Community Infrastructure Levy Funds

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting that the sum of £58,055.56 in CIL monies has now been transferred to the Parish Council. These funds comprise contributions from two recent developments on Burley Lane, the development at the Fairfax Club and the Bingley Road development.

There was a discussion about potential local projects which could be funded by the CIL money and it was suggested that this could be used to fund the refurbishment of the children's play areas in Menston Park. Councillor Jo White agreed to forward some photographs of the existing equipment to Streetscape and ask for their comments.

Councillor Needle gave an update about the proposals to install an entrance and footpath in Menston Park. He and Councillor Metcalfe had attended a site meeting with the contractor. Councillor Metcalfe has now produced a drawing of the scheme which has been forwarded to Bradford Council's Parks Department for their approval.

2020/073 Leeds Bradford Airport update

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting that Leeds Bradford Airport has now submitted a planning application (20/02559/FU) which includes the construction of a new terminal building and other works. Alan Elsegood has drafted a letter of objection on behalf of the Parish Council and it was agreed to circulate this draft for comments before submitting to Leeds City Council.

2020/074 Consideration of key CCTV coverage in the village to better identify criminality

There was no update.

2020/075 Assets of Community Value

Following a discussion about the trees in Menston Park it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Bradford Council's Asset Management about the Parish Council taking over Menston Park, Butterworth Park and other areas of green space in the village.

2020/076 Fitness trail update

There was no update.

2020/077 Safe pedestrian crossing

There was no update.

2020/078 Butterfield Park gates

Councillor Jo White had attended a site meeting with Garnett Fabrications to discuss the park gates. There are some outstanding issues to consider – wheelchair and mower access and whether permission needs to be sought from Bradford Council.

2020/079 To consider appointing a village caretaker

There was a discussion about the role of the proposed village caretaker and additional duties and location of any storage facility for tools. It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to pursue this matter and that the YLCA guideline will be referred to in drawing up the job advert.

The Parish Council also discussed the need for a programme of gully clearing and street sweeping to be carried out by a private contractor.

2020/080 Chairman’s remarks and correspondence

None.

2020/081 Agenda items for the next meeting

Proposed new entrance and footpath in Menston park.

2020/082 Closed session

None.

2020/083 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 25th June 2020 at 7.00pm.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.25pm