

MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 29th October 2020 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

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

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2020/169 Introduction and welcome from the Chairman

Councillor Finlay welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2020/170 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Metcalfe and Jo White.

2020/171 To receive any disclosures of interest and requests for dispensation

The following disclosures of interest were noted:

Councillors Finlay and Smith – Governors at Menston Primary School and Trustees at the Kirklands (Menston) Trust

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

Councillor Finlay – electrical work for the Christmas lights

Councillor Smith – District Councillor

2020/172 Public participation

Six members of the public were present at the meeting. There was a discussion about a parcel of land available for sale in Burley in Wharfedale and it was agreed that, together with a representative from Burley in Wharfedale, a local resident should be authorised to approach the land agent and make inquiries.

It was noted that a complaint had been received about the proposed display of Christmas lights and baubles on Main Street. It was agreed that the Clerk would advise the complainant that the Parish Council is only a consultee for local planning applications and that he is able to make a formal complaint to Bradford Council's Enforcement team, should he so wish.

2020/173 Minutes of the previous meeting and update on matters arising

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 24th September 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 Needle

Seconded: Councillor Smith

2020/174 Updates from Menston organisations

Menston Community Association

Jonathan Gadd had circulated an update about the Community Association's activities and a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts, together with a request for additional Menston residents to consider joining the Committee. The AGM, usually held in November, will not now be taking place.

Menston in Bloom

Alan Elsegood provided an update about the activities of Menston in Bloom. Geoff Lomas will be taking over as Chairman from Gemma Kelmanson and other new appointments have also been made. Menston in Bloom recently carried out a programme of winter planting and there was a good turnout with an additional four volunteers joining the group. Although the annual strawberry fair and plant sale could not take place due to lockdown, the group's finances are in good order.

Kirklands (Menston) Trust

The Trust is now waiting for an update about which activities will be able to continue under the proposed Tier 3 restrictions. (Post meeting, news was received of a second national lockdown starting on 5th November 2020).

A programme of major capital investment has been approved and quotes are currently being sought for replacement windows in the Main Hall.

Climate Action Menston

Councillor Goodith White advised the meeting that an update will be available after the next meeting of Climate Action Menston on 3rd November.

2020/175 Finance

The following invoices have been received:

- Information Commissioner's Office – annual renewal - £40
- Society of Local Council Clerks – annual renewal - £92

RESOLVED: to pay these invoices

Proposed: Councillor Finlay

Agreed unanimously

It was also:

RESOLVED: to donate £75 to the Royal British Legion for a poppy wreath and to make an additional donation of £100 to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal

Proposed: Councillor Smith

Agreed unanimously

2020/176 Leeds Bradford Airport update

Alan Elsegood gave an update about recent activity at the Leeds Bradford Airport. The decision date for the planning application for the replacement terminal has been postponed until December. There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of flights since the pandemic began in March. Mr Elsegood has noticed that any flights taking place have tended to veer off the recognised flight path - although this has been disputed by the airport authority. Mr Elsegood was also concerned that his request to include an additional item on the consultative committee agenda had been denied.

Mr Elsegood commented on the support which he had received in recent months from Bob Felsted from Burley in Wharfedale, but reiterated his intention to stand down as the representative for Menston.

Councillor Finlay had not received any responses to his request for a volunteer in the village newsletter. He advised the meeting that he wished to place on record the village's gratitude to Mr Elsegood for his time, effort and energy in making sure that the village is not adversely affected by the airport's activities.

2020/177 Consideration of key CCTV coverage in the village to better identify criminality

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting that he has been in touch with Sgt Hudson and has they have identified five areas of the village which will benefit from CCTV cameras:

- Junction of Bingley Road and Main Street
- Junction of Cleasby Road and Main Street
- Junction of Main Road, Bradford Road and Station Road
- Lane Ends (junction of Derry Hill, Main Street and Burley Lane)
- The Gyratory

Councillor Finlay has now made contact with Bradford Council's Head of CCTV – Phil Holmes – about the quality requirements for the CCTV images.

2020/178 Assets of Community Value

Councillors Needle gave an update. It was agreed that the Clerk would be asked to contact Bradford Council to confirm that once the moratorium ends of 19th December, that the Malt Shovel will continue to be listed as an Asset of Community Value until at least 17 September 2024, as currently advertised on the Bradford Council website.

2020/179 Fitness trail update, new play equipment and new entrance for Menston Park

The Clerk had contacted the Head of Asset Management at Bradford Council to ask for a date when the Parish Council will receive a response to their request to take over the village's parks and green spaces. Councillor Smith agreed to make representations, if no substantial response is received from Bradford Council's Asset Management.

Following a discussion at the October Parish Council meeting, a second layout for the children's play equipment in Menston Park had been received and both designs had been forwarded to Menston PreSchool for comments.

The Clerk had received an email from Bradford Council asking whether the Parish Council would be interested in Bradford Council purchasing the new equipment on their behalf.

The Clerk confirmed that she had now written to the contractor who has been selected to carry out the work to install an entrance into Menston Park from Bingley Road and to lay a new footpath. The letter asks them to provide a copy of their risk assessment, evidence of insurance and standard set of terms and conditions and also to ask them to provide a date when they would be able to carry out the work. Councillor Needle advised the meeting that another tender had been received after the closing date, but this quotation is higher than the accepted tender.

2020/180 Safe pedestrian crossing

The Parish Council is waiting for a site meeting with Simon D'Vali and Fara Baghban from Bradford Council's Highways Department to discuss the proposed pedestrian crossing and to raise the Parish Council's concerns about construction traffic for the proposed Derry Hill development. It was noted that a similar crossing had recently been installed on Cowpasture Road in Ilkley, adjacent to Ilkley Grammar School.

2020/181 Butterfield Park gates

Work is now programmed to start at Butterfield Park.

2020/182 To consider appointing a village caretaker

Councillors Finlay and Needle agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss the appointment of a village caretaker.

2020/183 Neighbourhood Watch

As no responses have been received for a replacement co-ordinator, Councillor Goodith White agreed to take over this role for one year, in the first instance. Councillor Finlay agreed to forward the necessary contact details.

2020/184 New book of walks

It was agreed that an update would be provided at the next meeting.

2020/185 Meeting dates 2021

It was resolved to accept the meeting dates for 2021 and to forward these to the Kirklands Centre Manager for information.

2020/186 Menston library update

Councillor Finlay gave an update about Menston library. The library has been open since 21st July and operates from the library foyer. The library has been receiving between 50 and 60 visitors each week. Bradford Council's Libraries service has suggested that the library's public computers should be made available from 9th November, but concerns have been expressed by the Library manager, as public computers at Bradford Council run Ilkley Library are not being made available.

Councillor Goodith White asked whether it would be possible for the Library manager to provide regular updates to the library volunteers. Councillor Finlay agreed to contact the Library manager about this.

2020/187 Chairman's remarks and correspondence

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting of two Menston residents who have been honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours List:

- Jane Pratt of Menston Cares has been awarded a BEM
- Dr Tom Lawton (an intensive care consultant and anaesthetist at Bradford Royal Infirmary) has been awarded an MBE

Councillor Finlay also commented on the recent initiative run by The Deli, The Pantry and Cornerstones to provide free meals for those children in Menston who are normally eligible for free school meals. Unfortunately, the take – up had been very low. The meeting discussed the need to implement a cohesive system for the Christmas holidays. Councillor Finlay commended Morrisons' Supermarket community champion who had arranged for the delivery of food parcels to Kirklands during the previous lockdown.

2020/188 Agenda items for the next meeting

The Parish Council precept for 2021/22

2020/189 Closed session

None.

2020/190 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 26th November 2020 at 7.00pm. There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.30pm