

MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 25th February 2021 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

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

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2021/025 Introduction and welcome from the Chairman

Councillor Finlay welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2021/026 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Moore.

2021/027 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 Smith – owner of a plot of land to be discussed during the meeting and also a District Councillor

2021/028 Public participation

Thirteen members of the public were present at the meeting.

A number of local residents attended the meeting to comment on the proposals to install some adult fitness equipment in Menston Park.

Councillor Finlay explained to the meeting that, although the proposed equipment is being funded by the Parish Council, Menston Park is owned and maintained by Bradford Council and therefore any proposals need to be approved by Bradford Council and that the final decision about the layout and location of the equipment rests with them.

After a discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would set up a group to discuss the issues raised and future developments. Councillor Finlay invited anyone interested in becoming part of the group to contact him by email and he provided details of two email accounts. It was agreed that Councillor Finlay would contact both Bradford Council and the supplier on Monday to discuss the issues raised but could not make any promises and would report back

Councillor Smith advised the meeting that the Parish Council had attempted to enter into discussions with Bradford Council about taking over management of Menston Park and other green spaces in the village. Bradford Council have failed to respond to the Parish Council's approaches and so it was agreed that the Clerk would copy the three ward councillors into all future communication.

Post meeting Councillor Needle was advised by Geoff Lomas that remedial action had been taken with the tree adjacent to the new footpath in Menston path.

2021/029 Minutes of the previous meeting and update on matters arising

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 28th January 2021 as a true and accurate record. It was agreed that a copy of the minutes would be signed at a subsequent meeting.

Proposed: Councillor Metcalfe

Seconded: Councillor Needle

2021/030 Finance

The Parish Council confirmed the payment of £1,200 to Schofield Sweeney for legal services regarding The Malt Shovel.

RESOLVED to a spinal point salary increase for the Clerk and the Librarian in April 2021

Proposed: Councillor Finlay

The Parish Council acknowledged notice of the Service Level Agreement rate with Bradford Council's Payroll Department.

2021/031 Consideration of key CCTV coverage in the village to better identify criminality

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting that he had been in discussion with Phil Holmes from Bradford Council's CCTV team. Mr Holmes had asked the Parish Council to identify some potential locations for CCTV cameras in Menston. The following locations were identified following a previous discussion with Sgt Hudson

- 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 Gyrotory

It was agreed that the Parish Council would identify any other suitable locations. Councillor Goodith White suggested adding an item to the Neighbourhood Watch website to ask for suggestions from local residents.

Councillor Finlay agreed to set up a meeting with Sgt Hudson, Phil Holmes and the Shipley Area Committee to discuss this item.

2021/032 Land for sale

Councillor Metcalfe advised the meeting that, following the last Parish Council meeting, he carried out a site visit and felt that there could be potential to develop some of the land for allotments and other amenity uses. It was agreed that the Parish Council would set up a group to move this matter forward. Councillor Metcalfe recommended inviting Nigel Cawthorne to become a member of the Group and Councillor Goodith White recommended inviting representatives from Climate Action Menston and Menston in Bloom. It was agreed that Councillor Finlay would start a confidential discussion with the landowner.

2021/033 Assets of Community Value

Councillors Needle advised the meeting that there is no update but matters were progressing as planned.

2021/034 To consider a request for installing a bench on Bleach Mill Lane

After a discussion it was agreed that Bleach Mill Lane is not a suitable location for a bench and it was agreed to discharge this item from future agendas.

2021/035 To consider using the Menston Facebook site more for news items

After a discussion it was agreed that this would be added to the remit of the Website Working Party. The Clerk was asked to contact the Clerk at Burley in Wharfedale Parish Council about their Facebook page.

2021/036 To receive an update from the Website working party

The Clerk advised the meeting that the working party had met to discuss the website proposal and had a number of concerns. They have invited the Kirklands Trust representative to the next meeting of the working party to talk about the proposals.

2021/037 Safe pedestrian crossing

Councillor Metcalfe informed the meeting there is no further update since the last meeting. The Parish Council is now waiting for a design for the new proposal from Simon D'Vali's team.

Councillor Finlay had circulated an email from Bradford Council's Highways team about a proposal to re-surface part of Main Street between Park Road and Cleasby Road in May. Councillor Finlay had advised Highways that this could cause problems with local residents wishing to vote at the local elections at the Kirklands Polling Station. Post meeting the Parish Council was advised by Bradford Council's Highways Team that they would try to re-arrange the works to a more appropriate date.

2021/038 Butterfield Park gates

Councillor Jo White advised the meeting that there had been some delays due to problems sourcing the correct materials. She agreed to follow this up with the contractor.

2021/039 To consider appointing a village caretaker

Councillor Finlay advised the meeting that following a discussion with Councillor Needle the most appropriate course of action is to ask Bradford Council to appoint a village caretaker who would be funded and directed by the Parish Council. Councillor Finlay agreed to talk to Damian Fisher from Bradford Council's Shipley Area Office about progressing this matter.

2021/040 Chairman's remarks and correspondence

Councillor Finlay has been advised that the Union Flag, flown at Kirklands, is in need of replacement. The Parish Council authorised Councillor Finlay to purchase a new flag.

Following the recent decision by Leeds City Council to approve a planning application for a new passenger air terminal and extended flying hours at Leeds Bradford Airport, the Parish Council had received an email from Bob Felstead, the Burley in Wharfedale representative. The Parish Council agreed that they are likely to support any action proposed by Mr Felstead and to act as joint signatories to the Burley Parish Council's letter of objection but wished to involve Alan Elsegood in the discussions. The chairman again asked for a volunteer to represent MPC at the airport.

Councillor Finlay had received an email from Rev Steve Proudlove, the vicar at St John's Parish Church. He has suggested organising an event to mark a "Covid-release" later in the year.

2021/040 Agenda items for the next meeting

None.

2021/041 Closed session

None.

2021/042 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 25th March 2021 at 7.00pm.
There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm

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