

**MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**AGM & GENERAL MEETING**  
**27 OCTOBER 2021 at KIRKLANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Presentation of Chair's Report & Accounts**

Jonathan Gadd (JG) welcomed attendees and reminded them of the MCA's mission statement. The annual report and accounts were circulated. These were approved. It was noted that the current accountant would be willing to continue as independent examiner but if an appropriate substitute could be found they would stand down.

JG notified attendees that it was his intention to stand down as Chair of MCA.

**Election of Officers/Charity Trustees**

The following nominations (as per the constitution) had been received:

Chair/Trustee

Nominated – Chris Steele

Treasurer/Trustee

Nominated – Glyn Martill

Secretary/Trustee

Nominated – Cheryl ~Thornton

4<sup>th</sup> Trustee

Nominated – Jonathan Gadd

All the officers /trustees were voted in unanimously.

Attendees were informed that the current constitution had been put in place some time ago prior to the Parish Council being established. The Community Association works in a different manner and it was therefore the intention of the trustees to look into revising the Constitution to more appropriately reflect this. Attendees were in agreement with this.

A vote of thanks was made to JG as outgoing Chair.

**Reports from Groups**

Representatives from other village groups and sub-groups both independent and associates of MCA gave summaries of their activities over the past year and future planning. These are summarised below,

Menston in Bloom

- a) The group will continue to meet regularly with mid-week working parties, Saturday morning sessions and monthly planning meetings.
- b) Annual bulb planting in the park
- c) Maintenance of village planters including replacement of summer/winter bedding and watering
- d) Maintenance and additional planting in the beds and spaces around the village including the railway path, Butterfield Park, flower beds at the rear of the Pre-school, various beds in and around the main park
- e) A large-scale project was undertaken to replace the raised planters and composters at the Railway Garden and the installation of 2 bug hotels and bird/bat boxes.
- f) The group continues to strive to involve the community in its activities wherever possible

- g) It is the intention in future to collaborate more with other 'green' groups in the village to create a common vision for the green spaces in Menston.
- h) Looking at what the group can do for the Jubilee next year.
- i) After undertaking a very successful larger scale project to re-furbish the Railway Garden they are considering being a bit bolder and bigger in their future planning.

#### Christmas Lights Group

- a) Sub-group of MCA was established in 2019 to enhance the Christmas lights and organise a 'switch-on' event.
- b) In 2020 they were still able to add to the lights and have a variety of 'at distance' Christmas events despite not being able to have a formal switch on event due to Covid.
- c) Fundraising during the festive period including the post-Christmas tree chipping event raised approximately £4k to be carried forward for Christmas 2021.
- d) This year will have 25+ Christmas trees on shops, 17 lamppost lights, large tree and 2 additional light displays at Kirklands, 80+ bauble boards in gardens (thanks to Ribston Pippin). More lit feature trees and displays around the village.
- e) Switch on event planned for Saturday 4 December 5.00 pm at Kirklands, which will include a programme of musical entertainment with festive food and drink available.
- f) FOMPS are co-ordinating with the group holding their Christmas Fair during the day of 4 December at Kirklands.
- g) Have advertised through village Facebook page for more volunteers to help put up the lights and intend to hold a 'training session' at the Deli in mid-November.

#### "Friends of Menston Park"

- a) Sub-group was formed to provide a representation of the community's views and ideas for the park to the Parish Council and Bradford Council Parks.
- b) Had achieved some success with the adult fitness trail in respect of the type of equipment and where it was sited.
- c) Due to Covid had not had opportunity to meet for several months.
- d) Looking to improve the communication between PC and Bradford Parks so that the community feel they are informed and consulted on future planning and works.
- e) Planning on working collaboratively with other 'green' village groups to produce a collective plan.
- f) Establish a single line of communication between the collective groups, Bradford Council and PC.
- g) Be involved and consulted on any future plans for the park from the beginning to ensure available funding is used in the most appropriate way.

#### Climate Action Menston

- a) Group continuing to work towards becoming net zero
- b) Worked with the PC to create the new entrance to the park from Bingley Road.
- c) Continuing to work with Bradford Council regarding the Main Street vision in respect of traffic calming. Obtained funding to run a trail at the primary school and are currently awaiting monitoring results from Bradford Council.
- d) Held the Big Green Event in and around Kirklands. Activities included presentations and information about the Wharfedale Greenway Cycle Pathway, Menston in Bloom, Tree planting with BEAT (Bradford Environmental; Action Trust), E Bikes, The Repair Cafe in Otley, the official launch of MANT (Nature Trust).
- e) The group meets regularly at the Parish rooms; activities include talks and presentations as well as planning future activities.

### Menston Area Nature Trust

MANT (Menston Area Nature Trust) is an independent group formed out of the Climate Action Group. It is a registered charity and this will give it the flexibility to apply for and access income streams and grant monies to continue its work and plans in and around the Menston area.

### Airport Consultation Group

- a) Former lead of this group has now stood down as is moving away from Menston. A new lead has been appointed to continue to represent Menston on the Leeds/Bradford Consultative Committee.
- b) Meeting held in Menston on 1 September with Chief Exec and assistant from Leeds/Bradford Airport. Meeting included monitoring the movement of aircraft over Menston and discussion about how aircraft use the official air passage and swathe over the Menston/Burley area. It was acknowledged there had been some problems with certain carriers. They were also asked about the rising frequency of extra early/late flights in and out of the airport.
- c) Beginning consultations on the Airspace Change Programme which is expected to continue until 2025.

### Menston News

- a) Newsletter continues to be delivered 3 times per year to all households across both the Bradford and Leeds areas of the village..
- b) During lockdown while there were less village activities taking place the newsletter was used to include more news and articles of local interest.
- c) Feedback received indicates that residents still like and want a hard copy newsletter.
- d) Thanked Parish Council, Small Print and the team of distributors for their continued support of its the production and delivery.
- e) The meeting asked if the on-line version on the village website could be expanded The village website is currently undergoing a re-vamp and there will be consultation as to how the newsletter will appear on the MCA part of the site (Goodith White).
- f) More volunteers are needed for the delivery of the newsletter so that we can again have a back-up list for when people move house or can no longer deliver for other reasons. Routes are small and only require about one hour three times a year. Contact [menstonnews@gmail.com](mailto:menstonnews@gmail.com) for more details.

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Thurs 2- Sun 5 June 2022

Community Association would like to celebrate the occasion appropriately:

- a) Looking to organise and collaborate with other village groups on a programme of events.
- b) Kirkland's Hall has been provisionally booked for the Saturday 4 June 2022.
- c) Asking for ideas for events such as vintage car show, living history podcast, tree planting, village fair, street parties, etc.
- d) Invite volunteers to form a sub-group (similar to Christmas lights group) for the event.
- e) Will launch an appeal for volunteers in the New Year and hold an interest meeting.

### **Any other Business**

#### Remembrance Day

There will be a wreath laying ceremony at 11.00 am on 11 November at the memorial in front of Kirklands.

There will be an outdoor service on Sunday 14 November.

**Open Forum**

Attendees were invited to raise any other matters to the meeting.

There was an enquiry regarding future traffic arrangements for Bingley Road. It was suggested that this be referred to the Parish Council who have the relevant information.

**Date & Time of Next Meeting**

To be arranged