

**Menston Parish Council**  
**Annual Meeting of the Parish**  
**18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.00pm**  
**in The Chevin Room, Kirklands Community Centre**

**Present: Councillors Philip Moore (Chairman), Marilyn Banister, Dale Smith, Chris Steele, Goodith White, Jo White**

**Clerk: Catriona Hanson**

**1. Introduction and welcome from the chairman of the Parish Council**

Councillor Moore welcomed everyone to the meeting,

**2. Chairman's report on the Parish Council's activities 2022 – 2023**

The recent Parish Council election has seen the unopposed election of six Parish Councillors including a new member of the Parish Council – Chris Steele.

I would like to place on record the Parish Council's thanks to Gordon Metcalfe and Jamie Needle who decided to stand down at the election. Gordon was a founding member of the Parish Council in 2006 and his expertise in planning matters has been invaluable. His recent work in organising the village's coronation celebrations is very much appreciated, as is the contribution from Nigel Cawthorne and other members of the Coronation Working Group. Jamie joined the Parish Council in 2018 and participated in a number of projects including the ACV for the Malt Shovel, representing the Parish Council on the Wharfedale Greenway working party and in the last year chairing the Planning Committee meetings.

2022-23 has been another busy year for the Parish Council. We have continued to organise the annual Remembrance Services and to support Kirklands Community Centre, Menston Library and the annual Christmas Lights. In addition to this, we have also continued to scrutinise all planning applications, to press Bradford Council's Highways to improve local roads and install a pedestrian crossing on Main Street and to petition the Co-op to provide a local food shop in the village.

Prudent budgeting meant that the existing level of precept was able to be maintained.

Among the projects which have received financial support:

- The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme – run by Burley Parish Council
- Menston Bowling Club (contribution towards grass cutting)
- Menston Area Nature Trust (new fence at Porritt's Field)
- Menston Retired Men's Forum
- Menston Show
- Menston Platinum Jubilee celebrations

The Parish Council has also received (as at the end of 2022-23) a total of £291,000 in CIL funds. We have encouraged local groups and individuals to apply for money to fund projects which will improve the local infrastructure and to date funding for the following projects has been agreed:

- Menston Community Fridge
- Menston Preschool
- Menston Cricket Club
- Replacement windows at Kirklands

**3. Forthcoming plans and budget for 2023/24**

The Parish Council will continue to press Bradford Council's Highways to improve local roads and transportation and to monitor the ongoing situation with regards to the former Co-op building. A key priority for the Parish Council is to make sure that the most appropriate use is made of land in and around the village. We will also continue to support local groups and organisations and encourage applications for a new round of CIL funds.

**4. Public consultation and question time**

None.

**5. Any other business**

None.

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