

Menston Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 31st August 2023 at 7.05pm

MINUTES

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

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2023/187 Welcome and introduction from the Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillor Moore welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2023/188 To receive any apologies for absence

None.

2023/189 To receive any disclosures of interest or requests for dispensation

Councillor Banister disclosed her membership of the PCC at St John's Church. No further disclosures of interest from those made at the Annual Parish Council meeting were given at the meeting and no requests for dispensation had been received by the Clerk.

2023/190 Variation to the agenda

RESOLVED to bring forward the item about the application from St John's Church.

Proposed: Councillor Moore

2023/191 To consider a response to the application from St John's Church to apply for legal agreement to close the churchyard and transfer responsibility for grounds maintenance to Menston Parish Council or Bradford Council

Rev Steve Proudlove explained that no new burials in the churchyard had taken place since 1993 and that there is no space for any new plots. Following discussions, the PCC had resolved to close the churchyard and transfer responsibility for grounds maintenance to either the Parish Council or Bradford Council.

RESOLVED: the Parish Council resolved not to object to the closure of the churchyard

Proposed: Councillor Moore

RESOLVED: the Parish Council resolved not to accept responsibility for grounds maintenance for the churchyard.

Proposed: Councillor Moore

Councillor Banister abstained from the vote. This vote was carried by four votes in favour and one vote in opposition.

2023/192 Public consultation and question time

Two members of the public were present.

A resident from Meadowcroft advised the Parish Council of problems with delivery vehicles trying to access the Bellway housing development and Bingley Road from Meadowcroft and problems with other delivery vehicles obstructing the highway.

RESOLVED: to offer to fund a new "No through road" sign.

Proposed: Councillor Smith

Seconded: Councillor Goodith White

Ward Councillor Bob Felstead gave an update about an Airspace Change consultation meeting which he had arranged at Burley in Wharfedale. It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the hire of the Main Hall at Kirklands on Friday 13th October from 19.00 – 21.00 for a presentation to Menston residents. Councillor Jo White agreed to produce a flyer promoting the event and to commission SmallPrint to produce copies and ask the people who deliver the village newsletter to delivery copies. It was also agreed to publicise on Facebook and the village website.

Councillor Moore thanked Councillor Felstead for the update and for agreeing to host this consultation event.

2023/193 Minutes of previous meeting and progress report

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 27th July 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record with the following update – Councillor Banister had given the update on Leeds Bradford airport.

Proposed: Councillor Moore

2023/194 Finance

To agree to pay the following invoices:

- Monthly salary invoice
- Kirklands (Menston) Trust – Library cleaning June 2023 (£192), WW2 meeting (£10.50), Menston Park Group meeting (£10.50)

RESOLVED: to pay these invoices

Proposed: Councillor Smith

The Parish Council also noted:

- The payment of £1,872 to Qualcast – defibrillator and cabinet
- The payment of £1,760 to Smallprint – village newsletter

2023/195 Grant application

RESOLVED: To approve the grant application from Menston Show (£531.25)

Proposed: Councillor Moore

2023/196 To consider the Parish Council's actions in response to the withdrawal of some delivery services by Cohen's chemist

After a discussion it was agreed that this could be covered by charities in Menston.

2023/197 To consider a possible logo for the Parish Council

It was agreed to make an initial approach to the Art Club and also to contact Cheryl Thornton.

2023/198 To receive an update on the park and travellers access

Councillor Banister gave an update. A meeting had been held with Brian Dobson in Menston Park. Mr Dobson agreed to forward some ideas about trees and bollards once he has consulted the relevant department.

2023/199 To receive an update on Menston Station – Access for all project

Councillors Banister and Goodith White gave an update. Work is currently taking place to extend platform 1 which has an impact on the car park. Work on the lift will not start until December.

2023/200 To receive an update about the Parish Council vacancy

An advertisement for the vacancy is now on the Parish Council notice board, website and village newsletter. Councillor Goodith White agreed to add it to Facebook. It was agreed to ask for a copy to be displayed in Menston Library. The Clerk was asked to book a meeting room for the interviews and to email a copy of the application form to everyone who had previously expressed an interest.

2023/201 To agree to fund the Remembrance Day services in November

Councillor Moore agreed to contact the Reverend Proudlove about the service on 12th November. The Parish Council agreed to fund the poppy wreaths and refreshments afterwards.

2023/202 To receive an update about the Welcome to Menston signs

Councillor Jo White reminded members of the Parish Council to identify their preferred locations for the Welcome to Menston signs. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Andrew Solomon from Bradford Council on two occasions asking for advice and a possible site meeting to discuss proposed locations and is still waiting for a response.

2023/203 Meeting dates for 2024

The meeting dates for 2024 were approved.

2023/204 To receive an update from Kirklands (Menston) Trust

The Trust does not hold a meeting in August. Following a discussion about room changes, Councillor Smith advised that some flexibility about meeting venues is desirable.

2023/205 To receive an update about Menston Parks

Councillor Banister gave an update.

2023/206 To receive an update about Leeds Bradford Airport

Councillor Banister gave an update.

2023/207 To receive an update about the memorial bench for Peter Finlay

Councillor Smith gave an update.

2023/208 To receive an update about the proposed defibrillator at Kirklands

The Clerk gave an update about the defibrillator. The Parish Council has now purchased a defibrillator and cabinet and delivered them to Kirklands. The Kirklands Trust is now waiting for a tender from their electrician.

2023/209 To consider a response to the Local Government Boundary Commission's public consultation inviting proposals for new council wards and ward boundaries for Bradford

The Clerk explained that the Boundary Commission has recommended retaining 90 ward councillors and Bradford Council is now waiting for some proposals about the ward geographies from the Local Government Boundary Commission. It was agreed to retain this on the agenda for discussion at future meetings.

2023/210 Chairman's remarks and correspondence

Councillor Smith gave an update about the former Co-op building. He is in discussion with a replacement business.

2023/211 To consider any items to be held in closed session

None.

2023/212 Agenda items for the next meeting

Parish Council surgeries

Limiting the public consultation slot to 15 minutes in total.

2023/213 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of Menston Parish Council will take place on Thursday 28th September 2023 at 7.05pm in the Wharfe Room.