

Menston Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 28th September 2023 at 7.05pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Philip Moore (Chairman), Marilyn Banister, Lisa Greer, Dale Smith (until 8.30pm), Chris Steele, Goodith White and Jo White

Clerk: Catriona Hanson

2023/220 Welcome and introduction from the Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillor Moore welcomed Councillor Greer to her first meeting. It was noted that Councillor Greer had signed the declaration of acceptance of office before the meeting started.

2023/221 To receive any apologies for absence

None.

2023/222 To receive any disclosures of interest or requests for dispensation

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.

2023/223 Public consultation and question time

Ward Councillor Bob Felstead was present at the meeting.

Councillor Steele gave an update on local issues:

- Bingley Road will be resurfaced during the October half-term
- Porritt's Field – cows will be returning to the field in October
- Garth Grove – Councillors Steele and Felstead have written to Bradford Council to express concerns about residents in Garth Grove being asked to take their wheelie bins to East Parade for collection.
- Some of the play equipment in Menston Park will be removed due to health and safety concerns.

Councillor Moore thanked Councillor Steele for the update.

2023/224 Minutes of previous meeting and progress report

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 31st August 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Councillor Moore

2023/225 Finance

To agree to pay the following invoices:

- Monthly salary invoice
- Kirklands - £210.60 (library cleaning £153.60; Menston Heritage Group £21 room hire; MPC co-option meeting room hire £18)
- Kirklands - £25,000 (replacement windows, CIL grant approved in October 2022)
- Office rent April to September 2023 (£208)
- Society of Local Council Clerks annual membership renewal (£139)
- To reimburse the Clerk for 18 hours work for the Kirklands (Menston) Trust – June, July and September 2023

RESOLVED: to pay these invoices

Proposed: Councillor Moore

The Parish Council also noted:

- The payment of £1,800 to Menston Bowling Club (grant approved in January 2023)
- The payment of £150 to Smallprint for Council flyers promoting the meeting about Leeds Airport on 13th October.

2023/226 Grant application

A grant application for £15,000 had been received from Kirklands (Menston) Trust. It was agreed to ask the Trustees to provide a set of accounts and defer the application to the next Parish Council meeting.

2023/227 To consider holding Parish Council surgeries

It was agreed that a rota would be drawn up for Parish Councillors to be present at Councillor Felstead's monthly ward councillor surgeries held in Menston Library and for this to be reviewed at a later date.

2023/228 To consider a possible logo for the Parish Council

The Parish Council viewed a number of draft logos produced by members of Menston Art Club and Cheryl Thornton. It was agreed that Councillors Goodith White and Jo White would approach Smallprint for an indication of the cost of developing the logo. It was resolved to allow them some leeway to agree a price for the development work.

Proposed: Councillor Smith

It was also agreed that the finished logo could be used on identity badges for the Parish Council.

2023/229 To agree a response to Bradford Council about SCAPAG

It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond to Bradford Council with the recommendation that SCAPAG should continue as it provides a useful source of ideas about projects and schemes taking place elsewhere in the constituency and it enables Wharfedale to feel linked to other areas.

2023/230 To receive an update on the park and travellers access

Following the meeting with Brian Dobson in Menston Park, he had forwarded some ideas about bollards. These are available in black or silver. The Clerk had got in touch to ask whether the bollards could be painted green. The Clerk agreed to chase up an answer.

2023/231 To consider the purchase of a bench for Westbourne Drive

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Bradford Highways to ask about the requirements for installing a bench on Westbourne Drive. Councillor Jo White agreed to look into costs and bench types and to investigate whether the building contractors would consider funding a bench.

2023/232 To consider funding a multi-use games area (MUGA) in Menston Park

It was agreed to defer this item until the Parks Group have discussed this suggestion.

2023/233 To consider any action in relation to advertising signs at the gyratory

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Leeds City Council to ascertain whether there has been any permission granted to display signs at the gyratory.

2023/234 To receive an update on Menston Station – Access for all project

No update.

2023/235 To receive an update about the Welcome to Menston signs

Councillor Jo White had identified some possible designs and is waiting for Nigel Cawthorne to provide details of the sign manufacturers used by Bradford Council.

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.

2023/236 To receive an update from Kirklands (Menston) Trust

Councillor Jo White gave an update from the recent meeting. Bookings have increased and some of the replacement windows will be installed in the autumn. The Trust has also been faced with some unexpected expenses: a replacement boiler, additional electrical safety work, patching tarmac in the car park and repairs and maintenance costs.

2023/237 To receive an update from Climate Action Menston

Councillor Banister gave an update from the recent meeting where they had received a presentation from Leeds University.

2023/238 To receive an update from the Wharfedale Greenway

Councillor Banister advised the meeting that the next meeting will take place in November.

2023/239 To receive an update about Leeds Bradford Airport

Councillor Banister gave an update about a recent online meeting. Councillor Felstead will be holding a briefing for Menston residents on Friday 13th October.

2023/240 To receive an update about the memorial bench for Peter Finlay

Councillor Smith explained that there is no update.

2023/241 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 waiting for a tender from their electrician.

2023/242 To consider a response to the Local Government Boundary Commission's public consultation inviting proposals for new council wards and ward boundaries for Bradford

It was agreed to defer this item to the November meeting when the Local Government Boundary Commission would be publishing their proposals.

2023/243 To contact Bradford Council about the state of Bingley Road

Councillor Steele advised the meeting that the Ward Councillors will be attending a site meeting with Simon D'Vali and his team to discuss the proposed 20mph speed limit. He agreed to ask Mr D'Vali to arrange for the white lines at the junction of Bingley Road and Main Street to be re-painted. The Chairman and Clerk were also asked to write to Mr D'Vali asking for the stop sign in front of the junction to be straightened out and for additional traffic slowing measures to be introduced in front of the junction on Bingley Road.

2023/244 Chairman's remarks and correspondence

Councillor Moore advised the meeting that a grant for £1,937 has recently been received from Bradford Council for Menston Library's warm space initiative.

The Parish Council's annual governance accountability return has now been signed off without any comment by the external auditors. Councillor Moore thanked the Clerk for her work on the Parish Council's accounts.

The Parish Council discussed the arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday service on 12th November. Councillor Jo White agreed to contact the piper about playing at the service.

2023/245 To consider any items to be held in closed session

None.

2023/246 Agenda items for the next meeting

2023/247 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of Menston Parish Council will take place on Thursday 26th October 2023 at 7.05pm in the Wharfe Room.