

Minutes of the 29th Annual General Meeting of the Morton Village Society and the Institute held on Thursday, 22nd July 2010, at 7.30pm in the Institute.

The Chairman, David Miller, began by inviting those present to stand in memory of Keith Gore, a past Chairman of the Institute.

Apologies were received from Jean and Milton Duckworth.

Chairman's opening remarks and report. David said it was a pleasure to welcome everyone to the refurbished Institute and he thanked all those who had made it possible. He was very, very grateful for the contributions of Mick Craven and Steve Foster and the many others who had worked on the project. A particular tribute was paid to Rhona Emmott who had been instrumental in setting up the Thursday afternoon group - Morton Meet, a gathering for young and old alike, with cakes, biscuits, tea, coffee etc. and time to sit and talk. It was a lovely idea and one receiving enthusiastic support. Rhona was also responsible for other groups coming in to use the premises having recently taken on the role of bookings secretary. Following the refurbishment, an official opening had taken place on 3rd May and had been a triumph. So many people had contributed to making the Institute a success and taking it forward, and he thanked Karen and Rhona for their ongoing work with decorating.

The minutes of the 28th Annual General Meeting were agreed to have been a correct record of what had taken place.

There were no matters arising from those minutes.

Stephen Duxbury presented the **Village Society accounts**, copies of which were handed out. Copies of the accounts, and those of the Institute, were available to anyone if they wished to call at his office. They had not been printed in the newsletter lately due to pressure of space. On the expenditure side, Stephen drew attention to the figure of £3582.04p - a percentage amount of matched funding paid to WREN to secure the funding for the Institute work and demonstrated commitment to the project. Matched funding is a rule and the Village Society were happy to facilitate the process in this way. Three grants had contributed to the total amount of funding - from sale of the airport, a grant from the Keighley Neighbourhood Forum and the WREN grant.

This year had seen a change in gardeners for the Green, and less had been spent on repairs and maintenance. There was a good amount in the bank represented by a closing balance of £6243.08p. Stephen thanked Mick and Karen for doing the Lottery which brings

in the largest amount of income. Paperwork to administer the Lottery was considerable, and following up numbers not paid for by standing order is time consuming. Sale of Christmas cards had realised over £800 profit, and order forms for 2010 were available, the card being a painting of St. Luke's Church complete with robin. Donations for the Institute refurbishment from residents totalled £705. The Institute loan of £5,000 was money lodged with the Village Society to attract a higher rate of interest.

Amalgamating both sets of accounts could be considered, although the Institute year-end being December would be an added complication. Michael Millar (auditor) urged caution - if both organisations thrived, fine, but if not? Also, to amalgamate would be one big job rather than two manageable ones.

Lee Senior wished to thank Stephen for his help with the Morton in Bloom accounts and David formerly extended his thanks to Stephen also.

The **Institute accounts** to 31.12.2009 were presented by Mick Craven. They showed a small surplus of £273, almost unheard of if former years accounts were looked at. There had been discussion about snooker as it takes up a large part of the premises. It had been decided to continue, but would need promoting. An additional evening slot perhaps? Having the corridor now meant that use of the snooker room could run alongside other activities. Since refurbishment four new groups are using the building (12 in all now) and there had been a successful increase in hiring prices without any drop in use. The quality of the hiring had improved - now used for christening parties etc. and there should be an increase in income. More events, including some run by the Institute, may achieve £3,000 of net income year by year. David officially thanked Mick for his excellent accounts.

Election of Officers - Lee Senior proposed the present officers and committee be re-elected en bloc and all were in favour. David emphasised that new committee members with fresh ideas would always be very welcome. He commented that a resident on Waterside Fold had taken on the co-ordination and delivery of newsletters there this year - a big help.

Election of Auditor - Stephen proposed that Michael Millar continue as auditor for the coming year and he agreed to do so.

Institute - in the original specification, the outside of the Institute was to be sandblasted by the builders and the commemorative plaques removed for cleaning. After work commenced, pressure on the funding resulted in modifications to the original specification. The

sandblasting was felt not to be appropriate, although two of the plaques had been removed and cleaning had begun. Michael Millar had offered to take over cleaning them and it was hoped that they would be replaced very soon in a much-improved condition. Mick Craven qualified the architect's fees.

Village Green / Graveyard Maintenance - as mentioned previously, new gardeners had been appointed for the green although they were not responsible for the shrub border at the back. MIB were happy to continue to do the bedding which Lee hoped residents agreed was looking more colourful. He was asked, and agreed, to draw up a specification and obtain quotes for maintenance of the back border, as well as maintenance for the graveyard in Green End Road which was again looking untidy following the loss of the gardener during the past year.

Lottery Projects - Ted Batley had spoken to the vicar at St. Luke's about reinstating the ringing of the church bells, which may involve some repair work. He wished to flag this up as a possible project for funding from the lottery and he had spoken to Karen about it.

Morton in Bloom - David expressed gratitude to Lee and his team of committed volunteers who had transformed the village during the past two years. Lee thanked everyone for their help - Keighley Town Council and Bradford Council for funding and Pauline for the large planters by the bus terminus. Allotment holders had grown plants for use in the planters - all had pulled together, had fun, got people talking and were "doing it for Morton". Positive comments had been received but the group were struggling for more volunteers. Lee felt that the toilet area was the best bit and he was very appreciative of the support received prior to the last judging from the new owners of the Busfeild Arms who had really gone to town to brighten up their premises. Ideas were shared with Angela Kennedy who headed up the gardening work done at the school and there was a suggestion of a "design a flowerbed" competition for the green that the children could participate in next year. He hoped to build further links with the school. Kim had plans for a heritage trail in the village highlighting the mill background.

Any Other Business - replacement village sign on Carr Lane. In 2009 the Yorkshire in Bloom judges had marked down the village entry because the sign was in a poor state. Michael Millar had received a quote for a carved stone sign which would cost £496. An alternative was a smaller green sign saying, "Welcome to East Morton" and including Keighley Town Council similar to the sign up Alma.

Funding towards this was offered from Keighley Town Council, the VS paying around £150 of the £400 cost. This was quite an emotive issue with many differing opinions including location, so when Michael Millar offered to try to improve the existing sign, it was agreed that for the time being this would be the happiest solution. If Kim's idea of establishing a heritage trail came to fruition in the future, consideration could be given to having a millstone for the village name.

David praised the Gala committee for putting on such a wonderful Gala.

Ted Batley queried why, after three years, the seat on Carr Lane still had not been removed despite permission for its repositioning from David Heaton. It appeared that it was cemented in so perhaps another seat could be located in a place on Carr Lane to take advantage of the view across the valley.

David thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Rev Mike Cansdale - St Lukes

Harvest Festival is a time to be thankful for all the good things that God gives to us, but also to remember those less fortunate than us who struggle with hunger and poverty. This year at St Luke's we are supporting the work of FARM-Africa, which helps poor farmers reap better harvests - now and for the future. Our theme for Harvest is **Give Poverty the Boot** and so there will be a **welly boot** focus to our fundraising activities. We'll be linking up with East Morton Primary to do some work in the school and there may be welly-decorating and other welly related creations. We'd be delighted to welcome you to our Harvest Festival at St Luke's on Sunday 10th October at 10am. This will be a family service so do come and join us and make sure you wear your wellies to church!! There will also be a bring and share Harvest Lunch in Morton Institute after the service so do join us for that as well - and if the weather is fine we may lay on some welly-wanging and even a game of welly football in the afternoon. God bless you this autumn and watch out for ways you can get involved in **Giving Poverty the Boot**. (Any tins or dried food brought to the service will be taken to local charities, such as Keighley Salvation Army).



Morton Meet

From the 9th September Thursday afternoon's Morton Meet will be opening at a slightly later time of 2-4pm. Everyone welcome for tea/coffee or juice with a slice of homemade cake. Photo shows group of mums enjoying the later times and the late summer weather.



Morton Lottery join now

£200 went to the lucky winner, Andy Haworth and £50 to Addie Brown on Gala Day

As they say 'You've got to be in it to win it'. Just £12 a year buys you a number in the monthly draw. Over £2,500 given out in prizes annually with all the profit going towards enhancing the village and its amenities. See overleaf for contacts.

Quiz night October 14th

As the nights get darker & the weather gets colder, warm up your body and mind at our friendly, informal regular quiz night and take on the intelligent folk in Morton

Just £6 including the best pies, peas and puds in town. Teams of up to six people. Booking forms from contacts overleaf or from the porch 6 Dimples Lane.

50s, 60s or 70s Fancy Dress Party - December 4th

After sell outs in the last two years, we are once again having the live band "Amnesia" with food and bar - just £10. A wide era of fancy dress to make it easy to join in one of the best nights in the year - just informal FUN at a great price. Don't miss it and why not get a crowd of friends together. See overleaf for contacts for tickets.

Christmas lunch & carols

On December 16th come along for a sherry and lunch at 12.30 followed by carols at 2pm. Just £7 for lunch (bookings must be made in advance) or come along just for a sherry, mince pies and carols for £3. Tickets available at Morton Meet every week or from any of the contacts overleaf.

Let us know if you know any elderly villagers that may wish to come but need collecting as we can try to arrange to fetch them.

Questionnaire

The lucky winners of a free number in the lottery were Ernie & Brenda Smith. Sadly there were only 22 returned from about 900 delivered, but thank-you to those who replied and if you still have a questionnaire, it's never too late to send it back to us. We have looked through all the returned forms and will try to see what we can arrange where most interest has been shown.

Charity event In aid of Debra

Friday 15th October in Institute 7.30pm, £10 ticket includes supper, a glass of wine and a raffle number Start your Christmas shopping early!

Stalls include phoenix cards, children's toys, gifts, soaps, jewellery, raffle, tombola and a special butterfly stall. For tickets or more information Call Ruth on 07968 288284 Email Ruth.Woodwiss@Sky.Com

Concert

On the 8th October there will be a concert in the Institute, a double-bill with a local accent, featuring musicians Eddie Lawler and Fiona-Katie Roberts

Eddie is from "down there in Saltaire", a songwriter of wit and wisdom, Fiona-Katie comes from "up Worth Valley way" with a unique programme of triple-harp music, and tales to go with it. You can listen to their work on www.eddie-lawler.co.uk and www.tripleharps.com

This is the first in an occasional series showcasing the best of local folk, jazz and rock music. There will be a real ale bar with all profits going to the Institute fund.

Tickets £5 in advance, £6 on the door (from 7.30), to reserve please ring 564653 or email rhtassell08@live.co.uk

Wanted

Can you spare a few minutes at around 8am each morning? An additional resident (or two) is needed on the rota for opening up the toilets. All that is required is to simply unlock the doors. East Morton is one of a very few places to have a re-opened public toilet facility, after much lobbying by the Village Society and others. Recently the MIB group have enhanced the centre of the village and the toilet area is now an attractive part of that scheme.

If you can help, you will be one of a group of six so your help will be needed once every six weeks - more volunteers would mean less often than that. Our thanks go to retiring member Mick McCormack for being a part of the team.

School Corner

Mrs Robson retires

Mrs Jackie Robson (right) retired in the summer following a long and very successful career. Her last 16 years were spent teaching at East Morton where she co-ordinated literacy, taught across the whole school in all classes and worked tirelessly to organise trips and visitors to school, making learning fun and "hands on".

Jackie was an inspiration to both children and to staff. Her dedication and positive manner shone through everything she did and she will be very much missed.



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

All sixty pupils from Years 5 and 6 were involved in this truly magical event. The children were delighted to receive the good wishes of Craig Chalmers, who is currently on national tour with the world famous musical. There were three performances in front of a packed school hall - one to the whole school, and then a matinee and evening performance for family and friends (photos below).

Community Lunches

The dates for the community lunches up till Christmas are Thursday 23rd September, 21st October, 18th November, 9th December. For more information people can e-mail me at hilary05@live.co.uk



Art Class

We are hoping to run art classes in the spring starting in January subject to enough interest. Suitable for both beginners and those with experience, we will cover drawing skills and painting, working with a variety of media. Initially, classes will be for two hours on a Thursday morning, 10-12am and the course of 10 lessons will cost £50. If interested please send full details of name, address, email, telephone number and cheque (made out to Morton Institute) to K Redhead, 6 Studley Close, East Morton or get in touch for further info. Bookings must be made before the end of November in order to ascertain if enough interest - we will return cheques should the class not go ahead.

"Bangers and Beer"

As the bangs of bonfire night fade away, join us for Morton's "bangers" and beer at the Institute on 12th November at 7.30pm. There will be fifteen different exciting beers to choose from and delicious hotdogs to help them down. Our host Ray will give a review of the beers and there will be fun and games throughout the night. Tickets £6 including your first two bottles and a hotdog, available from Barbara 567345 or Rhona 551067.

Childminder service

Kathryn Craven is now offering a childminder service, contact her for details - KC 4 Kiddy Care, Whitestone Drive, East Morton BD20 5JB Tel:07752 604266 <http://kc4kiddycare.webeden.co.uk>

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Christmas Cards in aid of Morton Village Society

10 cards @ £5 · 50 cards @ £24
100 cards @ £45 · 200 cards @ £84

Personalization also available - minimum 50 cards -
50 @ £50, 100 @ £90, 200 @ £160

(for different quantities, contact Karen) Details to Stephen at Prestset -
Email stephen@prestset.co.uk or Tel 518299

10% discount if ordered before Monday 11th October

Cards available from Monday 8th November from Prestset,
Bethel Hall, (back of Congregational Chapel).

If ordered through school please collect from school.

Contact details - Karen Redhead - Tel 560279 Email karenredhead@hotmail.co.uk

Name	
Address	
Telephone	Email
Quantity ordered	Total £

Send order form with cheque (payable to Morton Village Society) to
Karen Redhead, 6 Studley Close, East Morton, BD20 5TW



Gala Report 2010

With new stalls, fabulous weather and lots of smiling faces we think this year's Gala was a hit with you all!

It was wonderful to see the hundreds of you who turned out for the whole afternoon to support this annual event which truly does bring the whole village together.

Each year we try to add new attractions as well as keep old favourites, getting the balance right and finding something for everyone is a challenge.

A number of people who had been to other events this year commented that ours was the one true "local" event which focused on the simple attractions without being too commercial.

This is great to hear and something we work hard to achieve. It is important too that we raise money which will enable next year's event to take place.

Any surplus goes to local organisations and good causes and from this year's money our main aim is to support the continuing improvements to the Institute.

Last of all the Gala Committee would like to thank all of you who continue to help and attend the Gala year after year – all the planning in the world means nothing without your support.

Gala 2011 - 50th anniversary

Next Year East Morton celebrates its 50th Gala and it will be held on Sunday July 10th.

We are already planning to mark this golden half century with great new attractions on Gala day, holding an exhibition about the history of the event, producing a bumper souvenir programme...and we need your help.

Times have change dramatically over the years, East Morton itself has grown massively, buildings knocked down, new homes built and we hope to reflect these changes in the exhibition.

Most of you will have memories of Galas past and we want to hear about them...especially the early years.

- Where you a Gala Queen?
- Did you take part in the parade?
- Do you have any photographs which we might borrow?
- Have you any memories we can share?

Please get in touch call Kathy Myers 01274 567174 or John Foster 01274 512838

Morton Village Society

Aiming to preserve your village

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Minutes of 29th AGM and Newsletter

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www.mortonvillage.org.uk

Morton gains a SILVER GILT award in 2010 Yorkshire-in-Bloom village category



Morton in Bloom have exceeded expectations by gaining a SILVER GILT award in the Village category of the 2010 Yorkshire In Bloom competition.

This award places Morton in the second highest judging category within the competition. Only the gold award is higher.

Lee Senior, co-ordinator of the group, commented that "this is a tremendous result for our hard working group and more importantly for Morton as a whole. The group has

been in existence for only two years and we have come a long way in a short space of time. I think anyone who has passed the village green or the toilet area or bus shelter cannot fail to have been impressed with the difference we have made to the village.

This reflects all the hard work and dedication the MIB group has shown, despite all of us being volunteers with busy lives. I am proud of the team and the villagers and businesses that have helped the campaign".

The comments from the judges were very positive. They commented on how colourful and clean the village is. The water butts were commended along with our attempts to establish wildflowers. The school garden and allotment site also came in for praise.

Lee would like to offer his thanks on behalf of the group to Martin at the Busfeild Arms, who has transformed the garden area in a short space of time. For the first

time in a long time the pub now has colour and a tidy garden and this is very important as a focal point.

David Heaton at the Golf club was particularly helpful in spring.

Keighley Town Council, Bradford Council and Morton Village Society have all supported MIB with some funding at various times. Many others have helped and are too numerous to list here.

It would be wonderful if Morton can now progress to the elite gold standard in the future. This will mean a lot more hard work and the group being able to recruit new members.

If you have any free time whether it is one hour or one day a year, please get in touch with Lee on 01274 563377 or email: leeseniorgardening@yahoo.co.uk Morton needs you!

Gala report on back page 50th anniversary in 2011



'Call my bluff' wine & cheese tasting

In the institute on 3rd September was a full house and a roaring success. A very cosy affair with over 80 people squeezed in. After starting the evening with a complimentary bucks fizz or special German beer it was then time to sample eight different wines and six cheeses of which there was certainly no shortage! Thanks to Booths of Ilkley for providing a great selection of wines, we recommend you try them

out and hopefully they will be back again next year.

From left: Sue Brook ready for the wine and cheese tasting with Ray Stevens Licence Manager of Booth's Supermarket, Ilkley and East Morton Village Society member Barbara Evans.

