



# Minutes of 32nd AGM and Newsletter

## No 76 - 2013

[www.mortonvillage.org.uk](http://www.mortonvillage.org.uk)

Minutes of the 32nd Annual Meeting, held in the Institute on Friday, 28th June, at 7.30pm.

Apologies were received from Jean and Milton Duckworth, Stephen Duxbury, Rhona Emmott, Barbara Evans, Geoff Finnerty and Angela Leach. The Chairman, David Miller, welcomed those attending, commenting that it was a real pleasure to live somewhere that he was always pleased and happy to return to.

The Minutes of the 31st Annual Meeting were accepted as a correct record of what had taken place and there were not matters arising from them.

**Chairman's Report** - David said in his report that the Village Society was in a good state and the committee worked well - he found them very helpful. Another source of pleasure was the flourishing Institute, meaning that their committee had been able to separate from the Society and function as previously. He had noted two signs had recently appeared, one in Morton Lane monitoring traffic coming up the road and one opposite the bus terminus checking traffic coming from the Otley direction. It was thought that these signs were registering traffic speed and it was a case of "wait and see" what may result. David said that it had taken 55 cars before he could cross the road to open the toilets on an occasion during the week! Main Road is a very busy road, particularly at commuter times.

**Treasurer's Report** - this was presented in Stephen's absence. It showed the Society to be in a healthy state. On the expenditure side, there was a query on the amount of insurance and this would be passed on to Stephen. The difference in the amount of lottery prizes given out to those in 2012 (£250) was thought to be due to a special prize given that year. The expenditure on the website was probably the hosting price. Bob Dennis proposed that the accounts be adopted, and he was seconded by John Crowther.

**Election of Officers and Committee** - there being no resignations or nominations, the current committee were elected en bloc. The committee functioned as an umbrella to the other groups within the village with members sitting on the VS committee. David commented that new members would be very welcome. The poor turnout this year for the Annual Meeting was thought to be due to it being on a Friday and Andy Murray! Maybe a more prominent notice in the newsletter prior to the meeting next year would help. The popularity of the Institute meant difficulty in securing a night to have the meeting too.

**Election of Auditor** - this was not known at this time but would be notified in the next newsletter.

**Institute Report** - the Treasurer, Mick Craven, reported that there were many good, regular bookings resulting in a steady income, which may exceed last year. The committee now had a new Vice Chairman and a new Secretary and met monthly. He acknowledged that the attending to the bookings was a big job. Enquiries had been made recently about the setting up of a

Scout group in the village. Use of the snooker room had been well advertised but Bob reported that as yet there had not been a response. Karen said that interior painting would take place in August.

**Village Green** - this was looking good as always. The water problem on the path seemed to have disappeared - maybe temporarily - as the water now seemed to be running down Back Lane. John said that when the drain outside Jean Walker's home was jetted, the water appeared on the Green. Not an easy problem to solve. The Council are involved.

**Morton in Bloom** - YIB judging day would be 18th July. Pauline said that flyers would be posted through letter boxes of those residents along the route the judges would take, encouraging them to tidy outside their properties. An awful lot of work was carried out by a small group of people and more volunteers would be very welcome. The village entrances with wild flowers are very attractive, similarly the vicarage lane. John mentioned donations of plants from grateful residents and Karen said that when collecting lottery funds, she has noted that people really appreciate how good the village is looking.

**Morton Lottery Projects** - it would be nice to have a raised bed outside the Institute but Pauline said that without more manpower, this would not be possible for MIB. Shortage of Council funding has meant that some of the exterior work on the Institute has not been carried out, or not to a satisfactory degree. There could be scope for help there. A round wooden bench circling the oak tree at the top of the Rec. would be nice.

#### Any other business

- The shabby state of the telephone box was mentioned. This is now under the remit of Lee Senior who has had the broken panes of glass replaced already. John said that Lee hoped it would be repainted by judging day for YIB.
- John aimed to buy a flag for the village from the proceeds of his Christmas lights this year for the Institute flagpole. Apparently the Institute committee has ordered a Yorkshire flag for this pole. Perhaps John could have a pole on the Green?
- Would the speed checks result in speed bumps? Questions would be asked at the KNF at school on 11th July.
- John had heard whispers about double yellow lines at the bottom of Green End Road. Councillor Slater had informed us in March that the Council had applied for permission for these to aid visibility for cars emerging from Green End. It was thought that the lines would be confined to the bend. It was acknowledged by everybody that it was very difficult for drivers to see traffic coming up the hill from the right with the parked cars there and it was not safe to emerge because of the cars approaching from the left. David thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

## Morton-in-Bloom

*We won silver gilt again this year and the Busfield won Gold - see back page*

*Winner of Best Kept Garden competition, see inside for details*



## Quiz Night 2013

The "East Morton Institute Quiz Night"

will be held on Friday 25th October 2013

Teams of up to six people can enjoy the accompanying pie 'n' puds..

Tickets £6 per person, bring your own drinks & glasses. 7.30pm prompt start

To enter please write the team name, team captain, telephone number (and note if any vegetarians) in an envelope with a cheque for £6 per person to "Morton Memorial Institute" and post it in the side door letter box at the Institute marked "Quiz Night".

SEE INSIDE FOR THE MANY EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE INSTITUTE

## Best Kept Garden 2013

We are happy to announce that the winners of the Best Kept Garden this year are Elsie Purdie and John Gledhill of 8 Whitestone Drive. The judges commented that the garden has been stylish, attractive, colourful and well-kept throughout the season and will have given pleasure to many residents. The runners up were Sally and Graham Cardus of 52 Roedhelm Road, another very pleasing garden with lovely flowers and a good lawn.

The Best Kept Frontage proved more of a challenge to the judges who decided that there should be only one winner this year, namely John Crowther, the prize to be donated to Morton in Bloom. He has made and planted up many tubs and containers used to enhance the frontages of several areas of the village.

The judges found difficulty this year differentiating between several really good gardens and they wished to commend the wonderful display of containers and baskets at the Busfeld contributing so much to the centre of the village – Sue spent a good part of her summer maintaining the displays. The garden and frontage of the cottage in The Square tended by Alison Standley is a really eye-catching corner and open to admiration by all who pass by, never failing to please whatever time of year.

### School

Since the school created their garden nearly a decade ago it has been apparent how much enjoyment the children derive from working and playing there. Now it is established, its quiet spaces can be a good place to be outside and for some it will have played a significant part in their school lives. At a time when the Government are encouraging apprenticeships, several national organisations like the RHS and National Trust are endeavouring to raise the profile of the value of jobs in horticulture. Our very attractive village is testament to the efforts of organisations, businesses, volunteers and residents alike in demonstrating what can be achieved and how much pleasure can be gained in whatever form from living in a pleasant environment.

**Phone number for the bookings secretary of the Institute is 07534 195446**



Feast Morton are proud to announce the arrival of three apples in the community orchard! You will see that some trees are now becoming established and just a few gaps that will be filled in the winter months with Nut trees or local variety of fruit trees.

Paths have been mowed through the long grass, and around the perimeter of the Orchard and all the grass will be cut back in October to encourage wild flowers and grasses to grow in Spring. In the meantime we have started to plant wild flowers as companion plants around the trees, which we hope will provide some colour and interest as well as being beneficial to wildlife.

This year for the first time we applied for a community grant from the RHS Community Gardening Grant in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category, which is part of 'Yorkshire in Bloom'. Although we were unsuccessful this time, it does mean that we are now registered with Yorkshire in Bloom, and judges visited the Orchard in July. The feedback given was very positive and encouraging; "the group has achieved a great deal and should continue as it is with the long term aim of establishing a good productive orchard providing a valuable asset to the community with an educational role"

The Orchard has been awarded the category 'thriving', which is level 4, level 5 being excellent.

A longer term aim for Feast Morton, is to create an 'outdoor classroom' in the Orchard with a seating area and interpretation board, which is very much supported by the local school. Mrs Dale said Thank you for coming into school this morning to discuss the plans for the community orchard. The plans, and in particular the seating area, sound very exciting and purposeful and so school can fully support you in this project. Our school curriculum is skills and values led rather than content led and so projects such as this will provide real and valuable learning experiences for all the children. For example they will be able to develop their sense of community and their part within East Morton; develop teamwork, collaboration, literacy and numeracy skills and also develop their sense of awe and wonder for the world in which they live. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely, Louise Dale Headteacher



Sadly we know that Mrs Dale has left East Morton but our contact with the school is established and will continue. If you would like to support us with hands - on planting and maintaining the orchard or just being creative with the 'Apple mapping' project, please make sure that you are on our mailing list and come and see us at Apple Day on October 26th.

### APPLE DAY Saturday 26th October 2pm-4pm at the Village Institute

Bring your apples and find out what is happening in the orchard. This year we are asking anyone with home grown apples to spare, (it doesn't matter what type or quantity) to bring them to the Institute on Apple Day. We will map your tree and we will make fresh apple juice on the day. We can either return this to you for a small donation, or we sell it on. There will be a range of activities including face painting, coin art, and apple dipping.

Refreshments will be available. All proceeds will go towards the development of the Community Orchard. If any -one has an interest or skill in funding applications or would like to consider sponsorship towards an Outdoor classroom - Sheila on 01274 564653. In the meantime we look forward to the blossom and fruit picking in years to come.



### Scouts

The scouting association approached East Morton Institute recently with the proposal to start a new group of beavers, cubs and scouts in the village, since both Bingley and Riddlesden both have substantial waiting lists. A launch meeting was held on September 12th and was very well attended. On the strength of this high level of interest, number of applications for new members and even a couple of volunteer leaders the association is confident that they will be up and running on Thursday evenings in the very near future. Its not too late to join in, if you are interested in joining or volunteering please write your contact details fao Rhona Emmott and drop them into the letter box in the institute side door.

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or Clare on 07849540864

## Morton Market 2013

Due to popular demand another Morton Market will take place at East Morton Institute on Sunday December 1st 10am-3pm featuring quality produce, including continental cheeses, fresh baked bread, cakes, preserves, home-made chocolates and the chefs from 'Wharfedale kitchen' will be returning with their own special seasonal produce. There will be a good range of quality crafts, including, new for this year, award winning organic pure plant beauty range by Tropic as developed by apprentice 2011 Susan Ma.

Take the chance to place your orders for Christmas week and take home a lovely range of gifts. Entry is free and refreshments will be available, including a delicious HOG ROAST from Master Butcher ('know where your meat comes from') Iain Hewitt, of Riddlesden. Sample the food, talk to the people who know their products, shop for Christmas, without traffic and crowds, meet your friends and support local business. What's to lose? All proceeds from the Market to village funds.

### Christmas Home Decor Workshops

Two workshops will be held on Saturday afternoons at the Institute, to learn how to make a door wreath and Christmas table arrangements. The sessions will allow you to examine a range of methods and styles, in a friendly and relaxed environment. You will have the chance to follow a demonstration and create a modern willow wreath at the first session, and a table decoration at the second session, both to take home with you. The cost includes basic materials, written instructions, and home-made refreshments. There will be a choice of seasonal decorations to purchase on the day.



## Christmas Home Décor Workshops

At East Morton Institute.  
Tickets £15 inc materials and afternoon tea.

<p>Workshop No 1: 2-5pm Sat 16th Nov 13</p> <p style="color: red;">"Modern door wreaths in willow."</p>	<p>Workshop No 2: 2-5pm Sat 7th Dec 13</p> <p style="color: red;">"Christmas table arrangements and gift bouquets."</p>
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Book your place - call Sheila 01274 564653




## St Luke's Church

# "Soup & Stalls"

At East Morton Institute  
Saturday 9th November '13  
From 10am to 2pm

Entry is free so please call in to enjoy stalls with homemade produce, cards, cakes, children's games, tombola, crafts and gifts ....  
And a warming bowl of soup, tea or coffee.



## The Morton Meet

Thursday 2 - 4pm

**East Morton Memorial Hall**  
**Everyone Welcome**  
**tea/coffee & cake £1**

Thursday afternoons in the Institute mean Morton Meet. Sunny afternoons in the Institute at 3.20pm. when school finishes mean fun and usually a queue! It is lovely to see all the children and their parents/grandparents coming along for tea/coffee/juice and cakes and ice-lollies. The hovering hands deciding which cake to select is always a joy to see. When the sun is out the children generally disappear into the Rec. and their accompanying adults too. It is like party time. Since taking up the first Thursday in the month slot, St. Luke's have been fortunate to have been there on several sunny days. Not bad in the year we have experienced so far. They have been rather too few and far between.

If you haven't sampled MM yet, can I encourage you to come along? It is a really good way to spend part or all of a Thursday afternoon. There is lots of sociability and a wide variety of ages there from little babies to the more elderly residents, but all taking some pleasure in the company. MM runs from 2pm. until 4pm. with Morton WI taking the third Thursday in the month and volunteers from Rhona Emmott's rota doing the other Thursdays. Perhaps you would like to take a turn?

### East Morton Art Exhibition

Saturday October 19th; 10-4pm; Free entry; Coffee and homemade cakes available. Pop in to see what local folk have been up to recently at their art classes. Amateur & Professional Artists work on sale. There will also be an art corner for children, a raffle and a 'Where is it?' photo competition

There will also be a Preview evening on Friday October 18th with wine and canapés. (Tickets are £5, initially only available to Morton art students until October 10th) For more information contact Karen 07718 763309.

### Burglaries

A reminder to be vigilant as there have been some more break-ins in the last few weeks, particularly in outside buildings.

## Jigsaw Festival

in East Morton Primary School  
on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October  
10am - 4pm  
Admission: Adults £2  
Children (accompanied by adult) FREE!

Over 200 puzzles made up for display and sale

Raffle, tombola, face painting etc.

Refreshments available

Proceeds to The Breast Cancer Campaign and St Luke's Church East Morton

Preview evening on Friday 4th October starting at 7.30pm. Tickets for this (£5) which will include wine and nibbles are available by ringing 01274 565479 or 01274 569870 or from St. Luke's Church members.



**BREAST CANCER CAMPAIGN**  
BE PART OF THE CURE

## School Corner

The children of East Morton CE Primary made full use of the beautiful summer sunshine before they broke up for the summer holidays. There was, as always, a busy calendar of events.



Sports Day was bathed in sunshine (which made a change!) and all the children had great fun competing in a variety of competitions for their house. Congratulations to all the children who took part and thank you to the parents who provided wonderful support for all the children, creating a real family atmosphere. This atmosphere and the sunny days continued when East Morton took part in the Gala procession and the family picnic.



The Friends of Morton once again, held their annual Summer Fun Day, which was a fantastic success, supported by all in the village - many thanks! The 'throw the sponge at a teacher' game was a particular favourite of the children and raised a lot of money! The Friends are already planning a whole host of events for the coming year, so please look out for details and come along and support our school.

The Year 6 children departed in spectacular style with their production of 'Rainmaker', ably supported by Year 5. They dazzled the audience with their acting, singing and dancing. We wish them all every success at their new high schools.

The children arrived back in September full of stories of their adventures in the summer. We welcomed our new children into Reception and Mrs Nolan, our new Headteacher, and hope that they will be very happy as part of our school family. It will once again be a jam-packed term, with residentials to Cumbria, visits and visitors focusing upon our class themes and our harvest service at St. Luke's. Implicit in all these activities will be our Christian values and our particular values this term of 'happiness' and 'co-operation'. Please see our website for details of the wonderful learning that goes on at school - [www.eastmortonprimary.co.uk](http://www.eastmortonprimary.co.uk).





Morton was presented with the 'Silver Gilt' award at the presentation ceremony at York Racecourse on 16th September.

Some of the judges comments were - East Morton is a rural village on the edge of the moors and the very well maintained centre is a real joy to see, and is now the real hub of the village. This village has made great progress in the last four years, due to the setting up of the MIB group, and the village pub having new owners. There were good floral displays and much evidence of a thriving community based around the pub, and the Institute with the Village Society providing support for many organisations.

The village green, with the water wheel, mixed planting, and the two wheel barrows created an impressive display. The Busfield Arms looked stunning with its vast array of planters and hanging baskets, which were maintained to a very high standard. The allotments were of a high standard and it was good to hear that many of the plants for MIB are raised in the poly tunnel. The flower bed at the entrance made a good impression, together with some good residential gardens seen on route.

The 'Rec' as part of the village heritage was well looked after and appeared to be free of litter and dog fouling. The recognition of the past in having the second largest water wheel is well presented in the waterwheel on the green, and in the logo. The street furniture and most areas were clean and well cared for. The community orchard being developed by Feast Morton is an excellent project.

There is evidence that many groups are supporting MIB and that they are working together. The joint working with the Toddler Group and the Rainbows is a good example of ensuring the future and working with young people. Much of what has been achieved can be attributed to support from the villagers who regularly do what they can to litter pick, water and weed where it is needed.

The areas for improvement included perhaps considering using insect friendly sustainable planting, more attention to quantity of planting/planters or lamp-post baskets throughout the village to create the sense of floral continuity. Continue to develop areas for wildlife and the protection of the environment and to raise awareness. A lot has been done to improve but there are still areas to be tackled which we are sure the group are aware of. Funding is always required to improve an area and perhaps it would be good to look for additional monies, sponsorship by businesses, residents who have businesses outside the village or by residents themselves can be quite rewarding and should also lead to further publicity and promotion of MIB.

We would welcome any old growbags or good compost, please email: [crowther123@talktalk.net](mailto:crowther123@talktalk.net) or telephone John Crowther on 562729.



**Morton Village Institute**

The Institute has just been redecorated and is now looking really good. The building continues to be well maintained despite the heavy wear and tear now being experienced by so many users, see the picture right showing it all set out for a recent party.

## Gala - 14th July

**East Morton's biggest family event is fast approaching!**

I am sure we do not need to tell you what a success the Gala was on Sunday July 14th. Almost all the village seemed to be out on the recreation ground enjoying the new attractions, taking part in the games and watching the arena entertainment. You helped us raise the most money EVER with your amazing support and profits will be donated to village organisations so young and old can continue to benefit from this family event.

The Gala committee worked really hard this year to find new attractions. Having done our homework and researching events in other local areas we were determined to keep the "village" feel. And this has paid dividends...time and time again people commented on how nice it was to see simple games being played; rides and fun challenges all at sensible prices.

We do have huge overheads - public liability insurance is our largest bill, plus costs for first aid cover, hire of bouncy castles etc all to be budgeted for each year as well as repairs and renewals of stalls to consider. But we could not do it without those people who help on the day manning stalls for half an hour on a rota basis, or lending a hand setting up in the morning or helping pack up at the end of the day.

And so it goes on... Obviously we had brilliant weather which always brings people out of their homes and of course they then stay longer on the field to enjoy the afternoon's events. Unlike other local events we still run children's races which were more popular than ever this year. The committee never sits back on its laurels and has a few ideas already in mind for next year. "It is important to stick with the balance between raising money and giving people the best village event we can, within the limitations of a committee of just eight people," said committee member Kathy Myers.

"We really do need more committee members - we are a very friendly group meeting once a month from January to July and would welcome any new faces." If you enjoyed the Gala why not help make next year's event extra special too? Contact Kathy on 07712871859 or email [sm@stevemyers.co.uk](mailto:sm@stevemyers.co.uk) Next year's Gala is on Sunday 13th July

### Launch of Village History Archive

The local history exhibition and "Village Archive" project launch on Sunday 9th June was a great success with a huge number of people visiting the Institute to see what material had been gathered so far and to add their own items to the growing collection. It is the village society's aim to make as much of this material available to all both electronically and physically though this will take time. We have much to work on including Ernest Davies' slides and research papers, the entire back catalogue of the village newsletter, many photos and maps, the Women's Institute archive etc BUT we need more! Whatever you have, no matter how small, we would like to see it, scan it and record it, then return or keep it as you wish - recent history or ancient. Our particular thanks go to Stephen Duxbury for an enchanting DVD (from cine) of the village Whit walk c1950, Malcolm Slater for reproducing the 1911 census and helping people track the history of their house or family, and Enid Hanson for not only bringing photos of children from East Morton school dating back to the 1930s but impressively being able to name almost every child in the class! Contact [rhona@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:rhona@mortonvillage.org.uk) if you have anything to contribute.



# Morton Village Society

## Aiming to preserve your village

Mary Appleby [secretary@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:secretary@mortonvillage.org.uk) or 01274 567456 · David Miller [chairman@mortonvillage.org.uk](mailto:chairman@mortonvillage.org.uk) or 01274 569286  
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