



Newsletter & Minutes of 25th AGM - 2006

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Minutes of the 25th Annual Meeting, held in the Memorial Institute on Tuesday, 4th July, 2006 at 8.15pm.

The Chairman, David Miller, began by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Were received from Jean and George Hook and Hilda Waite.

2. The minutes of the 24th Annual Meeting

Had been circulated in the newsletter following that meeting and were proposed as a correct record by Florence Bramall, seconded by Doris Beanlands and with all present in agreement. David commented on the excellence of the newsletter, thanking Stephen Duxbury who produced it and those who had contributed over the past year.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Repairs to the flags to the rear of the Institute would be carried out on completion of other work scheduled for the Institute.

Toilets – another year had passed. David informed the meeting on the lack of progress. In early May, residents in Morton Grove living behind the boarded up toilets had contacted Asset Management to highlight their concerns about what was becoming an increasingly derelict eyesore, attracting unpleasant and undesirable behaviour on occasions. They believed that the only way forward, if the Council were unwilling to maintain the toilet facility, was to demolish the block and landscape the area. As the residents of the village do not use the facility, and with Asset Management refusing to negotiate in any way, on hearing the views of the adjacent residents David felt the time had come for the Society to withdraw

from attempting to lease the toilets from the Council. The Council figure given for reinstating the toilets was between £50000 - £70000. Across the district thirteen toilet blocks had been closed, and four renovated for disabled use at £20,000 (Council figure). David asked the meeting what they would like to see on the site if the toilets were demolished, which provoked much discussion amongst which Bob Holdsworth suggested an inspection with the Council and a private building firm who might be able to renovate the block for less than the Council figure. David Sturdy said that the Council had no mandatory requirement to provide public toilets anywhere. David Miller applauded the Morton Grove residents for trying to get the toilets demolished and support was to be asked from the local councillors. Enquiries on demolition costs were to be requested.

A previous Annual Meeting had reflected concerns from local residents about the building of a Children's Home at Carr Bank. Happily no complaints had been heard since the home had been occupied, by children who there through no fault of their own.

4. Treasurer's Report.

Stephen presented his 25th report. Following the report, Stephen would

set up a better rate of interest for the account.

Thanks to Mick and Karen for their sterling work with the Morton Lottery. Stephen said that without them the Society would not have a fraction of the £6,000 funds in the bank. Karen said additional help with the Lottery would be greatly appreciated.

Florence said that at the Keighley Neighbourhood Forum, the Society was complimented on having a Best Kept Garden competition.

Membership was slow, although there were a couple of new life members.

Stephen proposed the accounts be adopted. He was seconded by Sarah Winder with all in favour. Stephen was thanked by David Miller. If anybody would like a copy of the accounts then please contact Stephen.

5. Election of Officers & Committee members

From the 2005-6 committee, Alma Hiley had offered her resignation and Denise North had removed from the village and also resigned. Dawn Howarth and Tracey Paul had been co-opted during the year.

Alma was willing to continue to deliver the newsletter and David said



Where's this?

any volunteers from Waterside Fold would be welcome to help deliver there. Ian Kirkbride expressed his willingness to continue to do this there, as he had done so previously, and was also persuaded to join the committee. Mary Appleby proposed the committee be elected en bloc, minus Alma and Denise and plus Dawn, Tracey and Ian. She was seconded by Joan Sampson. David, Mary and Stephen were proposed for a further year as officers, with no other nominations or volunteers.

6. Election of Auditor

Alan Taylor, having left the village during the autumn of 2005 had been unable to continue in his capacity as auditor. Michael Millar had been approached and agreed to audit the books. David Miller thanked him and proposed he audit the books for the coming year. He was seconded by Stephen with all in favour. Michael commented that it had not been a difficult job!

7. Village Green Maintenance

David expressed appreciation of the work done by Stepping Stones II. Work was carried out during the year by Norman Robinson on repairs to the noticeboard and renovating the surface of the picnic table. The Society had also funded the cost of lighting the Christmas tree in 2005,



Winner of Best Kept Garden Competition

and this had provided a nice focus for the festive season.

The secretary was to speak with Mr. Topham from Stepping Stones II about the possibility of more visits to keep the back shrubbery under control. If, due to pressure of work, this more regular maintenance could not be undertaken, approaches would be made to other local gardening firms with a view to their doing this part of the work on the green.

8. Proposed projects for Morton Lottery funding

From Sarah Winder and Sabina Mitchell from Mothers & Toddlers, a suggestion of picnic tables outside of the new park area on the flat area beyond the playground. Milton Duckworth may have a contact that could provide these, although advice would need to be taken as any tables would need to be vandal proof.

Always a popular suggestion, stone signs for the approaches to the village. Len Wilson was suggested as a possible contact for these as it was thought he had arranged for some in Steeton, which had been provided by the Steeton Male Voice Choir.

More bulb planting in any suitable areas.

Improvements to the side of Alma descending into the village below the green sign and before the parked cars. This was very untidy.

Fence off the flat area beyond the new play area for the Mothers & Toddlers, which would make a more secure play space. Sarah Winder will press for this if all were in favour, which they were.

Any Other Business

a). Were there any plans for the inside of the Institute? Was there any way of applying for funding for improvements to the kitchen, toilets, windows etc?

b). The Village Society had been happy to support the excellent work being done at school on their new garden. The children loved it and many residents had commented on what a cheerful corner it had made. A donation of £250 had been sent to school and this would be spent on shrubs for the perimeter. The established tree in the centre of the garden had been planted by the Society approximately 20 years ago.

David thanked the secretary and drew the meeting to a close, thanking all those who had attended.

Best Kept Gardens/Frontage 2006

Walking around our village during the spring and summer has given the judge the opportunity to enjoy some beautiful gardens, planted containers and frontages. The gardens below have been chosen as the winners for 2006.

Gardens

First - 9 Green End Road (Sue & Paul Nicklin) - A beautiful courtyard garden with particular attention to colour, with a large area focusing on white flowers and foliage.



Second - 2 Heath Grove - Lovely symmetry in the troughs, colour and structure, and a steep bank to mow!

Third - 4 Canwick Close, Waterside Fold - Beautifully kept garden, lovely climbing roses and herbaceous plants.

Tubs and Baskets

First - Laurel Barn, Back Lane (Anne Preston) - Magnificent array of tubs and baskets in a secluded corner of the village.

Second - 5 Dimples Lane - Dripping with very pretty baskets, in beautiful colours.

Third - 16 Green End Road - So many baskets, so little space!! An abundance of flowers flowing into the narrow road.


Congratulations all round! The winners of the garden category will hold the engraved cup for one year. Winners of both classes receive garden tokens for £15, and the runners up £10 and £5 of tokens.

East Morton has looked very colourful all spring and summer, although the bedding on the village green has been a casualty of the recent prolonged spell of exceptionally hot and dry weather. The planting of the bedding coincided with the beginnings of that spell. Oh well - we can't win every time and most of us will have enjoyed the hot sunshine.

Grateful thanks go to our judge, who has already indicated a willingness to do the job for a third time next year. So gardeners - you have plenty of advance warning that the competition will take place in 2007!

Village Green

The back border is due for a revamp, to begin in the autumn. Some of the shrubs have become overgrown and woody over the passage of years and it is definitely in need of a facelift. Some shrubs will be removed and others pruned, and there will be a general clearing around the shrubs and trees that remain. Lots of new bulbs will be planted. Stepping Stones II are to make more regular visits to enable this work to take place.



Silvia - YMCA
Qualified Aerobic
Instructor
East Morton Institute
Thursday 7-8pm
Adults only £2.50
Have fun, keep fit and
meet new friends.
All fitness levels welcome.
Bring mat/towel and
a drink
For more details come along
or contact me at silvia.
fitness@hotmail.co.uk

Morton Village Lottery

Latest winners:

April

£60 SM Wood

£30 A Brown

£20 S Winder

£10 JM Dix

May

£60 R Blenkinsop

£30 J Bussey

£20 R & I Holdsworth

£10 A Hughes

June

£60 S Brear

£30 D Greenham

£20 D Bateman

£10 C Gill

Gala Prize £150 M Millar

July

£75 J Morris

£40 M & W Aitchinson

£25 HB Walmley

£10 H Hawarth

August

£75 J Dickens

£40 M Myers

£25 SM Jorgensen

£10 DC & V Elstub

You will note that the prizes were increased as from the July draw. This is due to its continued success as we near 400 numbers. We are approaching October, which is the month the draw started in a few years back. As a consequence, many numbers come up for renewal in this month and it is a real problem door knocking, telephoning etc. to request owners of numbers to renew. This is why it is so helpful if you could take out an annual standing order (NOT a direct debit as we can't offer those - a standing order remains under your control). But don't send it to your bank directly as we won't be aware of the instruction - please send it to Karen Redhead or Mick Craven or hand it in at The Pantry.

Next draws at the Busfeild are on: September 20th, October 18th, November 15th, December 20th.

East Morton CE School

Volunteers

Headteacher, Mrs Louise Dale, was looking for a quiet garden where children could go away from the noisy playground and talk with their friends. We held a workshop with parents and children to see what they wanted to do, see, hear, smell and touch, and they drew several plans and made models of their ideas.

Dale Scott of Gardens by Design, Bingley then took all these ideas away and produced a plan of two halves based around the existing Norway Maple in the centre of the site. The half of the garden which is adjacent to the school reflects its modern design and is a system of raised beds in the form of hexagonal pattern. Using the fall of the land the raised beds have seating at the front so that a teacher can stand by the tree and address 32 children sat around and above in an amphitheatre-style layout.

The design can be used for numeracy, literacy and IT learning as an 'outdoor classroom'. The part beside towards the road is more informal to reflect the character of the stone wall and cottages opposite, and includes a variety of shrubs and perennial plants, contained by winding perimeter footpath. A bridge also spans an imitation pond.



The largest bed can be entered by a circular path which leads to a quiet seating area for the children, and a willow igloo will be planted over it next Winter to form a den.

The garden is entered through a pergola from the playground and a windbreak has been planted to provide shelter. Around the perimeter of the garden are 7 Mountain Ash trees - 1 planted by each class in the School.

The raised beds are important because there is only 3" of soil over all the site, and these have been used for growing a variety of vegetables by the School's Garden Club.

The whole site can be easily observed from the School in the interests of security. Parents and neighbours have been involved in the planting and weeding ready for our entry into the Yorkshire in Bloom competition, and the garden is now open to East Morton residents, (at their own risk.)"



Community Lunches

We have now had three community lunch afternoons when local residents can join the children for lunch. Children from Year Four lay the tables, serve the meals and then eat their own lunch with our guests. The lunches have been a great success and dates are already booked for next term.

"It's lovely to be able to come and eat in company - especially young company." "We really look forward to the Thursday lunch and change in our routine." "I think it is a good opportunity for young village people to be able to mix with older members of the community."

Example of menu: Shepherds' Pie or Sneaky Pie; cabbage and mixed veg; Eve's Pudding, Ice cream roll or fruit. The next lunch is planned for 14th September at 12.30pm: tickets are available from the Pantry.



Grand Opening of the Games Area

Keighley Town Mayor and former pupil, Mr Graham Mitchell, officially opened the school's new games area on July 2nd. The £65000 project was funded by donations from Bradford & Bingley Building Society, Keighley Town Council and Friends of East Morton as well as funding from the school's own budget. The games area is marked out for football, basketball, netball and tennis as well as having cricket stumps at both ends. Already it has had a positive impact on PE and games lessons in school and it is hoped to open the area for community use in the future.



Mother & Toddler group playground

This was opened on 18th July, Mother & Toddler group, headed by Sabina Mitchell and Sara Winder, were successful in attracting substantial funding from two landfill charities. Additional funding came from the Council and fund raising activities organised by the Mother & Toddlers and WI.

Use your local shop and Post Office to join the Morton Lottery, pay your membership and many other items

Membership can be sent to the Treasurer at 'Redwoods', Morton Lane or given to one of the Committee members listed below

Mrs Mary Appleby	24 Morton Grove	Telephone 567456
Miss Doris Beanlands.	10 Main Road.	Telephone 565420
Mr Michael Craven	5 Upper Mill Row	Telephone 510667
Mrs Florence Bramall.	The Ridge, Morton Lane.	Telephone 565177
Mr Stephen Brear	High Point, Street Lane.	Telephone 563223
Mrs Dorothy Dennis.	6 Dimples Lane.	Telephone 567222
Mrs Jean Duckworth	Otley Mount.	Telephone 564924
Mr Stephen Duxbury	Redwoods, Morton Lane.	Telephone 567842
Mr Stephen Foster . . . . .	.19, Elm Crescent	Telephone 568349
Mrs Dawn Howarth . . . . .	.6 Paslew Court, Waterside Fold.	Tel 01535 667457
Mrs Irene Holdsworth	Moor Cottage, The Butts	Telephone 563985
Miss Stephanie Holt	10 Silk Mill Drive	Telephone 567407
Mr George Hook	4 Stone Court.	Telephone 563174
Mrs Pauline Horne.	Cliff House.	Telephone 567134
Mr Ian Kirkbride	35 Roedhelm Road, Waterside Fold.	Tel 01535 663272
Mr David Miller.	4 Cliff Mill Fold	Telephone 569286
Mrs Tracey Paul.	Waterside Fold	Tel 01535 680502
Mrs Karen Redhead . . . . .	.Manor Barn, Green End Road.	Telephone 560279
Mrs Joan Sampson . . . . .	.3 Elm Crescent.	Telephone 566443
Mr John Stentiford . . . . .	.7 Providence Row.	Telephone 560676

East Morton Gala - Sunday 16th July 2006

Could we ever have expected another scorching hot day for the Gala?

Well we got one - making it yet another fabulously successful event for the village...hundreds of local residents along with their families and friends supporting this increasingly popular event.

"The Gala Committee, though small, has come up with some cracking ideas which have proved to hit the right entertainment buttons. Top of the wish list has been finding attractions which involve audience participation," says Chairman Kathy Myers.

African dancers who made a surprise appearance were a sheer delight. Their display of national dances and the demonstrations using children from the audience had everyone tapping their feet and clapping. Street jugglers, childrens' entertainer, face painter, bouncy castles and many side stalls, games, raffle and tombola offered a wide variety of interest.

"We aim to keep the Gala non commercial to retain that village atmosphere. For instance, the reintroduction of the baking competition which proved to be very popular with ten entries.

"It is the one event in the year when we can all get together to have fun and raise money which will benefit the village. Exactly where the money goes is yet to be discussed but a couple of good ideas have been put forward," said Kathy.

Have you ideas which you think would make the Gala even better? Would you like to help on Gala day or join our friendly committee? Why not come along to the AGM 8 pm at the Busfeild Arms, 19th September.

Look out for some photographs in the next newsletter!

Morton Village Society Aiming to preserve your village