



Minutes of 34th AGM and Newsletter

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At the time of writing the Gala draws closer and when this newsletter is delivered, it will include some pictures of this year's event. 1965 was the first Gala I enjoyed and it is a testimony to the dedication and hard work of many people over the intervening years that it remains the lovely village occasion we still enjoy today. Indeed it goes from strength to strength, growing and changing over time but never losing the real village atmosphere that has been an integral part of its charm.

In the early years when Green End Road was almost devoid of cars, the procession was made up of decorated floats on lorries provided by local businesses, and lots of fancy dress, fronted by a band. I remember a Viking ship, which was transported up Green End Road on the back of a Magnet Joinery low loader – you can imagine how big that must have been. A fantastic sight, but reversing this big long vehicle on reaching Sunnydale Park was almost a bridge too far and I think the tail end of the ship got tangled up in the trees, although it made it in one piece to the Recreation Ground. This particular float was one of many exciting efforts coming from the school, masterminded by the Headmaster Mr. Len Wilson. The picture attached shows



Stephenson's Rocket, another super float built circa 1975 or 1976. In pre National Curriculum days more time could be given to the planning and construction of the school entry, a great talking point, and it was a source of real enjoyment to the children. I know Mr. Wilson gave much of his own time to making each one as good as it could be, the children monitoring progress in the hall and the completed article eagerly anticipated. Historical events and

things current were often commemorated in the floats.

Health and Safety, children on moving vehicles, even slow ones, and the volume of traffic dictate the way things have to be now and the procession is still very colourful and almost more immediate to those lining the route. No child ever fell off a wagon but one of the Gala committee members did fall into the bus inspection pit at Taylor's garage on The Croft where the Gala equipment was stored. Unfortunately he broke his arm.

After working hard all Friday evening preparing for the big day, the chaps were looking forward to relaxing for an hour or two in the Busfeild. Poor Alan relaxed in A & E!

SEE INSIDE FOR THE MANY EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE INSTITUTE

Minutes of 34th AGM

Minutes of the 34th Annual Meeting, held in the Institute on Tuesday, 30th June 2015, at 7.30pm. Apologies were received from Jean & Milton Duckworth, Mick Craven, Angela Leach, Michael Millar and Councillor Malcolm Slater. In the absence of the Chairman, David Miller, Stephen Duxbury and Mary Appleby began the business.

The Minutes of the 33rd Annual Meeting were accepted as a correct record and there were no matters arising other than those covered on the agenda.

Election of Officers and Committee

It was decided to appoint a vice chairman, and Geoff Finnerty was proposed by Stephen. He was willing to stand and there being no other offers or nominations, all were in favour and he took the chair. There were no nominations for other officers or committee and the current officers and committee were re-elected en bloc. The names appear on the website. Karen commented that there were additional helpers who were not committee members.

Treasurer's Report

Stephen presented and itemised his 34th report, showing a small surplus for the year and £6,481.14p. in the Bank. Support of the lottery enabled most of the work that is carried out, the gardeners being the biggest expense, maintaining the Green with extra work this year, and the Graveyard in Green End Road. The lottery can now be paid on the website via Paypal. New lights for the Christmas tree are budgeted for and the money spent improving the website viewed as well spent. Institute bookings can be made on line and the Institute calendar is functioning well. More use could be made of the Rural Action membership. Society membership is not compulsory but some residents still pay the annual subscription. Dorothy Dennis proposed the adoption of the accounts and all were in favour.

Election of Auditor

Stephen proposed Michael Millar continue as auditor, and all were in favour.

Institute Report

For the Institute committee, Karen said the new bookings secretary, Judith, was doing a fantastic job. There were consistent regular bookings and three autumn functions happening. Soon replacement double glazed windows would be put into the end of the hall and the storage room. The new room would be named the Doris room, to commemorate Doris Beanlands. Wi-fi would be installed. A future project would be the replacement of the back extension doors and windows, with improvements to the wall. A new Yorkshire flag would soon be flying.

Village Green Maintenance

David Flaherty said the grass had been improved and some of the trees had been

pruned. Jeanette Procter, MIB Chairperson, had two quotes for work to be carried out on the back bed. It was agreed to ask Tony Russell who does the mowing to quote also. The VS holds £500+ in funds for MIB and Stephen proposed that any decisions on the work they wished to be done be left to them and there would be funds to cover it. After the meeting MIB members would show "on the ground" the work they felt would not only enhance the Green but also be less maintenance.

Morton Lottery

No particular projects ongoing but mindful that any work to the frontage of the Institute would be costly. Rhona had found designs for the portal on some old Institute plans but, at that time, money had run out and a different front built. The architect had drawn up new plans and a grant applied for. Changes to the ground at the front would be good, maybe cobbles. Christmas lights on the front would be nice.

Morton in Bloom

More helpers would mean more could be achieved. David commented that entering the YIB competition involved so much more than flowers - all which is visible. Watering at this time of year is a big job. Karen suggested the possibility of water barrels sited at the Institute. Facebook, the website, Tesco and Alistair Shand at the Keighley News could publicise MIB and their work and hopefully generate more volunteers.

Community Shop

Richard Tassell said that the closed toilet block was the trigger to this possible project. It may not be appropriate but he and Sheila did not want to pass up the opportunity to explore the possibilities. Local consultation should come first and given sufficient interest, an approach made to the Planning Department. Ted Batley offered to do the planning application if required. Sheila and Richard had prepared a questionnaire which would be included in the newsletter and all information was posted on the website. First responses were generally favourable. Bob Dennis said that a local shop was missed and that it was a focal point in a village. There was a lot of discussion on this topic and Richard urged anyone interested to look at the Plunkett Foundation. Geoff offered congratulations to Sheila and Richard on taking up this idea and giving residents the opportunity to consider it.

Any Other Business

Section 106 money had been given by the Council to fund the improvements to the path at the top of the Recreation Ground – thanks to Malcolm Slater for facilitating this. Work should take place soon.

Resurfacing in Main Road had covered the yellow lines, which should be replaced imminently according to the Highways Department.

Mick Craven had suggested the phone box could be used for a "book swap". This was a popular idea and should be set up.

Feast Morton now had their third bench installed in the orchard and wooden labels with names for each tree. There would be no autumn event this year as they too were short of members.

Unfortunately council workers had cut the grass too soon in some places where the tulips and daffodils were planted, which may mean a lack of blooms in 2016.

Geoff said that the Gala Committee were anxious about the level of volunteer support and unless more help was forthcoming, 2015 may be the last Gala. This was publicised in the Gala programme.

The meeting was brought to a close by Geoff and a visit made to the Green to have MIB members explain their ideas for the back bed.

Institute Corner

SOCIAL EVENTS

In your Village Hall

WINE TASTING EVENING

Friday October 2nd. Tickets £15

A fun night eating a selection of cheeses and drinking eight different wines and trying to guess where they're from.

Art Exhibition

Preview Evening: October 16th, Tickets £5 (includes a glass of wine and canapés). With a paying bar for top ups!

October 17th : 10-4pm FREE Entry

The Garden Room Cafe will be open selling soup at lunch time and homemade coffee and cakes all day.

Morton christmas lunch & carols

December

Tickets £15 available from September.

Cheques for all above should be made out to Morton War Memorial Institute and can be posted at the institute for the attention of Rhona or Karen with details of which event is being booked and please include an sae (So we can forward your tickets) and full contact details including a telephone number

Be a 'Street Angel'

Would you be willing to visit your neighbours and get them to join the village lottery? A little of your time, but the overall funds that the lottery generates enhances the village immensely and hence our lives - I'm sure you would agree.

£350 worth of prizes were given away at the gala to the lucky winners.

Ring me to discuss ; Karen ; 07718 763309

WANT TO PARTY ?

For any celebration we have the perfect venue. It's on your doorstep, excellent value with a fully equipped kitchen, fully licensed and a huge outdoor area - it's Morton Village Institute of course.

You can easily go online to check availability and for further information give Judith a ring on : tel.no.....or email her on....



School Corner



Community Orchard - News for 2015

East Morton Community Orchard group ('Feast Morton') continues to meet at the Orchard on the Recreation field, the third Sunday of the month, for general maintenance and planning. Any one is welcome to join us - we are usually there weather permitting between 10am and 12.

The orchard group is very small, so we are concentrating on finishing our planned projects, and maintaining the Orchard rather than holding events in the current year.

Having achieved an award of Excellence for the Yorkshire in Bloom 'It's Your Neighbourhood' event in 2014, we are keen to continue the focus on the Orchard as a community resource. We are pleased to say that the final bench for the 'outdoor classroom' will be arriving in the next few weeks. This will complete the semi-circle of seating, and we hope that village groups and the school will be able to use the space, or that walkers will take a minute to admire the fine views and peaceful surroundings. Work is in progress to add a notice board which will provide information about the history of the Orchard as well as information about the trees, and when to pick the fruit. The important thing, however, is that the trees will be there for all to enjoy, now, and for years to come.

Many thanks to the people who have supported us in our achievements, and special thanks to the Gala committee and Cllr Malcolm Slater for helping with funding, and to all those who supported our social events.

Ravenroyd Farm, Bingley, have created the benches, sourced from local woodland, and Bingley Grammar school have assisted us with the laser cutting and 'Welcome' sign. We very much appreciate their support.

The Community Orchard is there for all to use and enjoy.



Morton Gala Sunday 12th July



New plans for this year's Gala...all new dog classes

The Morton Meet

Every Thursday 2-4pm · Tea/coffee and cake £1
Everyone welcome



Morton Village Society Aiming to preserve your village

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