



SPRING NEWS LETTER 1988

They say the older you get, the faster time seems to go by. Well for those of you who thought the last Best Kept Village competition occurred only a few months ago, we've got news for you. It is three years since the last competition and we are entering Morton Village once again in this year's competition. Since the last entry in 1985, many improvements have taken place in the village but there are still one or two untidy areas, for instance spare land bordering Otley Road. We hope villagers will want to help Morton obtain this prestigious title and ensure their houses and gardens and any immediate environment are all spic and span. Judging takes place sometime between May and June. A skip was placed near the bus shelter for any unsightly rubbish spoiling the look of the village and we hope this was made full use of. We do trust everyone will want to do their best to try and put the best face possible on Morton.

The Upper Airedale Public Enquiry which will deal with the possible development of sites off Morton Lane and Street Lane will be heard on Tuesday June 21st at Keighley Library Lecture Room starting at 10.00pm. We hope as many villagers as possible will attend to give support. **If anyone wishes to speak or submit evidence they must notify planners as soon as possible.**

The part of the enquiry dealing with development at Swine Lane has been heard and the Chairman and Secretary, who

attended the day long hearing, came away with the impression that the Planners were keen to see this site developed for housing.

The "Fighting Fund" for the Green Belt enquiry is well under way and donations are coming in, but more money is needed, in order to pay for costs without depleting Society funds. Please send your donations, large or small, to the Treasurer, ~ c/o S.M. Duxbury, 2 Hartley Square, East Morton

Efforts to obtain a pelican crossing on the main A650 road near the bottom of Morton Lane have come to nought. Councillor Flanagan has put in a great deal of time and effort on behalf of local residents trying to obtain a crossing of some kind on the main road but as yet to no avail. The responsibility for this road lies with the Department of Transport and not the local authority, who support local demand for a crossing. Councillor Flanagan urges individuals to write to their MP's ~ Gary Waller and Sir Marcus Fox ~ in order to add their voice to the Council's plea for a crossing. This problem will be made worse when the Keighley to Crossflatts section of the Aire Valley trunk road is completed. Traffic will be funnelled into an already dangerous stretch of road where two fatalities have occurred this year already. The fear is that many more drivers will use the village as a by-pass to Bingley until such time that Bingley is given its own by-pass. Our fears are that traffic through the village will increase dramatically as there are no definite

plans at present for the route of the new road around or through Bingley.

Comments have been made about parking problems in Otley Road and the difficulty of pulling out of Green End Road. Suggestion have been made for a mirror to be placed at the junction of Otley Road and Green End Road to give motorists better vision. The Highways / Road Safety Department have been approached and are going to reflect on the problem !

The Village Green is looking in splendid condition thanks to the efforts of Mr Robinson, Mr Braithwaite and Mr Devlin. There has now been a bench placed by the oak tree in the recreation ground, although it is now surrounded by chocolate wrappers and coke cans ~ there is a large litter bin by the institute. The partially damaged seat on the Green will be repaired by the people from the Congregational Chapel and then placed in their graveyard. The seat provided by the Womens Institute will be placed on Carr Lane.

The problems of the bridge repairs on Green End Road still remain. As readers will have seen in a recent issue of the Target, Bradford Council are disclaiming all responsibility for repairs. A survey has shown that the bridge is in no danger of collapse, although the parapet walls need repairing.

We have been appealing to the West Yorkshire Road Car Co., with regard to getting a bus for pupils from the village going to Beckfoot Grammar School. The Bus Company sees no objection to this suggestion but needs to know the exact number of pupils involved and suggests one of the parents liaise with them. The Secretary, Mrs Doyle, can give you the details of who to contact.

The 7th Annual General Meeting of the Morton Village Society will be held in the Memorial Institute at 8pm on Monday 13th June 1988. Nominations are invited for Officers and members of the committee. These should be made in writing with a proposer and a seconder, and sent with the consent of the nominee at least 14 days prior to the AGM to the Secretary, Mrs M. Doyle, 12 Dimples Lane, East Morton. We hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM so that we can hear your views about the proposed housing development in the Village, and to have your ideas and suggestions.

MORTON VILLAGE SOCIETY

Aiming to preserve your Village