

**MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR KIRKBY MALZEARD PARISH HELD IN
THE MAIN HALL OF THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE ON MONDAY APRIL 29 AT 7.00PM.**

The meeting was chaired by the Parish Council Chairman, Howard Mountain with minutes taken by the Parish Council Clerk, Jen Hurford. 18 members of the public were present.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefly explained the nature of an Annual Parish Meeting. He stressed that it was not a Parish Council meeting and that he and the Clerk were only there as they were seen as the best placed within the community to convene and manage the meeting and whilst other Councillors may also be present, they were only there on the same basis as other residents. Annual Parish Meetings had been held jointly with Laverton Parish in previous years but from this year onwards would be held separately. They were intended to facilitate discussion on topics relevant to the Parish, foster a sense of community spirit and provide an opportunity for Local Organisations to promote their activities. Participation at the meeting was limited principally to those on the electoral register (although anyone can attend), but at the discretion of the Chair other interested parties could be given the opportunity to contribute if the request was considered reasonable. As one of the suggested topics on the Agenda was the future of the former Henry Jenkins Inn, the owners were given permission to provide information on that issue where appropriate, through the Chair.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2018 were confirmed as an accurate account of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

3. Reports from Local Organisations

In the past representatives had read out statements setting out their activities during the year and their plans for the future, but last year written statements were handed out instead and it was agreed that this arrangement was much more useful. Written statements were therefore provided and are included in an Appendix to these Minutes. These had also been available at the recent Parish Council Drop-In Session and would be available on the Parish Council website.

4. Discussion of Items Relevant to the Parish;

a) Future of Henry Jenkins Public House

The topic had been included on the agenda as it was hoped that discussion at this meeting might help some progress to be made on resolving the future of the building, which had now been closed for eight years. Disappointingly, there were no representatives from the group which wished to re-open the building as a Public House present, although a statement from a spokesman (who apologised for not being able to attend in person) was read out during the discussion.

At the request of a resident the Chair initially provided a summary of the current situation as he understood it. He clarified that the Henry Jenkins Community Co-op had been superseded by a Community Benefits Society (known as Henry Jenkins Community Pub Ltd) which had been

formed with a view to acquiring some or all of the former pub, and to that end in February it had triggered the full moratorium period under the ACV which still was in place on the west half of the building owned by Mr Fielder (the East half having been de-listed as an ACV). The moratorium period will end in July and so far, no bid has been made. A crowd funding appeal had just been made by HJCP Ltd on Facebook to raise £4000 for legal costs.

With regards to planning matters, a decision was still awaited from HBC on the application made last August for the conversion to a single dwelling on the East section owned by Mr Claybourn. After four months, the applicant had the right to request that the application be referred to the Planning Inspectorate but had not, so far, done so.

The statement on behalf of HJCP Ltd confirmed that a bid would be made before the end of the moratorium period, that a crowd funding appeal had been launched, that they had recently taken advice from a quantity surveyor in order to establish anticipated costs for work necessary to reopen the building and that they were working on preparing a business plan. It was also stated that the group planned to hold a residents meeting in the future.

Mr Fielder, the owner of the West section of the building, advised that the purpose of an ACV was to protect potentially viable community assets where there were no alternative amenities, which was not the case in Kirkby Malzeard, which had a full range of amenities including an existing pub. He felt the group's statement made previously on their website that two compulsory purchases of public houses had been successful was misleading and pointed out that the opportunity for anyone to purchase the Henry Jenkins had existed since it first closed. He confirmed that he had made a compensation claim following the ACV designation which was waiting to be processed and that there had been various planning applications on the property for the last two and a half years which indicated that he was actively trying to proceed with bringing the property back into use.

The matter was then discussed in detail by those present and the following conclusions were reached:

- i) That the future of the building should be resolved as soon as practical as it detracted from the appearance of the village, and its condition was continuing to deteriorate.
- ii) That there had been no real progress made by the campaign group so far and they should be clear on how they intended to proceed from this point.
- iii) That whilst the group now indicated that they were intending to hold a public meeting shortly, similar intentions had been stated previously and had not materialised.
- iv) That, if necessary, another Parish Meeting should be held to enable the matter to be properly discussed by all interested parties. The Chair agreed to investigate the procedure for this and attach this as an appendix to these Minutes.
- v) That it was not clear why the group had said it was in a position to offer £180,000 last year but it now needed to crowd fund to raise £4000.
- vi) Representatives of the Queens Head and the Mechanics Institute expressed concern that if The Henry Jenkins were reopened as 'free-house' they would not be able to compete on prices, which would affect their income. It was further stated that the Queens Head may well be forced to close if a Community owned pub were to open in

opposition to it, with resultant uncertainty over the long-term use of that prominent building.

- vii) That not all residents were supportive of the idea of re-opening the building as a public house and that the Case Officer from HBC Planning Department should be asked to attend any future meeting so that this was clear to them, and so they could explain why a decision on the Planning Application had not been made.

b) Traffic Issues

Jane Aksut (the Parish Councillor responsible for collating the input from the recent Parish Council Drop-In Session) advised that, so far, the majority of respondents were against a one-way system and that there was general concern over speeding, in particular farm traffic and the problems with parking on Main Street. Forms were still being returned and the final conclusions would be reported in due course. Residents at this meeting raised issues concerning the safe exiting of Pinfold Court due to parked cars on Main Street and would like yellow lines on the junction, and another advised there were some residents who did not use their own off-street parking spaces and that they should be encouraged to do so. Another commented that some yellow lines were unclear, particularly near Highside Butchers, and were not being enforced. Another felt potholes were not being repaired to an adequate standard. The Chair confirmed that these views would be added to the input the Council was collecting and reported defects would be passed onto Highways. He explained that Data Loggers which would monitor the average speed of vehicles on Main Street were due to be installed soon. County Cllr Atkinson advised that residents in all of the 23 parishes within her Ward complained about Highways and that lack of funding was the main problem.

c) Matters which Residents May Wish to See Considered Within the Forthcoming Neighbourhood Plan.

The issue of further housing development in the village was discussed with information also provided by the Chair on the current status of the Laverton Road development and the Appeal regarding the Application for housing at The Grange.

d) Any Other Items Raised by Electors on the Evening

A resident expressed general concerns over drug use by youngsters and asked if a meeting could be arranged to improve awareness of the issue locally. A question about whether the Tour de Yorkshire was likely to be an annual event in the villages was asked to which a definitive answer could not be given, but it did appear that this route was one of the organisers favourites.

5. Close of Meeting

The Chair thanked residents for taking the time to attend and the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Dated 13.05.2019

Jen Hurford, Parish Clerk

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