

**Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting for Kirkby Malzeard and Laverton Parishes
held in the Main Hall of the Mechanics Institute on Monday April 30 at 7.15pm.**

The meeting was chaired by the Parish Council Chairman, Howard Mountain with minutes taken by the Parish Council Clerk, Jen Hurford. 17 members of the public were present.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that it was a legal requirement that an Annual Parish Meeting is held even if there was an active Parish Council. It was effectively a 'residents meeting' and was only Chaired and Clerked by the Parish Council Chair and Clerk respectively, as they were best placed to do it within the community. The other Parish Councillors whilst present were only here as residents and were therefore seated in the public area rather than at the 'top table'. The intention was for the meeting to foster 'community spirit', to provide an opportunity for residents to raise any general issues they felt relevant and to give local organisations the chance to explain what they had been doing during the last year, what their plans were for this coming year and to promote themselves in order to develop membership.

For the first time rather than the organisations simply giving verbal reports to this meeting it had been decided to hold a separate Parish Meeting Exhibition where organisations could present displays which showcased their activities and to provide a general brochure with all the written reports incorporated, which was circulated at the Exhibition, this meeting and then handed out at the premises of the organisations and at business premises such as Kirkby Stores, Highside Butchers etc. The brochure would also be used to promote the villages to people living elsewhere, who might be interested in what was happening within this area, being supplemental to the community website 'Kirkby Malzeard Area Guide'. The exhibition had taken place on April 21 and had been well attended. A brief summary of each report is included within these Minutes (items 4 – 19) and the full brochure will be retained with these Minutes.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2017 were confirmed as an accurate account of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting in 2017.

4. Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

The report highlighted the changes in the personnel of the Parish council since the last meeting, the resignation of Cllr Hurford and the introduction of the new Clerk, Jen Hurford. It was reported that the Council had increased the Precept for 2018-19 following public consultation and that they continued to liaise with NYCC over Highways issues and HBC over planning applications. The Chair went on to say that once the Elections in May are over and a new Parish Council is in place, it is hoped that they may consider creating a Neighbourhood Plan which would give the community more influence over future development within the parish.

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5. Kirkby Malzeard CE Primary School Report

The report by Andrea Peacock (Head Teacher) indicated that there was currently a total of 83 pupils split into 4 classes, with total staff numbers of 22. It was confirmed planning permission was awaited to replace two of the old classrooms with a new one. The governing body consists of 12 members operating as a 'full governing body' with individuals taking on specialist roles. Learning is achieved using a creative approach and skills develop with 'hands on' experience. Trips have included visits to Eden Camp, the National Railway Museum, the coast and theatre, and visitors are also welcomed to the school to enhance learning. Residential visits to Ingleborough Hall and Carlton Lodge have taken place with the partner school, St Nicholas at West Tanfield. The extensive grounds give the opportunity for a wide range of sporting and gardening activities. The Head emphasised the focus on developing and improving IT, with their 'Friends' group developing the library, who also run social and fundraising events for the school.

6. Mechanics Institute Annual Report

The report confirmed a busy year with the Institute offering a range of activities to a variety of people and sincere thanks was expressed to all those who have contributed time, effort and finance. Maintenance is ongoing to ensure satisfactory customer experiences and to meet Health and Safety standards with major electrical work having been undertaken over the past year, along with redecoration of the main hall and works to pointing and the roof. These costs are supported by revenue raised through fundraising activities. The MIVH are exploring ways to raise sufficient capital and income to provide further upgrading, with plans and drawings already being circulated and an application for a Reaching Communities Lottery Grant submitted. The idea is to transform the venue into a fully functioning community centre to offer a variety of services to all members of the community.

7. Highside Playing Fields Association Annual Report

The report set out the various sports for which the grounds are used, with related points of contact, and these provided residents with a good selection of activities. It was highlighted that for some sports, ongoing membership is problematic but that there are still sufficient members to fulfil commitments to their respective leagues. HPFA is a registered Charity with all financial support received from volunteers undertaking events such as the annual Duck Race at Laverton, with income also received from HBC Parks Department and the KMLDPC Local Organisation grant. The financial year ended with an improvement of bank balances due to tighter control and generation of income. The major fundraising event planned is the Midsummer Ball to be held on the fields on 23 June 2018.

8. Kirkby Malzeard Pre-School

The report for the school confirmed a rating of 'Good' for the 2016 Ofsted. The school strive to ensure children are nurtured and enjoy their time in a secure and friendly environment. Focus is given by staff to individuals interests and needs, with new activities used to stimulate curiosity. It is recognised that Pre-School provides the children's introduction to life outside of family and their aim is to give their pupils the best start.

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9. St Andrew's Church

The report outlined the service dates, times and type, with the various members of the Church clarified alongside contact details. Facilities for baptisms, weddings and funerals are available.

10. Kirkby Malzeard Methodist Church

The report confirmed the congregation regularly attend on Sundays at 10.30am at the Ebenezer Chapel, with coffee serviced after offering time to chat and share. The Minister in charge is Rev Dr Pat Malham, who is also Superintendent Minister of the Ripon and Lower Dales circuit, having charge of 8 churches. Several times a year, members lead their own service, choosing hymns, readings and prayers. The Chapel Anniversary will be on the second Sunday of May, the Harvest Festival the first Sunday of October including an organ recital from Keith Dale. Monthly coffee mornings are held on the second Tuesday of every month with all welcome and in spring and summer the Wednesday Fellowship meet every other Wednesday at 2.15pm. Funds have been raised to refurbish the organ, replace the porch windows with double glazing and a replacement notice board has been commissioned from Jennyruth Workshop.

11. Dallowgill Methodist Church

The report clarified that the Methodist Chapel at Greygarth holds services on the second and fourth Sundays of every month at 2pm, with services also held to mark the festivals. A walk is held in spring to raise funds towards the upkeep of the Chapel and maintenance of the graveyard at the Chapel of Resurrection at Laverton.

12. Kirkby Malzeard Women's Institute

The report confirmed membership being a mix of women who are retired, working from home and full time working members, to whom they offer an interesting and informative programme. Monthly meeting topics have included 'Life as a Midwife', 'Fell Rescue' and cooking demonstrations. Outings and workshops this year have included a walk and tea with Grantley WI, a visit to the Mouseman of Kilburn and to Chatsworth Garden Show. Members have also been making garden ornaments out of willow under tuition and have taken part in a climate change awareness day. Members are involved with community activities including afternoon teas and coffee mornings to promote friendship and raise funds for local charities. This year's programme includes a Fashion Show in aid of St Michael's Hospice, a garden visit and flower arranging demonstration.

13. Kirkby Malzeard Youth Club

The report described the nature of this new venture being volunteer led to provide social and recreational opportunities for children and young people. The aim is to provide the opportunity to maintain friendships and develop new ones within a safe environment. The club runs every Thursday from 6.30pm to 8.00pm at the MIVH and has been aided by a Local Organisation grant through KMLDPC, with a further grant being applied for from NYCC. Events are hoped to be held at HPFA over summer and traditional fundraising planned in order to purchase resources, with evening events, trips and learning opportunities being planned. Snacks and drinks are available at the club with a Tuck Shop facility available. The

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club highlighted the need for further volunteers to assist on a rotational basis, for donations of equipment, refreshments, board games and art materials, people to design posters, hand out leaflets and help raise funds to sustain the new club.

14. Kirkby Malzeard & District Flower & Produce Show Committee

The report confirmed the Show will take place on Saturday 1st September with classes for vegetables, flowers, plants, flower arranging, arts and crafts, photography and produce. Open classes are held for children for work undertaken at school and linked to the curriculum. Donated trophies are presented together with a point system enabling youngsters to receive gift tokens. Entries are welcomed from anyone living in a 3mile radius of the MIVH and the whole of the Parish of Dallowgill. Entries close for the show 9pm Saturday 18th August. Gratitude was offered to the judges for their time and expertise. Funding is obtained from the May Day stall and from sponsors to whom the committee are grateful. The stall, to be held on Monday 7th May at 9.30am, has now been combined with a community event at the MIVH including a KIB raffle and MIVH coffee morning. Committee members consist of a small number of residents who meet 4 to 5 times a year, with assistance from others to help with transportation of boards and organisation on Show Day.

15. Kirkby In Bloom

The report clarified the organisation's care for the village environment and coordinating of activities. The YIB competition is held across Yorkshire and Humberside, with KM being entered as a medium sized village. Judges will visit only once in July this year and results given in September. Entries are graded into Gold, Silver Gilt, Silver or Bronze and for the past 3 years KM have achieved Gold. Tubs and troughs are maintained by residents as is the Jubilee Rose Garden. Occasional village 'tidy-ups' are undertaken as well as help given to the school garden. Fundraising is achieved via village events and the organisation are also keen to find a small piece of land for village allotments. With support from KMLDPC and the MIVH, KIB's aim is to design and install a village 'heritage board'. Thanks were offered to all existing contributors with new ones welcomed.

16. Highside Singers

The report welcomed Keith Dale's return as Musical Director as he challenges and inspires the community choir. Two successful and well supported concerts were held at Allhallowgate Methodist Church and Grantley Village Hall before Christmas. A concert was also shared with Summerbridge and Dacre Silver Band in March. In April the singers and some 30 supporters gave a concert in Hexham Abbey where the Musical Director is Assistant Organist. Three concerts are planned at Snape Village Hall on 27th April, Wilsill Church on 18th May and Middleham Chapel on 19th May. The choir has also been invited to sing at Barnard Castle on 8th September. Rehearsals are on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church with new members welcome. A variety of music is sung from Elgar to the Beatles.

17. Kirkby Players

The report confirmed productions by both senior and junior members, with March seeing a junior performance entitled 'Show Case' receiving enthusiastic audiences. On Thursday 17th and Friday 18th May the seniors section will perform two one act plays entitled 'Theatrical

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Digs’ and ‘Last Tango in Kirkby Malzeard’. New talent is always sought both in acting and directing, set construction, stage management and backstage help.

18. Harrogate Borough Council Annual Report.

A report was submitted by District Cllr Margaret Atkinson who has represented the Kirkby Malzeard ward for 16 years. The Council are aiming to work to give value for money although the need to increase Council Tax to keep up with inflation was acknowledged. HBC’s new offices have been implemented which should save £1m per year to be re-invested into local services. The Sites & Policies Plan was rejected by the Planning Inspector and work is ongoing to put another in place for next year. The housing requirement is now 669 new builds per annum as the shortfall from previous years has been added. Building on Council owned sites has begun to help with the social housing problem including more shared ownership housing. 34.8 hectares of new employment land has also to be allocated. The report explained the role of Cllr Atkinson within Harrogate Council and highlighted campaigns like “Scores on Doors”, anti-fly tipping and dog fouling campaigns and free cycle security events. It was also clarified that the District wards have now been made bigger with Kirkby Malzeard and Laverton joining the Masham ward from May.

19. North Yorkshire County Council Annual Report

The report prepared by County Cllr Atkinson confirmed her representation of the Masham & Fountains Division for the past 5 years which consists of 16 PCs. She confirmed NYCC’s need to save money with £120m saved to date, although some difficult decisions have had to be made. Allerton Park Waste & Recycling Centre is now operating, taking over the management of 20 household recycling centres to save money and ensure separation of waste. The problem of potholes was recognised with an extra £3.3m being secured for repairs in North Yorkshire, but this will not be enough so further requests will be made. The delivery in Social Care Systems involves helping people stay in their own homes for as long as possible. Schools in the county are amongst the best in the country, with applications being made to create more places and undertake repairs. Her Locality Budget fund was confirmed as £5,000 pa being used to make small grants to local projects including play equipment, notice boards and the Kirkby Malzeard defibrillator. Her aim is to ensure the countryside is kept in the forefront of members minds and that the County remains a safe and healthy environment.

20. Any Issues Raised by Members of the Public.

Although no issues were raised by residents on this occasion, the Chairman provided an example of type of issue which could be discussed at next year’s meeting which was the cutting down on the use of plastic within the community. Items such as this could be discussed and an agreement made (if residents at the meeting supported it), and local organisations and businesses would then do what they could to implement it as well as individuals. It was agreed that more publicity was needed to encourage members of the public to be involved with the meeting next year.

Having regard to community events, thanks was given to the Tour de Yorkshire Committee and everyone else helping, for their time and effort planning for the event, which we were all looking forward to.

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The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Dated 25.05.2018

Jen Hurford
Parish Clerk

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