**Minutes of the MVCA meeting: 27th February, 2019**

Liz Harris (Chair) conducted the meeting and Emma Gill took the minutes introductions were done around the table.

**Dates for your diaries:**

**Francis House bucket collection** - Saturday, 9th March – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED please! See below in the AOB section

**Board games afternoon** - Saturday, 9th March from 2.00 – 4.00 pm Unitarian Church

**MVCA AGM** **& Elections**– Wednesday, 27th March – Unitarian church hall

**Village litter pick** – Sunday, 7th April at 11.00 at the Veterans’ Shelter

**Summer Festival event** – Saturday, 6th July (proposed)

**Christmas event** – Saturday, 30th November & Sunday, 1st December (proposed)

**Introductions**

Charlie and Hannah Lees-McHale, local residents, introduced themselves as wishing to get more involved on the social and fund-raising activities for the village. We look forward to hearing more about their plans at the AGM.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Gardening – Florence McCarthy**

The Garden Group has agreed to take on a couple of Duke of Edinburgh students again this year and Izabella is in touch with a couple of schools in the area to organise this.

The Garden group regularly meets on Sundays between 10.00 – 12.00. If you are interested in helping the Gardening team from time to time, please let Florence know, as it’s a great way to spend a couple of hours in the fresh air on a Sunday morning with friendly people. And it helps to keep the village looking lovely! Florence can be reached on 07891 102291 or florence\_mccarthy@hotmail.com

**Church Liaison – report from Rev. Anna Jarvis**

Unitarian Church – planning permission for a disabled toilet and better accessibility has been approved.

There will be a board games afternoon on Saturday, 9th March from 2.00 – 4.00 pm. Join us for a fun afternoon playing board games - for both children and adults! FREE (donations gratefully received but not compulsory).

There are no other updates from the other churches in the village, but we would welcome these.

**Website – Maxine Coyle**

We do need a new website volunteer to manage and take control of the website – if you have some skills in this area and are interested, please contact Liz Harris on T: 07754 477 346 or at liz@montonmarketing.co.uk

The current team will meet on Tuesday, 5th March to discuss ways forward with a couple of new volunteers.

**Environment – Maxine Coyle**

Both Maxine Coyle and Florence McCarthy are street champions and report issues to the council. But if you see anything (graffiti, fly tipping, etc) please contact the Council on 0161 793 2500 or at <https://www.salford.gov.uk/report-it/>

Local resident asked about the alley gating, which re reported on last year at length. Cllr Michael Wheeler will double check this, as approval has been given. Michael to provide update.

**Social Media – Heather Benson**

Heather has kindly volunteered to help with MVCA’s social media activity, following our Twitter expert standing down. Heather is a keen social media user herself and would like to extend the reach of MVCA.

[**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/MontonVillageCommunityAssociation/)

[**Twitter**](https://twitter.com/ilovemonton)

[**Instagram**](https://www.instagram.com/mvca_uk/)

[**Website**](https://www.montonvillage.org.uk/)

**I love Monton – Maxine Coyle**

Maxine has kindly offered to take this up again, as our retail liaison team has decided to stand down. Remember – if you are a member of MVCA, you get a membership card, which allows you to get discounts in local shops, if you show the card to a member of staff. We’ve currently got over 20 discounts. Full details can the found on the website [here](https://www.montonvillage.org.uk/offers)

To become a member, please visit the [membership](https://www.montonvillage.org.uk/become-a-member) page or join at the AGM on March 27th.

**PROJECTS**

**New Volunteers**

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

Could we ask that you have a think about anyone you know or yourselves who might be interested in getting involved with MVCA? We are always looking for volunteers who can help us with

* The website
* Social media
* The Veterans’ Shelter
* Christmas
* Gardening

Volunteering could be for as little or as much as you feel able to offer! So please don’t feel that this is a commitment for months and years – it could be as little or as much as you want!

If you are interested, please contact Liz on T: 07754 477 346 or at liz@montonmarketing.co.uk

**Veterans’ Shelter – report from Florence McCarthy**

Florence has now submitted a bid to apply for funding of £25k – we shall find out if the bid has been successful in March.

**Summer Event – Saturday, July 6th**

MVCA has decided to offer the organisation of the festival to a professional event management team. Darren Goulden from Staged Events has put himself forward. He’s in the process of discussing the event with the council, and talking to sponsors etc. This will take the form of a free community event during the day and a ticketed musical event in the evening. Watch this space for more details and SAVE THE DATE!

**Christmas Event – Dawn McCafferty**

Dawn is in the early stages of pulling together ideas for this event, which is proposed to take place over the weekend of November 30 and December 1. Watch this space for updates! And if you wish to get involved, please contact Dawn on mvca.christmasevent2019@outlook.com

**Annual General Meeting**

It is MVCA’s AGM on Wednesday, March 27th. We shall be looking back on the achievements of last year and holding elections for the positions of Chair / Deputy Chair / Treasurer / Secretary. If you are interested in any position, please contact Liz on T: 07754 477 346 or at liz@montonmarketing.co.uk

You are all very welcome to join us at the AGM – please do come along and bring a friend! After a short presentation about the association, we shall open the floor to the attendees for your opinion / thoughts / comments. A light buffet will be offered at the end, with the chance to chat and get to know your local residents.

And MVCA would like to thank the Art Group for allowing us to use the main hall on the night, as they usually meet on Wednesday evening! We are grateful to them for their flexibility.

**AOB**

1. Francis House Children’s Hospice is holding a bucket collection on Saturday, March 9th at Tesco’s in Salford. They are short of people to collect. If you can spare some time next Saturday, please contact Ellie Bridges on ellie.bridges@francishouse.org.uk or 0161 443 2200. Many thanks.
2. The very popular Village Family Litter pick is back and will take place on Sunday April 7th – 11.00 am at the Veterans’ Shelter. Litter picks and rubbish bags will be provided. Bring gloves.
3. Cllr Lisa Stone is standing down this year and has over the years been a great supporter of MVCA. She sent a message of thanks to the meeting “please pass on my sincere thanks to all members for the amazing hard work you do year round for Monton. It has been an absolute pleasure working with you all and I shall miss you all very much. Do keep up the good work, and keep making us and the community proud”. On behalf of MVCA, I would like to thank Lisa for her support and wish her, husband and son all the best for the future.
4. On Our Doorstep and Live it Local advised us some new advertising packages – please click on this [link](http://www.onourdoorstep.co.uk/) or contact them directly on Louise 07890 268167 or email info@onourdoorstep.co.uk or Susie 0161 790 2504 or sales@onourdoorstep.co.uk

Attendees : Hannah Lees-McHale / Charlie Lees-McHale / Connor Rogerson / Ellie Bridges / Carol Wakefield / Maxine Coyle / Michael Masterman / Pam Ward / Julia Martin / Emma Gill / Dawn McCafferty / Heather Benson / Vince Ryan / Judith Gibson / Mark Rooney / Christ Bentley / Ann Rooney / Cllr Michael Wheeler / John Spellman / Carolyn Cullen (Treasurer) / David Haley / Emma Gill (Secretary) / Rosemary Boardman / Liz Harris (Chair)

Apologies : Graham Pursey / Keith Hallam / Ross Garner / Roger Glew / Anne Godding / Bee Morrison / Maria Henderson / June Smith / Paul Webster

 **NEXT MEETING** and the Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 27th at 7.00 in the main hall of the Unitarian Church Hall.

If you planning to join us please RSVP to mvcasecretary@hotmail.com, so that we can ensure that we cater for you – light refreshments and drinks will be provided at the end of this meeting, as well as a change to network and chat with other local residents. Everyone is welcome – not just members of MVCA, so please do come along!