

**Minutes of the MVCA meeting 27th January, 2016**

**Dates for your diaries:**

**Next MVCA meeting:** Wednesday, 24th February at Leo’s at 7.00 pm

**Strategic Review meeting**: Wednesday, 24th February at Leo’s at 5.30 pm

**Monton Community Festival**: Saturday, 2nd July at Duke’s Drive 11.00 am – 5.00 pm

**Festival meetings**: 3rd Tuesday of every month

**Attendees:** Sara Hughes / Julie Gosney / Maxine Coyle / Liz Harris / Ross Stevenson / Rick McGarry / Elizabeth Yeates / Cathryn Yeates / Vicky Rhodes / Oliver Pirk / Pam Ward / Chris Bentley / Florence McCarthy / Cllr Peter Wheeler / Ruth Holroyd / Paula Gibson

**Apologies:** Emma Gill / Jan Phelan / Kieran Phelan / Mark Rooney / Ann Waddell

Liz Harris took the Chair for the meeting and Florence McCarthy took the minutes.

All existing members had received a copy of the Minutes of the previous meeting, either by email or via the MVCA website. There were no matters arising from the Minutes. Those members present, agreed unanimously that they were a true record of the meeting.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**SUMMER EVENT 2016 – Monton Community Festival is alive and kicking!**

We are delighted to confirm that the remodelled event will take place on Saturday, 2nd July. This will be called the Monton Community Festival and we have since had confirmation that it will take place on Dukes Drive in 2016. The fair will still be on the green, but there will not be an MVCA-organised event on the high street. All events organised by MVCA will be at the new venue. The size of the event will depend on the number of volunteers to organise the event.

Planning meetings will take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month and a Committee is being formed for the major areas of organisation. Volunteers are at the heart of making this event a success so please contact Liz Harris to discuss how you might get involved - liz@montonmarketing.co.uk or 07754 477346.

Rev Jarvis suggested that there might be an outdoor service to kick start the event on the day.

**MARKETING**

* A Calendar of Events will begin again on our MVCA website, when a replacement for Jackie Smith has been found. This will also be put on the noticeboard and social media.
* Website costs – web design to be brought in house to save £60 per year. Maxine has recruited another volunteer to help with the website.
* Any local stories / information / events are welcome – please contact Maxine – maxinecoyle@hotmail.com
* If you are interested in volunteering to become an “inputter” for the website, please contact Ross Stevenson on 07429 522 956 or ross@pride.scot Training will be provided.

**MEMBERSHIP**

* It was proposed that the residents’ cost of membership be raised from £6 to £10 i.e. 40% increase. This met with some resistance because further information about the benefits and rationale behind the increase need to be justified.
* Maxine to re-submit a proposal at February’s meeting
* New initiatives needed to encourage businesses to promote I Love Monton - Maxine Coyle / Jan Phelan
* New page on the website <http://www.montonvillage.org.uk/> for Paypal renewals
* Ross Stevenson has done a mock up of new promotional material to be used by estate agents for new resident packs which will cost £145. The membership voted (in favour 12 / against 0 / abstention 0).
* Liz to advise on the leaflet
* Help is needed to reform the membership protocol
* A new head of Membership needs to be found – anyone interested should contact Liz Harris at liz@montonmarketing.co.uk or 07754 477346

**ENVIRONMENT**

* Tree bases are on hold due to the winter months
* There will be no new tree outside of Bridgfords
* Car park recycling area is much improved this week – we asked Cllr Peter Wheeler if it would be possible to have CCTV installed?
* Fly tipping in general (especially Lansdowne Road) was mentioned as still a problem. People should contact the council.
* Businesses continue to be poorly represented (only the owner of Celebrations and Cake Creations).
* Some new members asked why businesses were not responsible for their own litter (example given was Pizza Knights and Blue Bell, where broken glass was seen on pavements over Christmas)

**PLANNING**

* Former Dumez Deli – possible pizza outlet owned by Devardi
* Terrace house past the florists on Monton Road has applied for a food licence (change of use) – 153 Monton Road
* Street lighting and trees obscuring the pavements – Cllr Peter Wheeler is looking into this again, as some of the residences are privately owned
* Street furniture blocking pavements – Peter O’Hare, of Urban Vision will be asked by Maxine Coyle to accompany her on a walkabout of Monton to assess the situation
* PA system on the lampposts needs removing – Rick McGarry will look into this
* Road Safety – bids are now in for road narrowing and 20 miles / hours on the road leading away from the Blue Bell
* Traffic patrol officer has now been recruited – good news!
* Car park campaign – council chamber report has now published. The subcommittee will tackle the issue with the mayoral candidates.

**RETAIL LIAISON**

* Michelle Morrison is standing down as Retail Liaison. Anyone interested in working as a close liaison between MVCA and the local traders should get in touch with Liz Harris at liz@montonmarketing.co.uk or 07754 477346
* Local business should be aware that grants of £1000 are available by Bridgewater Canal Project. Any business within a ½ mile of the canal can apply for a grant, as long as they can show commitment to promote awareness of the canal and its history. Please contact Michelle for further details Mm@revivemortgages.co.uk (in the interim)

**SCHOOLS LIAISON**

* A follow up from the Christmas Events was given to the meeting by Chris Bentley
* £180 raised on the night
* £300 from other Christmas events – Living Quarters Christmas event with the reindeers and Inside Storeys
* Monton Village School is looking to raise money for an outdoor landscaped space for the children to play in
* MVCA is happy to promote the fund raising events but must remain impartial and unbiased, as there are other schools in the area. Ruth Holroyd to provide Maxine Coyle with a promotional poster / article for the MVCA website and promotional events calendar.
* Any local schools who would like to get involved with MVCA are very welcome

**CHURCH LIAISON**

Below are links to the three main churches in Monton – no further update was available

* Methodist Church <http://www.montonmethodistchurch.org.uk/index.html>
* Unitarian Church <http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/monton/activities.htm>
* St Paul’s <http://www.stpaulsmonton.org/parish-team-diary>

**AGM**

* This will be held on Wednesday, 30th March. Everyone is very welcome to join us for a review of the past year and to see our new, exciting plans for 2016
* There are some vacant posts, so if you are interested in getting more involved, please consider one of these positions – Treasurer / Deputy Chair / Marketing Committee Head / Membership Committee Head / Retail Liaison

**VETERANS SHELTER**

* Proposed refurbishment can be part funded by Urban Vision, as the shelter is in the Monton Conservation Area, if MVCA can provide some funding to go towards. MVCA is trying for an award through 'Groundwork UK' – thanks for Florence McCarthy and Jan Phelan for their input to getting this submitted
* Still waiting to hear the outcome

**PAINTING THE TOWN** (shop shutter art)

Jan Phelan is awaiting news from the Arts Council which is due to submit an application for a grant.

**REVIEW OF MVCA CONSTITUTION**

* Rick McGarry and Liz Harris are working on this currently

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

* A new committee has been set up for this project – Emma Gill / Cath Broadhead / Maxine Coyle / John Maybury
* Preliminary meeting to be held on February 20th to discuss future proofing the lights and budgets for 2016
* Budget requirements to be submitted to the membership by April 2016

**AOB**

* Local resident, Pam Ward was concerned about the 3 week rotating black bin collection – Cllr Peter Wheeler to look into this
* Local resident, Oliver Pirk discussed the gates on Lansdowne and Crawford Roads – a petition had been signed for gates across the alleyway, but apparently there is no funding available. Cllr Peter Wheeler to look into this
* There are still parking issues at the bottom of Lansdowne Road – Cllr Peter Wheeler to investigate further
* Local resident, Elizabeth Yeates raised a point about an automated defibrillator (funded by the British Heat Foundation) for the high street. A cabinet to house this is need at a cost of £150 - £500). The membership voted and the motion to purchase this was carried (For 12 / Against 0 / Abstention 0). Free training courses are available – St Andrews Medical Centre at 6.30 pm every month – next one will be held on March 8th <http://www.standrewsmc.co.uk/contact1.aspx?p=P87629>
* Recycling bags were handed out by the owner of Celebration and Cake Creations, Paula Gibson
* Age Friendly Monton and Dementia Friendly Monton have both lapsed – Pam Ward to look into this
* Car sales have started up again on the little car park at the end of Algernon Street – Cllr Peter Wheeler to look into this, as last time this happened, the cars were moved on
* Concerns over the new housing development on the former Mitchell Shackleton site – will this site and Lansdowne Road be connected by a pathway only? Concerns that there will be a road, which is most undesirable. Cllr Peter Wheeler to look into and to report back

**NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, February, 23rd at 7.00 at Leo’s**