

ALDWARD AREA PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 3 September 2019 at 7.00pm
at Aldwark Manor Hotel**

Present: Cllrs John Topliss, Lynette Evans, Tina Greenwood, Richard Padgett

In attendance: Alison Pollock (Clerk and RFO), Cllrs Peter Sowray and Nigel Knapton, and a member of the public

Minute

77/19 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Andy Follington, Malcolm Taylor and Paula Thompson

78/19 Declaration of interests in agenda items – none

79/19 Public forum

The director of Keepsake developments, currently building two houses on land central to Aldwark, explained to the council that the existing single access from the main road leading to a shared turning circle for the two houses is not optimal in securing sale of the houses. He explained that he has approached Hambleton District Council's planning department to enquire about opening up a second access from the main road by removing the existing hedge to the west. He asked if there was anything that could be done to demonstrate public benefit to Aldwark as the planning department had indicated that without this, planning permission was unlikely to be granted. The parish council noted that they have little influence in planning decisions and also noted the conservation status of Aldwark village. After discussion, the chair explained that while this is a decision of HDC, from the parish council's view it would be unlikely that Keepsake could offer anything that would be deemed by HDC sufficient to give public benefit, since this would need to be directly related to the development. It was noted that a CIL payment would be forthcoming in any event which would be used for community benefit in Aldwark.

80/19 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2019

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

81/19 Matters arising from the minutes and not on the agenda – none

82/19 Vehicle-activated speed signs services through Flawith and Aldwark

The chair confirmed that the costs of purchase and installation of two speed signs, one for Flawith and one for Aldwark had been received as set out below, and these were approved by the parish council. It was noted that the insurance policy will need to be amended to cover the signs. Cllr Topliss further explained the following:

- Solar power had been considered but this is not permitted by NYCC

Signed.....Chair.....Date

- Residents near the proposed site in Flawith have been consulted but Cllr Follington will be asked to ensure this process has been carried out in Aldwark also, before proceeding in Aldwark
- A draft legal agreement has been received from NYCC Highways and this has been reviewed and is in his view, acceptable
- The signs can be rotated to point up or down each road from time to time
- The signs are supplied on condition they are switched off for periods
- It might be possible to have a second location in Aldwark between the pub and the Manor, deploying the Aldwark sign alternately between two fixings – after discussion it was agreed to implement one Aldwark fixing point and assess the success on traffic calming before committing further funds to a second fixing point
- The signs are triggered by motorists exceeding the 30mph speed limit; the sign flashes alternately “30” and “slow down”
- The signs come with 24-month warranties and both the signs and installation of the sockets have a 4-5 week turnaround time.
- A number of optional extras are possible – after discussion it was agreed that data collection and retrieval via USB drive would be useful in assessing speeding patterns so that the police can target problem times

SPEED MATRIX SIGNS FOR ALDWARK & FLAWITH	
DETAILS	COSTS
TWM Traffic Control System NYCC approved 620mm roundel matrix sign (450mm diameter flashing 30 roundel overlaid with SLOW DOWN) including battery	£2,618.75
Data collection option	£275.00
Data retrieve option via USB	£16.50
Installation by TWM onto pre-supplied post	£300.00
NYCC installation of retaining socket plus post	£500.00
TOTAL COSTS PER SIGN	£3,710.25
All costs exclude VAT	
Carriage/delivery charge of £60 covering both signs.	

The total costs for each sign can therefore be considered as £3,740.25 + VAT. These costs will be met from CIL funds that have been provided by developers, via HDC,

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after recent developments in both villages. The clerk agreed to ensure the insurance policy is updated on purchase of this equipment.

It was noted that Community Speedwatch has been active recently in Flawith and the parish council noted thanks for those residents that have taken part. Cllr Padgett asked if this could be done in Aldwark's 30mph area too. It was noted that Cllr Follington has details of the scheme and can assist.

83/19 Bus services through Flawith and Aldwark

The clerk advised that Reliance buses could be invited to attend the next meeting in November but this was not felt to be necessary at this time. Cllr Sowray advised that the NYCC scrutiny committee is shortly to look into the criticism led by Mr Barry Connor that correct investigations had not been carried out by NYCC before allowing the reduction in bus services.

84/19 Defibrillator services

The clerk advised that Yorkshire Ambulance Service is not aware of a similar local competing service to the regular maintenance programme offered by Restarting Hearts in Northallerton, and that they had no concerns with the quality of this offering, considering it a sound organisation that provides a good service. It was agreed to proceed with the Restarting Hearts service and the clerk agreed to obtain up to date contracts for consideration.

85/19 Hambleton Local Plan consultation

It was noted that views are being sought by Hambleton District Council on the soundness of the overall plan. After explanation by Cllr Knapton it was agreed that the parish council had no specific points to raise.

86/19 Hambleton DC planning applications

The following progress/outcomes were noted:

- a) 19/00774/FUL Construction of two attached cottages with access and parking. Extensions and renovation to existing dwelling, The Cottage, Aldwark, North Yorkshire YO61 1UB – to note that parish council reiterated previous response with additional reference to visibility splays; councillor attendance at site and planning meetings, and outcome - refused
- b) 19/00705/FUL Retention of a partially completed agricultural building and construction of an extension to agricultural building | Sowerton Farm Sykes Lane Tollerton North Yorkshire YO61 1RE – decision still awaited
- c) 19/00790/FUL Change of use of land from agriculture to storage (B8) and retention of three aggregate bays and cement silo (retrospective) – Sowerton Farm, Sykes Lane, Tollerton, North Yorkshire YO61 1RE – refused
- d) 19/00964/FUL Alterations to the entrance & dining area to the front elevation and construction of a single storey extension to the rear elevation, Fairfield Barn,

Aldwark, North Yorkshire YO61 1UB. To note parish council responded to confirm no objections, and subsequently granted by HDC

- e) 18/01772/LBC Listed Building Consent for new fenestration and provision of roof void ventilation – granted

Two additional planning applications relating to Aldwark Manor had been received which will be circulated to residents in the usual way.

87/19 Finance

- a) For financial year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, annual accounts and governance statements**

It was noted that annual accounts have been completed and reviewed and opened to public scrutiny, and no further action is required

- b) To note receipts and payments and bank balances, and CIL balance to 28 August 2019** – noted and approved
- c) To agree any payments to be made** – payments of £46.36 to the clerk representing the contractual home working allowance and office expenses, and £10.44 to CVS payroll of York were approved

88/19 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) Leisure/Play Area** – it was noted that further play equipment for the Aldwark play area might be a suitable candidate for the locality budget scheme mentioned by Cllr Sowray, with a focus on items for younger children. Cllr Follington will be asked to update the quotations for play equipment and ask for preferences for types of equipment, to use some of the CIL funds.
- b) Roads, pavements and grass verges** – it was agreed that for 2020 more focus should be on increasing biodiversity, including wildflowers on verges by e.g. cutting only sightlines for safety of road users and once wildflowers have seeded
- c) Public communications** – Cllrs Greenwood and Evans said that a WhatsApp group had been discussed but currently there are insufficient contact numbers to make viable and permissions would need to be sought to comply with GDPR. It might be possible to ask residents to opt in to a WhatsApp group using the email list that is held and is compliant with GDPR.
- d) Planning** – nothing further reported
- e) Rural matters/public footpaths and bridleways** – it was noted that the signs near Flawith in poor state of repair and the congested bridleway at Youlton had been reported to the appropriate authorities to be dealt with.

89/19 Report from County Councillor/District Councillors

Cllr Sowray, County Councillor, advised that funds have been released to assist with issues arising from Brexit. The Government spending review is awaited. A refurbishment of County Hall is about to start.

Cllr Knapton confirmed two positive additions for the Hambleton community from the District Council – the Lambert Hospital in Thirsk has been purchased from the

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NHS and will be run as a hospice serving our communities, and a crematorium is to be built in the Hambleton area giving an additional and closer service.

There was a short discussion on Brexit preparedness by County and District Councils. Cllr Sowray advised that there is currently no fracking activity in the County.

90/19 Dates of future meetings

Tuesday 26 Nov 2019, Wednesday 22 Jan, 18 Mar and 6 May 2020 starting at 7.00pm at Aldwark Manor Hotel, subject to room availability.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.