

ALDWARE AREA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 7.00pm

By teleconference using Zoom platform

Present: John Topliss, Lynette Evans, Andy Follington, Richard Padgett

In attendance: District Cllr Malcolm Taylor, Alison Pollock (Clerk and RFO) and members of the public

Minute

69/20 Welcome to attendees

District Cllr Malcolm Taylor and 2 members of the public were welcomed by the Chair.

70/20 Declaration of interests in agenda items – none

71/20 Public forum

A member of the public raised a number of issues relating to the proposed tollbridge fare increases. One particular concern is that a business case has to be submitted to support the owner's proposal, which is used by the Department of Transport to rule on the proposal, yet there appears to be no later oversight as to whether business plan aspects such as annual upgrades and a sinking fund for major repairs are delivered. The parish council has liaised with its neighbouring parish councils and it was noted that a letter objecting to the proposed tollbridge fare increases has been submitted to the Secretary of State by the parish council. It is understood that the Government review may take many months to complete.

72/20 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2020

The minutes were approved and were agreed to be signed by the clerk on behalf of the Chair given the current social distancing measures. There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

73/20 Replacement parish councillor for Aldwark

The councillors had considered the application from Matt Cliff and resolved to co-opt Mr Cliff to the vacancy for Aldwark.

74/20 Speeding control measures

Parish councillor Topliss advised that he has obtained data from the Flawith vehicle-activated speed sign, showing a fairly consistent pattern over around 20-25% of vehicles exceeding 35mph (the limit is 30mph). He will send this to the Community Speedwatch team. He still awaits a response to his requested further speed surveys from North Yorkshire Police and will chase again.

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

75/20 Uses for CIL monies for Aldwark

Parish Councillor Follington had obtained an up to date quote for swings and a slide for the play area, of broad amount £10,000. Matched funding from NYCC (via our County Councillor Peter Sowray) will be investigated, and funding from the upcoming “Making a Difference” grant from HDC (via our District Councillor Malcolm Taylor) similarly. The possible location of a vehicle-activated speed sign is still proving somewhat contentious with a few residents living near the sites under consideration on advice of NYCC.

76/20 Broadband issues in Youlton

The parish councillors had been contacted by a resident of Youlton alerting them to the poor broadband in Youlton and isolated households, and advising that these properties seem to be excluded from the proposed BT upgrade, which will stop at Atlas Farm. The parish council will support the current residents’ efforts to access the BT/OfCom Universal Service Obligation where it can. Please contact the clerk for more information if this affects your property. County Councillor Peter Sowray has advised that there is shortly to be an announcement about an extension of superfast broadband in North Yorkshire, with a new contract being awarded. Cllr Sowray suggested that it may be a good idea to wait until this information is announced.

77/20 RAF Linton on Ouse

It was noted that the parish council had been advised of permanent closure of the airfield and air traffic control services with effect from 18 December 2020.

78/20 Drainage concerns in Aldwark associated with Keepsake development

District Councillor Taylor reported that a further site visit will happen and that he will keep the parish council briefed.

79/20 Hambleton District Council (HDC) planning applications

- a) 19/02554/FUL Layout existing walled garden and hard standing areas to form additional car parking including permeable tarmac surfacing drainage and lighting, Aldwark Manor Hotel, Aldwark – with amended plans: Formation of additional car parking (including lighting), construction of polytunnels – to note that HDC has approved
- b) 20/01150/FUL Demolition of existing rear extensions and shed and the construction of new extensions, detached storage building to the rear and refurbishment of the dwellinghouse – The Cottage, Aldwark – to note submitted response, as follows: Aldwark Area Parish Council is supportive of these revised proposals which would see this derelict property brought back into beneficial residential use whilst maintaining the conservation status of the property and its setting. In addition, the council discussed a re-consultation by HDC. It was agreed that the proposals were sympathetic to the village and it was bringing the property back into beneficial use, and a “no objections” response would be submitted

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

- c) 19/02670/FUL Demolition of redundant farm buildings and construction of new build dwellings | Chapel Farm, Flawith, North Yorkshire YO61 1SF – to note that HDC has approved
- d) 20/01035/FUL Extension/alterations to provide improved spa and leisure facilities, Aldwark Manor hotel – to note submitted response, as follows: Aldwark Area Parish Council is supportive of these proposals as they support the long-term economic viability of the hotel. A decision by HDC is awaited
- e) 20/01573/FUL – Siting of additional units to existing modular buildings, Hambleton Hills Cattery, Land and buildings to rear of Fox Farm, Flawith – to note that a ‘no objection’ response has been submitted, and HDC has now approved
- f) 20/01940/FUL – Revised application for the construction of an agricultural barn for the storage of hay, machinery and for animal shelter – to note that HDC has approved
- g) 20/02324/LBC – Listed Building Consent for replacement windows in existing property (not rear extension) – the council resolved to submit a “no objections” response

80/20 Finance

- a) Receipts and payments and bank balances, actuals vs budgets, and CIL balance to to 12 November 2020 were noted
- b) A payment of £256 to Mr John Taylor was agreed in line with previously determined arrangements for maintaining the play area grass and hedges in 2020, and a contribution of £50 to the Aldwark Parish newsletter was agreed
- c) It was noted that a VAT reclaim for £834.87 has been submitted to HMRC
- d) The council reviewed the draft budget for the financial year 2021/2022 and approved it. It was resolved to submit a precept request to HDC of £4,200 for that year

81/20 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) **Leisure/Play Area** – no further issues reported. The clerk noted that the annual safety inspection of the play area had been done and the report revealed no major issues although wood treatment and cleaning of algae on wood surfaces would be carried out in the spring.
- b) **Roads, pavements and grass verges** – further complaints from residents were noted and this issue will continue to be addressed following the meeting
- c) **Public communications** – no issues reported
- d) **Planning** – no issues reported
- e) **Rural matters/environment/public footpaths and bridleways** – no issues reported

82/20 Report from District Councillor Taylor

Cllr Taylor reported on recent developments in the Hambleton Area.

83/20 Dates of future meetings

Wednesday 20 January 2021 starting at 7.00pm by teleconference.

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