

ALDWARD AREA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 6 December 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: John Topliss, Richard Padgett, Matthew Cliff, Andy Follington and Sarah Robinson

In attendance: Cllr Nigel Knapton, Alison Pollock (Clerk and RFO)

Minute

41/22 Apologies for absence – none

42/22 Declaration of interests in agenda items – Sarah Robinson declared an interest in the planning application 22/00395/LBC. This is with Hambleton District Council (HDC) for decision so it was agreed that no issues arise.

43/22 Public forum – no members of the public were in attendance but the clerk reported a number of issues that had been raised since the previous meeting.

- A number of so-called ‘door knockers’ have visited Aldward aiming to sell household goods. Residents have alerted North Yorkshire Police. The clerk was tasked with getting an attendance by our local Police Community Support Officer to discuss this and speeding issues
- Concern has been raised by Aldward residents at cars and vans parking across the pavement making it difficult for less able residents/those with baby buggies to pass without going out into the road. It is known that this would be a police matter for obstruction but action is not likely. The clerk was tasked with seeking advice from NYCC Area 2, copying in Cllr Knapton. The blind corner and play area vicinity are a particular focus
- The first stretch of Rice Lane has had some large lumps of brick rubble tipped into the potholes. A resident is concerned that this will encourage walkers to cut across the verges damaging them. Rice Lane is a public bridleway and it is believed that it has unregistered title. The clerk was tasked with contacting pathways officers at NYCC. The dying tree further down the lane will also be raised
- Sarah Robinson asked if it is possible to get another dog poo bin for the far end of Hag Lane, Youlton. The clerk will work with Mrs Robinson and HDC to investigate this

44/22 Aldward tollbridge – the planning application for refurbishment works has been approved. The Inspector rejected the tollbridge owner’s proposal to increase tolls for crossing the bridge.

45/22 Speed control measures

The vehicle activated speed sign in Flawith was damaged in a collision but was promptly repaired at the expense of the contractor. Flawith’s speed data from the VAS has been downloaded by the council and shows little or no evidence that speeds are being affected. The council has been advised that the police speed control team is not willing to act. The police data is significantly different to the council’s and the

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council is checking and will challenge where appropriate. The council will push for enforcement action for Flawith. It was emphasised how important it is to get police attendance at a future meeting.

Aldwark is being registered by the clerk for the speed gun monitoring register and groups of residents will be asked if they will volunteer to carry out the checks.

46/22 Youlton broadband coverage

Cllr Knapton has attempted to progress this issue, but he reported that without clear evidence of speeds from a number of concerned residents progress may still be slow, if any. The parish council is happy to collate this if required. It was reported that there have been some landline issues recently, adding to frustration. A 4G solution is now available and it was mentioned that a number of Youlton residents are now using this.

47/22 Youlton replacement village sign

A replacement Youlton sign has been purchased to replace the stolen one. The sign is of the wrong design to easily fix up but the council will try to affix without damaging the millstone mount.

48/22 Hambleton District Council planning applications – to note the following:

- a) 21/02643/FUL Land north of Hag Lane, Raskelf, Construction of 6no poultry buildings, associated infrastructure, attenuation pond, new access track and hardstanding. Awaiting HDC decision
- b) 22/02693/FUL and 22/02694/LBC Revised application for a single storey rear extension, Woodholme Farm, Aldwark. This will be circulated to consult residents
- c) 22/00395/LBC Replacement of lounge floor and strengthening of roof. Awaiting HDC decision
- d) 22/00072/FUL Construction of 5 two storey riverside holiday lodges and external amenity. Withdrawn
- e) Demolition of redundant farm buildings and construction of 5 new build dwellings, Flawith. Withdrawn

49/22 Finance

- a) Receipts and payments and bank balances were noted to 30 Nov 22
- b) The budget and a precept of £4,520 were agreed. This broadly allows for 5% inflationary increases in several items of council expenditure
- c) It was agreed to increase the clerk's pay to £12.73 per hour, plus back pay to 1 April 2022, in line with the National pay scales

50/22 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) **Leisure/Play Area** – the play equipment will be cleaned ahead of spring. A news item will be placed in the local newsletter and on the parish website to highlight

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the new equipment. A bench for Youlton and a new noticeboard for Aldwark are under consideration when funds permit.

- b) Roads, pavements and grass verges** – no current issues reported
- c) Public communications** – no further issues
- d) Planning** – no further issues
- e) Rural matters/environment/public footpaths and bridleways** – there is a carried forward action for the clerk to follow up on the previously agreed action to get some anti-littering signs. The clerk will contact North Yorkshire pathways in respect of a Flawith and a Aldwark path that may need clearing/attention

51/22 Cllr Knapton briefly outlined the double devolution plans for the region. It is unlikely to be beneficial for our parish. He also advised that the Ministry of Defence proposes to go through a local consultation process regarding the future for RAF Linton on Ouse.

52/22 Dates of future meetings

21 March and 6 June 2023 at 7pm, at Aldwark Manor by their kind permission