

ALDWARD AREA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: John Topliss (by video conference), Lynette Evans, Andy Follington, Richard Padgett, Matt Cliff.

In attendance: District Cllrs Malcolm Taylor, Alison Pollock (Clerk and RFO) and 10 members of the public

Minute

01/22 Apologies for absence – none. Andy Follington chaired the meeting which was quorate with attendees in person.

02/22 Declaration of interests in agenda items – none declared

03/22 Public forum – issues which the public wanted to raise largely related to broadband issues and are covered later in these minutes. One Youlton resident requested litter picking equipment and a set provided by Hambleton District Council will be delivered to the resident.

04/22 Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021

The minutes were approved and were signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

05/22 Aldwark tollbridge – The subcommittee/scrutiny panel has been formed, comprised of local residents and will be chaired by parish councillor Topliss. The first meeting is to be held next week. Its remit is to analyse the case for the proposed charges increase by the tollbridge owners and report into the enquiry.

06/22 Speeding control measures/signage

Parish Councillor Topliss reported that a speed survey had been undertaken in Aldwark in May 2021 but the parish council had not been made aware of this nor the outcome until recently. As a result the police will do some enforcement activity from time to time. Aldwark will be registered by the clerk for the speed gun monitoring register and groups of local residents will be asked if they will volunteer to carry out the checks.

07/22 Youlton broadband coverage – there are significant concerns from Youlton residents that they are unfairly being left behind in the national drive for superfast broadband coverage and when they request this, the cost is extortionate even if shared between several homes. Cllr Taylor agreed to speak to this issue although he noted that the provider company is owned in full or part by North Yorkshire County Council so it is a NYCC issue really. Mr Stroud, a Youlton resident gave a helpful summary of the story so far, with the latest position being a proposed cost of around £71,000 to bring the superfast broadband into Youlton. He said that this service (under phase 3 of the superfast broadband rollout) went as far as Atlas Farm and it made no sense

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

to have stopped there and not completed the service to Youlton itself. The parish councillors heard of the anger and frustration that residents feel, and completely support their concerns. The councillors were in agreement that it is an unfair situation. It was noted that the parish council has no real power to change matters but agreed to strongly lobby the local MP, Kevin Hollinrake, to speak to the CEO of the relevant company to obtain fairer access to broadband technology. Mr Stroud asked if NALC were involved as there are likely other 'islands' in Yorkshire where this is happening. It was agreed that the clerk and councillors will look into this. It would appear that Youlton was originally in phase 2 of the rollout but now may miss out on phase 4. Another Youlton resident has challenged the steep increase in the quoted cost but the provider is refusing to comment saying this is commercially sensitive information. She has written to Kevin Hollinrake but had no response and the parish council and Cllr Taylor will chase this up on her behalf.

08/22 Aldwark play area upgrade

The upgrade to the Aldwark play area to better suit younger children and the disabled is complete. This has been part funded by a Making a Difference grant from Hambleton District Council (HDC). The clerk will liaise with HDC about signage and publicity for the grant funding. The final payment to KOMPAN was authorised.

09/22 Hambleton District Council planning applications – to note the following:

- a) 20/01035/FUL Extension/alterations to provide improved spa and leisure facilities, Aldwark Manor hotel. Decision by HDC awaited
- b) 21/02375/FUL – Replacement windows & doors, addition of windows and rooflights, glazed canopy & relocation of oil storage tank with screening. The Granary, Aldwark. Decision by HDC awaited
- c) 21/01722/LBC Listed Building Consent for essential repairs to damaged timber deck to consist of replacement of timber planks, repainting of steel work and steel work repairs. Decision by HDC awaited
- d) 22/00005/FUL Removal of conservatory and construction of single storey side rear extension Paddock Cottage Aldwark
- e) 21/02643/FUL Land north of Hag Lane, Raskelf, Construction of 6no poultry buildings, associated infrastructure, attenuation pond, new access track and hardstanding. To note objection submitted as follows:

“The development is unsuitable for the proposed site, particularly in view of the likely traffic generation and the traffic movements affecting the local highway network and the unclassified Hag Lane.

Section 4.3 of the Transport Statement (HGV Routing) states that: All vehicles associated with the site are routed south from the site entrance following Hag Lane and heading through Tholthorpe to the A19 at Sipton by Beningborough. No explanation or logic has been provided as to why the anticipated numbers of HGVs are to be routed in this direction

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

through three villages (Tholthorpe, Flawith and Tollerton) instead of being routed via the shortest route onto the A19 through just one village, Raskelf. The alternative route through Raskelf is the most direct route and would cause the least disruption to residents.

There has been significant concern raised about the impact on Flawith as a consequence of a large increase in HGV volumes. The village currently suffers constantly with speeding traffic despite the endeavours of local residents operating speedwatch and the installation of a speed matrix sign. Despite a number of requests, North Yorkshire Police have been reluctant to install a speed camera or to undertake active speed monitoring with a camera van. Equally, North Yorkshire County Council as the highway authority have yet to come forward with any proposals to mitigate against speeding traffic. Any approval of this application in its current form should be conditional upon speed reduction measures being implemented across all three affected villages.”

10/22 Finance

- a) Receipts and payments and bank balances, actuals vs budgets, CIL monies to 5 January 2022 were noted
- b) The budget and a precept of £4,300 were agreed in relation to the 2022/2023 financial year

11/22 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) **Leisure/Play Area** – the annual safety inspection has been completed and no major issues reported. The wooden equipment has algae on in places making it slippery and parish councillors Follington and Padgett will tackle this in the spring
- b) **Roads, pavements and grass verges** – there are still some silted up gullies in Aldwark and Flawith, a large roadside hole in Aldwark under repair, and required culvert repairs surrounding Youlton, which have been reported in for action – these will be chased up
- c) **Public communications** – it was noted that Youlton residents are not always being included in emails owing to a problem with the email lists held. The clerk will look into this to resolve the matter
- 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

12/22 Report from District Councillor Taylor

Cllr Taylor advised that the Hambleton area crematorium will open on 1 February. There is a public meeting regarding the planning application for poultry sheds in a nearby parish and he will attend. (Aldwark Area parish council has submitted comments as earlier noted.) The councillors and clerk thanked Cllr Taylor for his support and attendance to Aldwark Area parish as the revised local government structure will mean that our representation is likely to change.

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

13/22 Dates of future meetings/close

To be confirmed. The meeting closed at 8:20pm.

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