

ALDWARD AREA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a non-quorate meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: John Topliss, Richard Padgett

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

Apologies for absence: Matthew Cliff, Andy Follington, Sarah Robinson

Several members of the public attended

The meeting was not quorate. These minutes follow the existing pattern of numbering for 2023.

Minute

25/23 Declaration of interests in agenda items – none

26/23 Minutes of the meetings held on 25 July 2023 – these were approved and signed as a true record.

27/23 Report by PC Jan Powell

PC Powell was welcomed to the meeting. He gave a very helpful summary of crime issues in the parish including speeding, which has been an ongoing concern to many parish residents for some time. Key points of his report as follows:

- Reported crime in our three parishes is lower than surrounding areas, based on data from 1/1/23 (so about the last 7 months). Records for this period show 2 instances of anti-social behaviour (1 personal, 1 environmental), 2 thefts, 2 road traffic collisions and 1 wildlife crime
- Speeding checks in Flawith indicated occasional problems and according to police records the fastest speed recorded was 38mph
- In Aldwark, some monitoring was also carried out, indicating little traffic overall and generally speeds not exceeding 30mph
- Checks in Aldwark on two dates in mid July during the mid morning showed some slowing of vehicles when sighting the police vehicle check. Parked vehicles on the road were serving to slow vehicles anyway
- Generally, the police see a reduction in speeds for around 3 weeks after monitoring/enforcement action
- For proof of case on speeding, there would need to be more data on accidents, excessive speeding

The discussion continued as follows:

- The chairman outlined the issue we have come across, namely, we have asked to carry out Community Speedwatch in Aldwark, but as the police have said that Aldwark has met the requirements for police vehicle checks, the village cannot have Community Speedwatch equipment. However, the police have not identified a suitable site in Aldwark for their police speed check van, so there is an impasse. This is noted as hugely frustrating for the community.

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

- Movement of the 30mph signs outward in the approach to Aldwark would be desirable but this has been refused by North Yorkshire (County) Council on cost grounds.
- It was felt helpful if the hotel could show a 30mph sign on exit of their premises and entry to the village near the church/North Lodge
- Cllr Knapton advised that there is no budget for physical measures to reduce speeding such as chicanes
- For Flawith there is considerable data downloaded from the VAS camera and this will be supplied to the police

28/23 Public forum

A member of the public noted that a large car transporter came through the village, but it was confirmed by Cllr Knapton that there was no restriction to limit such access on this public road.

A Flawith resident asked about the small village green area in Flawith and whose responsibility this is. The Chairman confirmed that it is the responsibility of the parish council to maintain and asked if it should be left 'wild' to encourage wildflowers and wildlife. He asked for residents to come forward with offers of help and suggestions. Another resident asked who is responsible for verge cutting in the overall parish. The response from the parish council is that generally residents cut the grass verges in front of their own homes, and the local farmers also often cut grass verges and visibility splays. North Yorkshire council also cuts some verges for the parish and some hedges and verges are cut at the direct expense of the parish council.

29/23 Defibrillators training – the clerk will arrange these for when the holiday season is over and will also check the machines are re-registered and visible to emergency services.

30/23 Finance

Receipts and payments and bank balances were noted to 23 July 2023. It was also recorded that accounts have been prepared and signed off by the due deadline and are available for public viewing until 11 August 2023

31/23 Planning applications

- a) ZB23/01448/CAT Works to fell a tree in a conservation area, Huitson House, Aldwark, to discuss, deadline 3 August. The council has no objection.
- b) ZB23/01393/FUL Retrospective change of use and retention of buildings for mixed use of agriculture and storage, maintenance and hire of trailers, Rising Sun Farm, Aldwark, to discuss, deadline 28 July 2023. The council has no objection.
- c) 22/02941/FUL Proposed accommodation lodges and external amenity, Aldwark Manor Estate.
Application withdrawn
- d) 21/02643/FUL Land north of Hag Lane, Raskelf, Construction of 6no poultry buildings, associated infrastructure, attenuation pond, new access track and hardstanding. NYorks planning decision: Granted

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

- e) 23/00379/CAT Works to fell tree in a conservation area, 1 The Green, Aldwark. Parish council: no comments made. NYorks planning decision: Granted
- f) 23/00130/CAT Works to trees in a Conservation Area, canopy reduction to T11 and removal of 16 Yew trees within group G169 (Amended details received 24.02.2023, Aldwark Manor estate. Parish council: no comments made. NYorks planning decision: Granted
- g) 23/00505/CAT Works in a conservation area to fell a sycamore, Sycamore Cottage, Aldwark. NYorks planning decision: Granted
- h) 23/00259/FUL Retrospective application for retention of existing general purpose agricultural building and proposed extension to existing agricultural building, Rising. Sun Farm, Aldwark. Parish council: no comments made. NYorks planning decision awaited
- i) 23/00220/FUL Demolition of existing rear extensions and shed, construction of new extensions and refurbishment of the dwellinghouse. Construction of detached garage with ancillary accommodation and removal of trees and sections of hedgerows. NYorks planning decision: Granted

32/23 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) Leisure and play area including Alne playing field – (MC) – the Aldwark play area has been cleaned by parish councillors and volunteers from Aldwark including some children
- b) Roads, pavements and grass verges (AF) – some residents have cut back overgrown grass verges, and others have cut back hedges that were overhanging footpaths. Thanks are given to those that did this. It will be considered if the parish council can afford to ask someone (possibly John Taylor who does some maintenance in the village of Aldwark) to do further trims on the grass verges
- c) Public communications (SR) – a photo of the new Youlton bench will be added to a news section on the website
- d) Planning (JT) – nothing further
- e) Environment/bridleways and footpaths (RP) – nothing further

33/23 Report from Cllr Nigel Knapton

Cllr Knapton reported that the new Parish Charter is now available. He also mentioned that the locality budget for equipment we might need requires applications in December. He also confirmed that he was not aware of any development news in regard to RAF Linton on Ouse location, but that it has been cleared and is up for sale.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.