

ALDWARE AREA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 29 February 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: John Topliss, Matthew Cliff, Richard Padgett, Sarah Robinson

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

Apologies for absence: Andy Follington

No members of the public attended

Minute

01/24 Apologies for absence – received from Andy Follington

02/24 Declaration of interests in agenda items – none

03/24 Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2023 – these were approved and signed as a true record.

04/24 Youlton – update on broadband survey and potential for defibrillator

A survey of broadband speeds had been carried out and passed to Cllr Knapton. It was understood that all current avenues via BT have been exhausted at the current time. The councillors discussed their ideas for alternatives. Cllr Padgett mentioned Starnet, which an acquaintance of his uses, with a good user experience. It can be relatively pricey but is potentially useful for business use in Youlton. Cllr Padgett will pass details of this person to Cllr Robinson and she will find out more.

Locations for a defibrillator are understood to be better on a wall, or with power to keep them from getting too cold. It was agreed to investigate a solar powered cabinet as a possible option. County Cllr Knapton said that London Hearts is currently offering defibrillators at cost of approx. £750. A solar powered one might be more expensive. He said that after 1 April, he would likely receive a Locality Grant and as our parish has not benefited previously, he would be supportive of giving a substantial amount (not all) to this effort. The councillors expressed their gratitude for this and it was agreed that Cllrs Knapton and Robinson will work with the clerk to pursue options in around a month or two's time.

05/24 Finance

Receipts and payments and bank balances were noted to 21 February 2024. Cllr Knapton will confirm the email address for the CIL report for financial year ended 31 March 2023 to the clerk. It was noted that the upcoming housing in Flawith should trigger a further CIL payment to the parish, to be spent in the Flawith area. A precept of £4,750 for the year 24/25 has been submitted.

06/24 Planning applications

The following were noted:

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- a) ZB23/02581/CAT Works to and removal of trees in a conservation area, St Stephens church, Aldwark. NYorks planning decision: granted
- b) ZB23/02571/FUL Proposed front porch and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing, Rose Cottage, Youlton. Parish council submitted a no objection response. NYorks planning decision: granted
- c) ZB23/02500/FUL Demolition of existing garage and construction of new oak framed carport/store. Reroof main house with pantiles to match existing as amended by revised plans received 30 January 2024, North Lodge, Aldwark, NYorks planning decision: granted
- d) ZB23/02372/TPO Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order, Beechcroft Farm, Aldwark, NYorks planning decision: granted
- e) ZB23/02373/CAT Works to fell a tree within a Conservation Area, Beechcroft Farm, Aldwark NYorks planning decision: granted
- f) ZB23/01728/FUL Variation of conditions attached to Application for Full Planning Permission for 3 no. dwellings [Use Class C3] and associated works, Flawith, NYorks planning decision: awaited. Also, Application for the discharge of condition 11 for this previously approved application: Parish council submitted a no objection response

07/24 Portfolio responsibilities

- a) Leisure and play area including Alne playing field – (MC) – locks with combinations for the green waste bins in Aldwark’s play area have been requested by John Taylor as people are putting nappies and other waste in these bins. They are strictly for garden waste. It was agreed to support this and Cllr Padgett will liaise with John Taylor and get the cost reimbursed by the parish council
- b) Roads, pavements and grass verges (AF) – there have been several complaints about dog fouling along verges in Aldwark and this has been reported to the NYorks council dog warden who has taken some action, providing some stickers to remind people to collect up. The problem is particularly acute down Rice Lane and residents are reminded that the verges here too should be kept clear of dog poo. Two dog poo bins are provided by the pub/play area, plus one near the church
- c) Public communications (SR) – Cllr Robinson will organise a note in the parish newsletter with the welcome news that the tollbridge has reopened
- d) Environment/bridleways and footpaths (RP) – Cllr Padgett reported that waste spreading is happening currently and will keep under observation as usual. It was noted that the footpath reported as blocked (starting at Home Farm, Aldwark) still. Awaits the visit of the Pathways officer from North Yorks Council. Cllr Padgett intends to forge through and assess the situation, and ask Mr Robert Proudley if he can help delineate the footpath using eg a quad bike. It was finally noted that approx. 7,000 trees will be planted in a field adjacent to Rice Line by the new owners. It was felt that this will be beneficial in increasing biodiversity though it should be noted that there will be no public access.

08/24 Report from North Yorkshire Councillor Knapton

Cllr Knapton advised that the budgeting process is underway. NYorks Council is drawing down on reserves but is in a better financial position than many other councils nationwide. It has a reasonable property stock that will likely be rationalised with some sales. Like other councils, the effects of an ageing population and increasing social care needs is making an impact. Cllr Knapton advised that positive feedback had been received regarding the recent

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resurfacing of pavements in Easingwold, improving access for those less able. He advised that there seems to be no further news regarding the Linton on Ouse airbase.

The next meeting will follow the Parish Assembly being planned for 7pm on Tuesday 14 May. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

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