

ALDBROUGH ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Aldbrough St John Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th August 2020 in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr B Whitfield (Vice-Chairman), Cllr S Reed, Cllr R Pronyszyn, Cllr M Banks, Cllr A Thompson, Cllr J Wilson-Petch
Kay Pearson – Clerk to the Parish Council
3 members of the public

MINUTE	ITEM
No. 1	Apologies – no apologies
No. 2	Appointment of Chairman It was proposed by Cllr Reed and seconded by Cllr Banks that following the immediate resignation of the current chairman that the appointment of the new chairman should take place once the vacant position on the parish council has been filled. Notice has been issued by Richmondshire Council. This will close on 1 st September 2020. They will then contact the parish council with further instruction.
No. 3	Declaration of Interest RESOLVED: None recorded, except that Parish Councillors present expressed their interest in anything that affects the Parish.
No. 4	Minutes of the last meeting – 10.02.2020 It was proposed by Cllr Reed and seconded by Cllr Pronyszyn that the minutes of the meeting from the 10 th February 2020 were an accurate record.
5.	Matters Arising
5.1	Stream Clearance – Cllr Whitfield reported that an Interest Group of Householders had formed, mainly concerning the properties from the Old School House to the main road bridge. They are putting together a report of issues that need to be addressed (with input from the Tees River Trust and DEFRA) which they will hand over the parish council when complete.
5.2	Pinfold wall and gate – the clerk reported that the work on the gate should commence shortly. She is just waiting for confirmation.

With regard to the wall, this requires some work, i.e., repointing. There is a large tree which needs inspection and there is quite a lot of ivy coming over the wall from a neighbouring garden that needs clearing. Cllr Banks and Cllr Reed are to look at the works needed.

- 5.3** Parking – Spenceley Place. Cllr Wilson-Petch met recently to look at the problem. There has been a development which might solve the problem but at present he is unable to say what this would be. Cllr Reed has received an email from a resident in Spenceley Place who is most concerned about how dangerous it is pulling out onto Low Green because of cars / vans parking near the corner making it impossible to see. Cllr Thompson suggested either putting double yellow lines on the corners or even a solid white line. Cllr Reed commented that there was an issue with people parking on the slip road into the doctors surgery also and it was agreed that a solid white line might be beneficial here also. Cllr Wilson-Petch is to organise a site meeting with Ian Beighton (NYCC Highways Department) and Cllr Reed.

No.6.0 Report from Cllr A Thompson / Cllr J Wilson-Petch

- 6.1** Matrix boards. Cllr Thompson has offered £2,000 towards buying a matrix board for the village. The parish council was keen to take up the offer. Site survey needed. If lamppost available to use then the total cost would be £2,700 + VAT, if not the addition of a pole would be an extra £500. Cllr Pronyszyn to liaise with Cllr Thompson.
- 6.2** Devolution and Unitary System – letters have been sent out to parish councils regarding the proposed proposals for a unitary government. Cllr Thompson felt the letter was misleading. Unitary councils would save millions of pounds. At present there were two possible proposals:-
One unitary council (excluding York).
Split the county into two, one in York and one in Northallerton.
A mayor would have to be elected – but looking at other counties that have elected Mayor's, it seems to work well.
Once there is more information available – Cllr Thompson and Cllr Petch will forward this to the parish councils so they can form a response.

Report from Cllr J Wilson-Petch

Cllr Wilson-Petch wanted to bring the parish council up to date with Outer Lodge at Stanwick. He is trying to get in contact with Beverley Booth (who is dealing with the case). Apparently the electric gates have been turned off overnight, prohibiting access.

7.0 Finance Report

Funds now available in new bank account. Switch of final funds should take place within days. The Parish Council has £9,704.58. VAT repayment due.

Parish Council annual audit report was signed off by Cllr Whitfield. Certificate of Exemption (Part 2) to be forwarded to the auditors. Because of the COVID-19 situation, the deadline had been extended to the end of September (due to parish council meetings not being held).

8.0 Planning Applications

Lucy Cross Barn – awaiting decision.

Land at Dilston House – awaiting decision.

Land north of Rose Bank – granted.

Jasmine Cottage – granted. Cllr Wilson-Petch looking into parking.

9.0 Any Other Business

9.1 Cricket Pitch – Cllr Banks reported that the fence is in a shocking state, posts broken and the netting near the beck in poor condition with sharp edges, making it difficult to cut the grass back by the beck. Also grass cuttings are just being dumped. When asked to move them, they were put in hedge backs, just making a worse problem regarding drainage. Cllr Banks just thinks it would need a site meeting to sort out the problems. Clerk to write requesting meeting.

9.2 Village Green – grass cutting. Cllr Banks has spoken to Steven Gibb regarding keeping the grass cutting to the same day if possible so people know to keep their cars off the grass. He has also asked that it is all done (grass cutting and strimming) on the same day. Cllr Banks has also noticed four wasps nests along the beck side. He is going to look into it and try and get something to treat them with.

9.3 Visitors to green. Cllr Reed feels that the village needs some sort of guidelines about what people should expect, i.e., large gatherings, dogs, parking etc. It was agreed but it was felt this was quite a task and a separate meeting was suggested to discuss this and report back to the parish with a suggested report. The meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 18th August 2020 in the village hall.

9.4 Stanwick Inn hedge. Hedge overhanging public footpath. Clerk to write the owner of The Stanwick.

9.5 Stanwick Inn. It has been noted that food has been dumped in the yard of the Stanwick Inn, possibly as a result of one of the takeaway vans.

9.6 Goal posts -Cllr Reed has this in hand. They have been checked for

safety and are to be painted before the season

It has been noted by a resident however that during a friendly football match the previous Saturday, two footballers were observed openly urinating in the beck, close to the play area where children were present. A letter is to be sent to the football team pointing out that their contract would be terminated if this behaviour continued. This has been highlighted in the past.

- 9.7** Tree Survey – a survey of the trees has been carried out. Two trees are dead and need felling. One in the small triangle of land outside Greenside (chestnut) and one on High Green (sycamore). Attention is also required to trees along the beckside.
- 9.8** Play Area Fencing – to go ahead with fencing. It was noted that the grass contractors were concerned about damaging the fencing with machinery. The clerk is to write to Steven Gibb assuring them that any damage (if any) would be borne by the parish council. It may be possible to get protectors to go around the base of the posts?
- 9.9** Formal complaint - parking on the green. This is to be dealt with in the meeting to be held on Tuesday 18th August 2020. The clerk will write to the complainants confirming receipt and explain that it is being dealt with.

10 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on **Monday 5th October 2020** at 7.00 p.m.