

## ALDBROUGH ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Aldbrough St John Parish Council held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllr T Place (Chairman) Cllr B Whitfield (Vice-Chairman),  
Cllr S Reed, Cllr R Pronyszyn, Cllr M Banks,  
Cllr A Thompson  
Kay Pearson – Clerk to the Parish Council  
Plus – 5 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr J Wilson-Petch

MINUTE	ITEM
<b>No. 1</b>	Declaration of Interest RESOLVED: None recorded, except that Parish Councillors present expressed their interest in anything that affects the Parish.
<b>No. 2</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting dated 18th November 2019</b>  Cllr Whitfield asked for an amendment to be made to the minutes. Minute 3.7. This should read as follows: Play Park fencing – report from Cllr Whitfield. With regard to this issue, the village is very divided. Cllr Whitfield spoke to about 100 residents, with very strong opinions for and against. He has researched this thoroughly, going through various documents and acts and speaking to different authorities <i>and in particular the provisions of The Commons Act 1876 and The Inclosure Act 1957, which set the specific rules as to access on defined village greens.</i>  It was proposed by Cllr Reed and seconded by Cllr Whitfield that the remainder of the minutes of the meeting from the 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 were an accurate record.
<b>No. 3</b>	<b>Report from Cllr A Thompson</b>  Cllr Place was aware that Cllr Thompson had another meeting to attend and asked if he would like to deliver his report.
<b>3.1</b>	£450 given to St Paul's Church, Aldbrough for a stand for newspapers from what was always known as "Cllr Heseltine's pot of gold".
<b>3.2</b>	Flooding. During the recent floods Cllr Thompson has been out and about assessing the extent of the flooding. No problems with Dere Street. Sykes bridge has been fixed. Melsonby road – he is to take this up with Highways as a priority. Doctors Lane – although flooded was

classed as low priority. Cllr Reed asked for it to be noted, on behalf of the parish council, that Doctors Lane blocks / floods year after year and are very dissatisfied with the response by NYCC. (Clerk to write a letter to NYCC).

**3.3** Gulley's had been cleared a week ago, though it has been noted that some still appear to be blocked.

**3.4** Matrix boards. Parish Councils can now buy their own matrix boards though they must be installed by a Highways Officer, but advised by Parish Council on location. Cost is £2,750 + VAT. There may be considerable assistance with finance available from Cllr Thompson in the new financial year (after 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020).

#### **No. 4.0 Matters Arising from the minutes**

**4.1** White bridge - fencing. To go ahead and get the fencing.

**4.2** Bench – outside Mrs Herdman's house. Grant application with Richmondshire Area Partnership fund approved. Cllr Place to arrange removal of old bench and prepare ground for new bench.

Ordered.  
Delivery  
awaited.

**4.3** The Stanwick – sale did not go through. Cllr Whitfield to see if there is any interest still in taking it over as a community asset.

**4.4** Parking – Spenceley Place. To speak to Cllr Wilson-Petch when he returns to get update.

**4.5** New dog bin – it was decided to get another bin for East End. Cllr Whitfield to arrange.

In place

**4.6** Aldbrough Beck – Cllr Whitfield is to speak to residents who live close to the beck. Beck does need clearing out in places but Tees Valley Trust has stated that the bed of the beck must not be disturbed.

**4.7** Trees – require inspection.  
Cllr Place is to contact the Arboricultural Officer at NYCC (Denis Gregson). Also to ask advice about the appropriate type of tree to plant in the village.

#### **No.5.0 Financial Report**

**5.1** The closing balance as of the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was £11,300.98 (this figure does not include the Play Park Funds of £4,938.30 which is held by the parish council and includes an additional £234.39 donated by Mithral Breweries). Financial report attached.

The application process to change banks has still not been completed but should in the next few weeks.

## **No.6.0 Planning Applications**

**6.1** Retrospective planning permission – Outer Lodge, Stanwick.  
The clerk had received an email from Cllr Wilson-Petch before he went away stating that he had been in touch with Beverley Booth who said that it was complicated but that investigations were going on and it would be discussed in front of the full planning committee. He will let us know of any further developments.

**6.2** Planning permission – land north east of Rosebank. Ongoing – no decision as yet.

## **7.0 Any Other Business**

**7.1** The parking of camper vans on the village green. Cllr Place reported that he had received eight complaints regarding the permanent parking of a camper van on Low Green. This is against parish council regulations and Cllr Place agreed to speak to the owner of the camper van.

Formal  
complaint  
received.

**7.2** There were also complaints received that a large amount of gravel had been laid on Low Green for parking. No permission had been granted by the Parish Council however it transpires that the owner had indeed spoken to the outgoing Chairman of the parish council informally. It was proposed by Cllr Pronyszyn and seconded by Cllr Reed that in this case, as the owner had contacted the chairman (at the time) of the parish council, that it should be left as it is.

**7.3** Request for paths across green declined:- West Cottage (adjacent to village hall) and Beck View Cottage (close to packhorse bridge). Adequate parking already behind West Cottage so there appeared to be no reason for them to be using the Village Hall car park. Beck View Cottage – never previously been a problem with parking.

**7.4** Grass cutting – to obtain quotes requesting continuity in that the green is cut all in one day and, ideally, on the same day every other week throughout the summer.

**7.5** Volunteers – to ensure that the insurance policy is adhered to, any volunteers working in the village should be known to the parish council. The clerk is to keep a list of names.

**7.6** Footpath on the left going out of the village towards Manor Cottage. To reinstate verge which is badly damaged. To request that the black car (presently parking on the verge) does not park there until it has been repaired and fully recovered.

**7.7** Narrow footpath north of Manor Cottage. Grass has encroached

across the path making it difficult to use. Clerk to contact Highways asking them to clear the path.

**7.8** Garden of Peace – VE day. A suggestion was put to the parish council that a “Garden of Peace” could be created using The Pinfold. This would need careful consideration taking into account the development of the garden, design, costs and whether or not The Pinfold was listed and could be used as such. It was agreed however that if this were to go ahead then it would need to be run on a voluntary basis by an interested group who would also need to find funding for maintenance.

**7.9** Track from East End, over the iron bridge and up to Doctors Lane. It was raised by a member of the public that this track should be taken over by NYCC. At present it is believed it is the responsibility of Kilton Grange Farm. On inspection the iron bridge appears to be corroded in parts. If NYCC takes over the track then it would be maintained by them and become an official bridleway or path. Cllr Reed said he would speak to the owners of Kilton Grange.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting (AGM) will be held in the Village Hall on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020** at 7.30 p.m.