

MINUTES OF THE BYLAND WITH WASS AND OLDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2021

1.ATTENDEES

Cllr. Statham (chair), Cllr .Williams (vice-chair), Cllr .Gilruth, Cllr. Bradley, Cllr. Cain. Mrs. Clarke (clerk). Mr. J. Marchant. Mr. D. Lee and two other Wass residents.

2.MINUTES OF BYLAND WITH WASS AND OLDSTEAD AGM HELD ON THE 7TH JUNE 2021

These were held to be a true record of the meeting and signed by Cllr. Statham.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

3.1. ROUNDELS AT OLDSTEAD.

Cllr. Statham thanked Cllr. Williams and Cllr. Cain for organizing the repairs to the roundel in Oldstead. The money which has not been spent from the grant received from NYCC (£1500) for the repairs is to be repaid to NYCC (£628).

3.2. TRAFFIC THROUGH WASS.

Cllr. Statham acknowledged that the closure of Sutton Bank for annual maintenance work had started with all the extra inconvenience that this created. He thought that the Highways Department of NYCC has this year implemented signage which directs HGVs via the A19 and A64.

Cllr. Gilruth pointed out that the signage is poor and more obvious diversion signs are needed, in particular there should be a continuation of signs down the A19. In addition, the parish council should be more involved and present these points to the Highways Department. The clerk continues to be involved in a forum with other nearby villages about these issues.

Cllr. Williams informed the meeting that from Thirsk lorries cannot turn onto the A170 and that at Balk the road is closed off making it impossible for a lorry to pass through.

Cllr. Bradley commented that the new signs on Wass Bank have been so poorly placed that they are not visible.

3.3. PARKING IN WASS

The chair said that he had received an email from a Wass resident raising issues about parking. The parking of cars in the road in Wass by customers who visit the Staplyton Arms is a long standing problem which has been worsened over the summer by the amount of visitors. The pub was popular and supported the village.

He pointed out that the situation in Wass was typical to that in other surrounding villages, Ampleforth, Coxwold and Hustwaite being particular examples.

Residents of the cottages in New Road pointed out that they were often unable to park outside their homes because customers visiting the pub parked in the road.

Cllr. Gilruth commented that there was little point in having yellow lines if it was not enforced and the police had this role.

The issues were debated at length and the car park at the village hall was thought to be a possible solution to this problem.

Cllr. Statham suggested that a reflexive sign at the bottom of Wass bank could indicate that car parking was available at the village hall. Mr. Marchant commented that the darkness up Wass Bank and at the village hall put many people off parking there.

It was suggested that sensor lights at the village hall would make parking there easier. Cllr. Statham is to liaise with Mr. Marchant who is chair person of the Village Hall Committee about the possibility of the Village Hall Committee agreeing to these.

Cllr. Gilruth pointed out that there was an additional problem of cars parked partly on the pavements especially up Wass Bank and more might park in Hambleton Lane.

Mrs. Clarke (clerk) reported that Mrs. Monaghan has raised the issue of cars parked on the pavement immediately next to the pub. This means that she has to walk into the road to pass the cars which is dangerous. Mr. and Mrs. Saurin have also raised the issue of cars parked from the bank in the road right down to the gates of their house (Wass House) making it difficult and dangerous for them to pull out of their drive, partly because of the

resulting poor visibility and also because they have to pull out on the wrong side of the road.

After a lengthy debate Cllr. Statham reiterated that he had great sympathy for all residents, everyone in the village was affected by traffic issues of some kind and were inconvenienced. However it was important that people tried to be tolerant as space was finite and we had a popular pub in the village.

It was hoped that using the parking at the village hall would help alleviate the problem.

4. FINANCE

4.1. BALANCE

Mrs. Clarke informed the meeting that the balance of the account stood at £6527.17

4.2. BANK CHARGES

HSBC are introducing bank charges on the account from November. These will be £8 per month plus £0.50 per cheque

4.3. PRECEPT

Cllr. Statham informed the meeting that the expenses incumbent on the parish now amount to £1407.40. The precept as it stands is £800 and will not therefore be able to meet the expenditure.

As a result he suggested that the Parish Council should ask that the precept be raised to £1500. This was agreed by all the councillors.

Cllr. Gilruth objected strongly that the parish council should be paying for the grit bins in Oldstead which he thought should be filled by NYCC.

5. GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Cllr. Statham reported that he will be part of the forum which is debating the proposed government reorganization. In two years there will be a different structure for local government. Under the new arrangements the roles of PCs are not clear. Going forward it is

proposed to have 25 community groups and 6 Area Committees with statutory functions including planning. The dynamics of the new structure will have to be worked out. Longer term he hoped that the changes might produce more consistency, for example, in recycling, as other areas have better arrangements than Ryedale. However, he did not think that more finance would be available for local services.

6. PLANNING.

BELL TENTS AT BYLAND ABBEY

Cllr. Statham reported that 8 tents had been erected at the Abbey Inn and he had spoken to the tenant of the Inn and a local resident, the situation seemed satisfactory.

Mr. David Lee, a resident of Byland, asked to speak and outlined 5 issues with regard to the bell tents.

1. The planning application stated that no invasive techniques would be used when the tents were erected. However this has not been adhered to.
2. Cars have been moved out of the car park to allow a large wagon to park there.
3. The wide grass verge has been mown specifically to allow extra cars to park there.
4. The planning application stated that no children would be allowed in the bell tents because of the danger from the adjacent stream. However children have been allowed to stay in the tents.
5. Dogs were to be kept on leads but this has not been adhered to.

Mr. Lee has had 3 meetings with English Heritage to discuss these points and they were to get back to him. Cllr. Statham pointed out that the parish council had no powers to intervene in these matters and if there were breaches of planning regulations they needed to be reported to NYMNPA. Mr. Lee said he would do this and it was agreed that his concerns be noted in the minutes of this meeting.

7.FOOTPATHS AT NEWBURGH PRIORY.

The Newburgh Estate recently circulated a document which outlined the extent of his land and footpaths across it. Although there has been concern that this would result in a loss of footpaths this is not the case. This document is a legal document only which has to be published every 20 years.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

FREE TREES.

Cllr. Williams informed the meeting that Ryedale DC are offering a free tree to all parish councils. Cllr. Williams and Cllr. Cain will collect a tree for Oldstead and Cllr. Bradley will pursue this matter for Wass.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next parish council meeting will be held on the 10th January 2022 in the village hall, Wass, at 7.30 p.m.

Jenny Clarke. Clerk