

MINUTES OF THE BYLAND WITH WASS AND OLDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22ND AUGUST 2020

1. ATTENDEES

Cllr. Statham (Chair). Cllr. Gilruth. Cllr. Bradley. Cllr. Cain. Cllr. Williams. Mrs. Clarke (clerk).
Mr. M. Tew. Mr. P. Williams. Mr. P. Robinson.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr. J. Gaunt and Mr. and Mrs. Marchant.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD BY EMAIL ON THE 5TH MAY 2020

These minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by Cllr. Statham.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1. REPAIRS TO THE ROUNDELS AT OLDSTEAD

The metal hoops which are to be fitted into the roundels have been made and paid for but have yet to be fitted.

With regard to the masonry, Stephen Pickering who initially agreed to do the work, will no longer be able to do so.

The quote received from Mr. Pickering for substantial repairs to the masonry was £1500 and a grant for this had been obtained by Cllr. Gibson (retired from the council) from a fund administered by NYCC through the office Caroling Goodricke (County Councillor).

However, this grant had to be spent within 3 months of receipt of the letter – this time has expired.

Cllr. Williams will contact the office administering the fund to see if, because of the impact of Covid-19, the time period can be extended.

Other stone masons who could undertake the repairs will also be contacted and quotes secured. In the past the roundels have been repaired but these repairs have not lasted. To make future repairs long-lasting, Cllr. Gibson had suggested that a roundel of sandstone be inserted.

If there are no grants or funding for the repairs to the roundels, the Parish Council agreed that the roundels will be paid from the Parish Council account, as there is currently a balance of £5,082.

5. FINANCE

5.1. BALANCE OF ACCOUNT

Mrs. Clarke informed the meeting that the balance currently stands at £5, 082.46

5.2. ANNUAL RETURN

Mrs. Clarke informed the meeting that the Annual Return had been completed and that it has to be returned to the Accountants by the 31st August 2020, an extension having been granted because of the pandemic. Copies of the Return will be uploaded onto the Ryedale District Council website.

5.3. PRECEPT

Following discussions, the level of the precept for the next financial year was set at £800 per year – the same as it is in the current financial year. However, in view of increasing financial commitments (repairs to the roundels and yearly cutting of road verges between Byland and Oldstead), it was decided that the level might have to rise in future.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6.1. LITTER BINS

Cllr. Statham informed the meeting that the issue of whether to provide bins for litter in Wass had become a matter of concern in Wass in recent months.

Cllr. Bradley has received comments about litter but these related mostly to the litter on verges of the roads leading into Wass and not in Wass itself. Therefore the provision of bins in Wass would not solve the problem.

However, in the small car park next to the Abbey, there has been littering, so a bin there would be welcome. Historic England are responsible for Byland Abbey and the Parish Council agreed that it is their responsibility to provide a bin in the car park for the Abbey.

Historic England will be contacted and asked to provide a litter bin there.

Mr. M. Tew (Wass resident) pointed out that litter bins should be provided in the village for walkers to dispose of their rubbish.

With regard to bins for dog excrement, Cllr. Statham pointed out that this matter has been discussed many times in the past. Dog poo bags are already provided in the telephone kiosk and the Parish Council does not see the need to provide bins for dog excrement.

6.2. REORGANISATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Cllr. Statham informed the meeting that North Yorkshire County Council is making a bid to become a unitary authority, with the abolishment of District Councils into one large 'super council'.

This reorganization has many implications for local government and the leader of Ryedale District Council, Cllr. Keane Duncan, has requested that individual members of Parish Councils and Parish Councils as a collective body, contact him with their views.

Cllr. Gilruth pointed out that there has been little concrete information about the form this 'super council' will take, nor have the costs involved in this reorganization been presented.

Cllr. Statham suggested that views of the Parish councillors could be communicated to him by email and a letter expressing these views could then be sent.

6.3. TEST AND TRACE

The Parish Council expressed their support for North Yorkshire County Council's efforts to ensure that an efficient service is established and Cllr. Statham will send a letter of support on behalf of the Parish Council.

6.4. NOTICE BOARD, VILLAGE HALL, WASS

A resident has suggested that a notice board should be placed outside the village hall in Wass. However, this is a matter for the Village Hall Committee, not the Parish Council.

6.5 TRAFFIC ISSUES IN WASS

Wass Bank. Agricultural vehicles are using Wass Bank to access fields at the top. These vehicles are extremely wide, taking up most of the road, and heavy. They also come down Wass Bank at speed.

After discussion, it was decided that the Highways Department should be contacted with a view to finding out if there are restrictions on the weight and size of vehicles using Wass Bank and whether these restrictions apply to agricultural vehicles.

Road through Wass village. Wass residents have been concerned for some time at the size and speed of HVVs coming through the village – it is possible that the weight of these vehicles, combined with the poor state of the road, has led to structural damage in at least one of these properties, Kirk Cottage.

The Highways Department is to be contacted with a view to establishing some traffic calming measure.

7. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th January at 7.00 p.m.

Jenny Clarke. Clerk

