

MINUTES OF THE BYLAND WITH WASS AND OLDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20TH JANUARY 2020

1. ATTENDEES

Cllr. Statham (chair), Cllr. Gibson (Vice Chair), Cllr. Gilruth, Cllr. Metcalfe, Cllr. Bradley, Mrs. J. Clarke (clerk).

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST OCTOBER 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were held to be a true record. Proposed by Cllr. Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr. Gilruth. Signed and dated by Cllr. Statham.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

3.1. Signs at Byland Abbey. Cllr. Statham has discussed the matter of replacing the signs which have been stolen from Byland Abbey with Cllr. Caroline Goodrick (NYCC councillor) and Simon Bassendale from the North Yorkshire National Park Authority. Both confirmed that there is no money available from the local authority or the National Park to pay for replacement signs.

The parish council concluded that the most appropriate course of action would be to order new signs which will be relatively inexpensive and not attractive to thieves.

Cllr. Statham will contact local companies which make signs – Cllr. Gibson recommended two companies in Thirsk and also a garage in Busby Stoop.

3.2. Grass cutting at Oldstead.

Mrs. Clarke informed the meeting that the Highways Department had not confirmed that their department would cut the visibility splays and grass at dangerous junctions if the grant of £84.35 towards grass cutting was declined by the parish.

Cllr. Gibson will pursue this matter – no response had been forthcoming to telephone calls and emails by Mrs. Clarke.

4. FINANCE

4.1. Mrs. Clarke informed the meeting that the balance stands at £5,418.14.

5.PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Since the last meeting there have been 2 planning applications, both in Wass

5.1. Orchard House. Application for a dormer window. No objections.

5.2. Rose Cottage. Application for a single storey rear extension. No objections.

6.ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6.1.Beavers in Dalby Forest

Cllr. Bradley had responded to an invitation to visit the site in Dalby Forest where beavers have been introduced to reduce future flooding through the dams which they build. There is a 5 year programme to monitor the results – in the first 5 months it is estimated that the dams have reduced the risk of flooding by 10%.

6.2.Ryedale Food Bank

An email had been forwarded to parish councillors requesting information about those in need who might benefit from deliveries from the food bank and also asking for contributions. The councillors do not think that there are people in this parish in need of this service at the moment and that food is already donated in Wass and Oldstead.

6.3.COMMUNITY FIRST

An email was forwarded to councillors which had been received from 'Community First' requesting details about the parish and parish council. It was decided that no response should be made to this request as it would almost certainly lead to a flood of unwanted emails.

However, Cllr. Bradley pointed out that this organization does have some valuable initiatives so Cllr. Statham suggested that their website should be looked at regularly.

6.4.BIODIVERSITY ON PARISH VERGES

Cllr. Bradley is to consider the matter of grass cutting and the effect it has on biodiversity on 2 verges in the parish – the verge between Wass and Byland and the verge at the top of Wass Bank.

6.5.BENCH ON THE FOOTPATH BETWEEN WASS AND BYLAND ABBEY

The bench on the footpath which runs across the fields between Wass and Byland Abbey has collapsed. This is located on land owned by Mr. and Mrs. Porritt who have kindly removed the seat as it was potentially dangerous but retained the plaque which was fixed to the bench.

It was agreed that this bench should be replaced. Cllr. Statham explained that the bench was erected by the village in 2000 as part of the Millennium celebrations. As this was a Wass project the replacement might be funded by the Village Hall Committee.

6.6. Bench at Byland Abbey

Cllr. Statham informed the meeting that the wood on this bench was deteriorating although the concrete ends were still in good condition. There was discussion about whose responsibility the bench might be and Cllr. Statham agreed to check things out with Historic England.

7. Date and time of the next meeting.

This has been arranged for Monday 4th May at 7.00 p.m. It will be followed by the Wass Annual Meeting.

Jenny Clarke

Parish clerk