**Oswaldkirk Parish Meeting**

**Minutes of meeting held on Monday 27 September 2021**

**Present:** 28

**Apologies:** Sue Elm, Richard Kettlewell, Peter O’Neill, Ursula Webb

1. **Presentation by Yorkshire Ambulance Service**

Joanne Watson, the Community Defibrillator Co-ordinator gave a presentation on familiarisation with and operation of the parish defibrillator. The key points of this presentation were:

* 999 Emergency Services must be called in first instance, they will provide full advice and guidance.
* ‘what3words’ App (available on App Store) is an excellent way for the Emergency Services to easily pinpoint the location of the emergency. The app has divided the world into 3m squares each of which has been given a unique combination of three words. When opened the app will provide the 3 words of the location which can be given to the Emergency Services to direct the ambulance to the emergency.
* An accessories package is required for the defibrillator, Joanne will provide details to the Guardian (Peter Stone).

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** – all present agreed these were a true and accurate record of the general meeting held on 23 June 2021.
2. **Matters arising**

**Sewer blockages** – no further issues had been reported.

**The Terrace** – a road name sign for the Terrace is now in place.

**Malt Shovel** – the gate has been removed for repair. The Chair will write to the Brewery for an update on future plans for the pub.

**Telegraph pole replacement** – the rotten poles on the Terrace were due to be replaced last month, however this did not take place. The Chair confirmed he had made enquires of the Freedom Group and BT Openreach who advised that on arrival the contractor had been informed the work was no longer necessary. Openreach have accepted this was in error and the work will be rescheduled.

1. **Financial Update –** The Treasurer advised that the Parish Meeting had £1,000 less than at the same point in 2020. This is due to some unexpected expenditure and lost income from the National Park Service who have withdrawn £500 funding for maintaining the Millennium Trail for two years’ running. The Treasurer advised that as a result he will be seeking agreement to increase the precept at the next Parish Annual General Meeting.
2. **Planning Applications** **and Enforcement** – two planning applications had been received since the last meeting:

Removal of 5no. Ash on eastern boundary of Oswaldkirk playground with the B1363

OS Field 4490, York Road, Oswaldkirk

Ref. No: 21/01237/CAT | Received: Thu 26 Aug 2021 Status: Registered

*[This was discussed within AOB at the meeting held on 23 June 2021]*

Erection of first floor extension over existing single storey ground floor projection

4 The Terrace, Oswaldkirk

Ref. No: 21/01094/HOUSE | Received: Wed 28 Jul 2021 Status: Registered

In relation to the above application, the Chair confirmed that following discussion with a number of nearby residents a ‘middle of the road’ response had been submitted to the planning department, describing some objections and some support. An amendment to the plans has subsequently been submitted for consideration and the Chair sought the views of the meeting in order that a further response could be given. After all present had an opportunity to view the amended plans and after some further discussion, a vote was taken to ascertain support for and objection to the amended plans. This was split equally, the chairman therefore had the deciding vote and supported the amendment. The views of the meeting will however be reflected in the response to the planning department.

1. **St Gregory’s** – The Chair summarised the situation to date: the planning for the current development was approved in April 2019; the main house has been used as a holiday let since August 2019 and the annex has had a tenant since August 2020 who has a three year tenancy agreement. The planning permission gave a clear condition of approval requiring the provision of 3 off-street parking spaces for the house and the annex and the removal of gates and reduction in height of gate posts to improve visibility. None of which have been completed. The Chair acknowledged that the allocated parking spaces formed part of the tenant’s garden and would also require access through it. He also acknowledged Roger Wade’s continued correspondence with the Council and the Highways Authority and their repeated reluctance to address this matter.

The Chair updated the meeting on his own correspondence with Mr Spurr, Head of Economic Development for Ryedale, which sought an update and reassurance that the situation was being addressed. Mr Spurr replied that an agreement had been reached to resolve the situation and he was confident it would soon be addressed. More recently, the Chair had invited Mr Spurr, or one of his officers, to attend the Parish Meeting to advise on planning enforcement generally. The invitation was refused on the basis that the matter was in hand.

Mr Wade updated the meeting on his efforts. He had been successful, through the Highways Agency, in getting the lights and the planters which obstructed the pavement outside St Gregory’s removed. The Head of Ryedale Planning Department was now failing to engage with him despite promises regarding site visits which had not materialised.

All present agreed that the response from the Council was not satisfactory. A suggestion was made to involve local Councillors and the MP. It was agreed a formal complaint should be made to the Council by the Parish Meeting in relation to its handling of the issue and the apparent total lack of enforcement of any planning conditions. Copies of this to be sent to Simon Thackray (Councillor) and Kevin Hollinrake (MP).

1. **Oswaldkirk Bank Signage** – it had been noted that with increased parking on the corner of Main Street and the resurfacing of the Bank, joining or crossing the road at the junctions of Main Street and the Terrace was becoming increasingly hazardous. There is no street signage on the Bank to warn of the concealed entrance at the Terrace at which cars or pedestrians may be present. A discussion took place in relation to whether double yellow lines on the corner of Main Street would be helpful. It was also noted that parking on the corner of the Terrace often exacerbated the issue as this affected sight lines. The Chair agreed to contact Mr Coyne to request a site visit to explore how these problems could be mitigated.
2. **North Yorks 20’s Plenty** – The Chairman provided an overview to the meeting of this campaign the aim of which is to establish a 20mph speed limit in urban areas and villages in North Yorkshire through asking Parish Councils and Meetings to formally support their motion. The meeting had little appetite for doing so.
3. **Chestnut Bank –** The Chair sought suggestions for improvements to Chestnut Bank, which unfortunately had been taken over by the petasites weed which is unattractive and extremely hard to remove. The nettles are cut back, the roadside is cut and the path is maintained. The Treasurer indicated that there was little cash for improvements this year.
4. **Any Other Business**

**St Aiden’s Car Park** – following a query at a previous meeting Gerard Simpson clarified that the small car park in front of St Aiden’s Church is within its boundary line and this is shown on the relevant Land Registry document. There is a small stretch of pavement outside the boundary but the carpark itself is within it, however at present there is no issue with it being used for general parking. It was also suggested that parishioners may have some claim on the value of the building but further research was needed.

It was agreed that the subject of St Aiden’s and its future should be a formal item for further discussion at the next parish meeting.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9 pm.