

Update from South Milford Parish Council

The Parish Council continues to meet online via Google Meet. Since the last update there have been three meetings on 30th June, 28th July and 18th August. Please see below for updates on the key focus areas:

Planning

There have been various planning applications around the Parish recently which have been discussed at the relevant meetings. The most significant applications and the council responses to these are listed below:

- 25 Sand Lane (the old Sand Lane stores) – demolition of existing building and erection of 7 dwellings. The council objected to this on the grounds of highway safety, loss of amenity for existing residents in adjoining properties and overdevelopment relative to surrounding areas.
- China Palace – demolition of China Palace and erection of 8 new properties. Theoretically this development does not cause great concern (noting that the loss of the restaurant as an amenity for the village would not be classed as a material planning consideration), however the council have sought clarification on two points:
 - The status of London Road which backs onto the development – ideally this would be classified as an adopted highway, maintained by North Yorkshire County Council and the linked footpath and cycle way would be classed as an official Public Right of Way
 - The provision of parking for existing residents in the cottages opposite the China Palace
- 16 Low Street (derelict plot near the Cumin Lounge) – demolition of existing detached dwelling and erection of 4 dwellings. The council had no objection to this subject to the condition that plots 3 and 4 (at the back of the plot) are not permitted to have 3rd storey conversions/windows overlooking properties in Westfield Court. The council would also welcome comments from the Highways department on this development, in respect of the turning circle and entry/exit provision.

Highways & Footpaths

Since the last report, High street has undergone a makeover! The road has been fully resurfaced which has been long overdue and is a vast improvement – this is great news for the village.

The Parish Council are looking to request to extend the double yellow lines at the Low Street / Sand Lane junction as the current provision is simply not long enough to have the desired effect and we believe the road remains a hazard for drivers and pedestrians.

The council have continued to work on areas which have been raised by people in the parish, including:

- The Milford Grange footpath referred to in our last update – where we are still awaiting full and clear responses from North Yorkshire County Council – in the meantime walkers may choose to follow the signed diverted route but can, by law, also continue to use the current public right of way as marked on the North Yorkshire's Definitive Map.
- The possibility of introducing of a 20mph speed limit in parts of the village.
- The issue of HGVs through the village, which is an increasing issue for residents on Low Street in particular, and whether more and better signage could be provided.

Waste Bins

Additional waste bins have been discussed with areas identified as requiring a bin and whether there is a place for one in these areas. A request has been made for a bin at the intersection of Butts Lane and Westfield Lane and this should be installed fairly soon. If you feel there is need for further bins, please feel free to get in touch and let us know and we can assess the feasibility.

Christmas Lights

Fortunately, Covid-19 has not yet interfered with the Christmas light display in the village, however, it is still unclear whether there will be the usual 'switch on event' – we will keep you updated on this, of course following the relevant government guidance. The ability to sponsor a light remains an option to any person/business from the village. Please get in touch if you would like any information on this.

Food Bank

In light of the pandemic, the Parish Council thought it appropriate to make a donation to the Selby Food Bank. This is the food bank which would be used by members of the Parish should they need to and it has done great work in supporting those in need. We donated £500 to this worthy cause and hope it will go some way to help during this difficult and uncertain time.

South Milford Community Support

The Parish Council continues to support the South Milford Community Group, formed at the start of lockdown under its original name Isolation Help. This group continues to offer help and assistance to those in need of food/supplies, support, advice or just a friendly voice at the end of the phone! The group is supported by volunteers from our wonderful surrounding villages and the council thanks all these volunteers for their efforts.

Contact details for the group are shown below:

- Mobile: 07873 963477
- Email: southmilfordcommunity@gmail.com

Meetings

With regard to Parish Council meetings, the guidance has not changed, therefore meetings will continue to be held via an online platform, details of which will always be shared along with the agenda ahead of the meeting. Although there is no substitute for face-to-face meetings, these virtual meetings have been well organised and are proving to be a great option whilst the more traditional meetings are not available to us. Anyone can join a meeting, either to contribute or as an observer, you are always welcome 😊

The next meeting will be scheduled for later in September and details will be posted in advance on notice boards, our Facebook page and our website – www.southmilfordparishcouncil.co.uk