

Update from South Milford Parish Council

The Parish Council continues to meet online via Google Meet. Please see below for updates from our 15 September meeting and the past few months.

Proposed unitary council

There are proposals to simplify and streamline the tiered council structure we currently have, where we sit under both Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council. Under these proposals, the district councils would disappear, with their responsibilities being assigned to the new unitary council (which would be split into various geographic areas). Town and Parish councils would remain, potentially with additional responsibilities, where this is possible and deemed efficient.

Highways & Footpaths

The council is aware of the residents' concerns and issues with traffic and parking on Low Street, particularly close to the Cumin lounge. We have examined the issues previously (including raising them with the Highways team at NYCC) and have not been able to find any workable solutions. The main message is that all parking needs to be done with consideration for others, and clearly drivers should drive carefully and sensibly along this stretch of road.

The Parish Council has spoken to NYCC Highways team about extending the double yellow lines at the Low Street / Sand Lane junction. However, unfortunately NYCC Highways team have stated that any such request would not be successful.

The council have continued to work on various footpath issues within the Parish, and a separate joint statement from South Milford and Monk Fryston Parish Councils included in this magazine covers two of these in detail.

Other various updates

South Milford Against Flooding (SMAF) continue their work preparing for the construction of a "slow the flow bund" on land near Steeton Hall. The bund itself will be funded by the Parish Council and we would like to thank SMAF, associated volunteers and everyone involved in trying to bring this project to fruition.

We have recently funded the replacement of the pads in the defibrillators in Lumby and at Grove House, ensuring these are available to use if required.

The council have asked Selby District Council to replace the broken bin on London Road and facilitated the clearing and tidying of the footpath from Beech Drive to Westfield Lane.

Children's meals in school holidays

Separate to our September meeting, the council agreed to make a donation to the Swan pub, to support their provision of free meals to children eligible for free school meals, during the October half-term holiday.

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!

Clearly this support is very important during this second lockdown and the challenging winter months ahead. 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 😊

Our next meeting on 17 November will have taken place by the time you read this, with our next meeting after that likely to be in January 2021 – details will be posted in advance on notice boards, our Facebook page and our website – www.southmilfordparishcouncil.co.uk