

Updates from the South Milford Parish Council

South Milford Parish Council met on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 via Google Meet – highlights below.

Planning

We discussed the planning application regarding amendments to the temporary building at the doctors' surgery. We recalled that Selby District Council had approved the original plans despite our objections (potential increased flood and loss of residential amenity due to the proximity to neighbouring properties). For this new amended application, we concluded that we have no objections, conditional on the window on the side being obscured, to protect the privacy of neighbouring properties.

We had no objections or concerns regarding the other planning applications under discussion.

Highways and footpaths

We noted that the North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) has painted yellow lines at the junction of Sand Lane and Low Street (opposite the BP garage); however, these yellow lines do not continue far enough up Sand Lane to ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians. Therefore, we agreed to write to NYCC to ask for the lines to be lengthened.

We discussed the public right of way along Turpin Lane. The NYCC Definitive Map (available online) indicates that the public right of way (which is a footpath in this case) follows Turpin Lane except for a small section in front of Milford Grange where it deviates from the track and crosses a field. The Ordnance Survey map indicates the same route as the NYCC route, except for the section in front of Milford Grange, where the Ordnance Survey map indicates that the footpath follows the track of Turpin Lane.

Milford Grange residents have recently put up signs on Turpin Lane to ask walkers to deviate from the public right of way and instead follow the field boundary. Walkers may choose to follow this route (which cuts out the whole section of track in front of the Milford Grange properties) but by law can also continue to use the current public right of way as marked in the NYCC Definitive Map. The remaining two related questions which we are seeking clarity on from NYCC are as follows:

- What is the status of Turpin Lane, including whether the small section of near Milford Grange is a private road?
- Can people on horseback or on bicycles use Turpin Lane?

Once we have further information on these points, we will report back to the community.

We also discussed the public right of way from Low Mill Farm to Norden Barn Farm, by the South side of the South Milford to Selby railway line, which we believe is largely on Network Rail land. This path has been blocked for many years (by a land slip from the railway embankment) and a previous investigation revealed that it would be very costly and challenging to reinstate the path, therefore unfortunately it is unlikely that this footpath will be reinstated anytime soon.

We have noted that the paths in and around the village have, in some areas, been soiled by dog poo, dog poo bags and litter. We would like to ask everyone to be considerate and civil on their walks and clean up after themselves and their dogs. We are lucky to live in such a beautiful area, but it is up to us all to maintain it!

Sherburn Aeroclub

Cllr. Grogan and Cllr. Shaw reported back from a recent meeting with Sherburn Aero Club representatives and confirmed that the club accepted that there had been some overflying of Lumby and South Milford, which had been addressed. The councillors were reassured that the Club records complaints and takes action where necessary. Once lockdown restrictions have been lifted the Club agreed that a meeting with interested parties would be arranged. Please report any concerns by phone on 01977 682 674 or email on flightdesk@sherburnaeroclub.com

Matters outstanding

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, we haven't met since February and did not hold our annual meeting. In this meeting, we took the opportunity to ratify the outstanding payments since February, approve the annual accounts and formally defer the Parish Council's annual meeting for one year. Until then, Cllr. Gore and Cllr. Gigg will continue to serve as chair and vice-chair respectively.

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