

Updates from South Milford Parish Council

Councillor News

We have welcomed a new Councillor since the last update – Glenis Shaw was co-opted as a councillor in September. We are very pleased that villagers are showing such an interest in being part of the running of the Parish, and with another co-option possible in November, the council may soon be at full strength (9 members).

Highways

Certain potholes have been mended throughout the village (including on Common Lane and Westfield Lane) but we are aware that other areas are in need of further attention (such as High Street near the doctors surgery) and we have flagged these to North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). Certain pathways have also been flagged as an issue by members of the Parish. If you feel there are particular troublesome areas, it would be helpful to notify us so we can alert the Highways team at NYCC. Individual hazards can be fixed relatively quickly if NYCC are aware.

Noting concerns from various residents regarding speeding in the village, vehicle activated speed signs are being debated (in terms of whether the council feels they would benefit the village) and the possibility of 20mph zones has been raised with NYCC.

Open spaces

The broken springer in the toddler area of the park was fixed over the summer. The weeds in the path around the park have been tackled and the weeds around the village (on kerbs and pathways) have been sprayed. The uprooted tree on London Road was replaced in May. The broken bench on corner of School Lane and Westfield Road should be replaced shortly.

David Hutchinson continues to keep the millstones at the entrance to the village looking beautiful and welcoming; the Parish Council funds the flowers but are very grateful for David's time and efforts on this.

The PC is progressing with plans to create a secure dog exercise area on the site of the Old Quarry, to the right of Westfield Lane on the way out of the village, with the next step being to seek planning permission for the fencing.

The Parish Council have contacted the Land Registry to express an interest in the vacant unregistered land on Common Lane, which adjoins the Parish Council owned land leased to the football club.

South Milford Football Club

There have been significant positive developments at the football club in recent months. Vanos Medical, a leading supplier of intelligent mobility solutions based in Sherburn, have agreed to donate funds and time in to developing the football club in South Milford. The Parish Council agreed to fund the materials for a shelter for use by the current junior teams, and planning permission has been approved for this. In addition the club has been donated a new stand to accommodate 30-40 spectators – this will be sited behind the goal at the far end of the field and planning permission is currently being sought. The next project is likely to be permanent changing facilities, to accommodate a senior team from summer 2020 – more to come on this in 2020.

Post Office

The village will benefit from a post office service again, intending to start later in November. The service will be in Grove House on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. The service will begin with a soft launch and once up and running, a formal opening will be widely publicised. The council would like to thank David Gigg for his work in getting this service introduced.

Grit Bins

Due to a relatively mild 2018/2019 the grit bins are all stocked and ready for whatever the winter of 2019/20 throws at us.

Christmas lights

We hope you enjoy the switch on event (5pm Sunday 24 November at the British Legion) and the Christmas lights around the village. Anyone wishing to sponsor a light for 2020 should contact the Parish Council.

Recycling consultation

Selby District Council's recycling consultation received a great response and the outcome is likely to be that the boxes are replaced by two recycling bins, in addition to the current black and green bins.

Planning applications

Roadchef submitted plans over the summer for a service station on the land between the South Milford Hotel and the motorway. Representatives from the Parish Council attended a presentation from Roadchef regarding the planning application, explaining that it will create 300 jobs and should stop road side parking by lorries (and associated litter issues) in the surrounding area. Following careful consideration of the application, the Parish Council made no objections but asked SDC to consider adding conditions regarding:

- the percentage of employees living within a set distance from the proposed Roadchef
- Roadchef's engagement with the local community to agree and deliver appropriate social value benefits.

The Parish Council is aware that the application to convert South Milford Methodist Church into four townhouses (7 High Street, South Milford), with no off-road parking, has been approved by SDC. The Parish Council (together with several local residents) objected to this application at the time on the grounds of insufficient parking and we were surprised that it has been approved, in an area where street parking and highway safety is already an issue. We have taken this up with SDC, as it appears to be a strange decision and counter to past SDC decisions and comments regarding parking requirements.

Newsletter

For various reasons, our annual Newsletter has not been finalised yet. It will be distributed over the winter and will give a roundup of Parish Council activities throughout 2019.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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