

Updates from South Milford Parish Council

South Milford Parish Council met on Tuesday 18th February 2020 in Grove House. Below you'll find the meeting's highlights.

Highways

Whitecote Lane

A resident attended the meeting to express his concerns regarding mud on the road and damaged verges on Whitecote Lane, which were caused by farming vehicles. The Parish Council understands that farmers have had to work in difficult conditions this year. Nonetheless, the Parish Council agrees that mud on the road can be dangerous and should be avoided and/or cleaned up quickly, and that damage to public assets, such as verges, should be made good.

The Parish Council intends to liaise with the farmer to avoid this from happening again. Following the meeting, the North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Highways department has confirmed that the road is scheduled to be repaired (including pot holes and verge repairs), and that the farmer did clean the road with a tractor brush following the incident.

Speeding through the parish

Lumby residents have written to the Parish Council with concerns regarding speeding traffic. In the past, concerns have been raised about speeding in parts of South Milford as well. The Parish Council discussed the possible courses of action.

One option is for residents to report speeding to North Yorkshire Police or form a community speed watch scheme. This is a national initiative where residents monitor speeds of vehicles with the support of the Police.

Another option is for the Parish Council to acquire a vehicle activated sign (a flashing sign displaying vehicles' speeds and encouraging them to slow down) – this would be moved across different locations in the parish. The sign costs £2,500-2,750, plus the cost of preparing the site, installing the sign and public liability insurance. There is a process to be followed so that NYCC authorises the installation of the sign. Additionally, the sign would need moving every few months to ensure continued impact on drivers' behaviour.

Another option is to ask NYCC to reduce the speed limit to 20mph in certain areas. The Parish Council agreed to continue to investigate the options for action and to discuss these with NYCC Highways.

Other highway updates

The Parish Council noted that NYCC has not yet scheduled painting yellow lines at the junction between Sand Lane and Low Street. Following the meeting, NYCC indicated that this should be done in the next few weeks.

NYCC confirmed that the cut-through from Common Lane to the bypass is a public bridleway, and that this will be marked on their definitive map in the near future. The status of Old London Road is not yet clear, although NYCC have confirmed that it ceased to be a public highway when the bypass was completed. The Parish Council will continue to investigate its public right of way status.

Selby District Council

Consultation regarding its Local Plan Issues and Options Document

The Local Plan Issues and Options Document is the first stage of the preparation of a new Local Plan. The new Local Plan will set out the strategic planning framework, identify where new development will take place, and set out the policies against which planning applications will be determined. The Parish Council will respond to this consultation, which closes in early March. Residents are also welcome to respond.

Planning applications

The Parish Council discussed the planning application 2020/0016/S73 regarding Quarry Drop. The Parish Council noted that, relative to the plans this is amending, this application adds a fenced amenities area close to Westfield Lane (at broadly the level of the road), a slightly different roof shape and height, and several additional windows / skylights. The applicant was in attendance and confirmed that the increased roof height in this application is in line with the building height approved in his 2016 planning application. Therefore, given the minor nature of the amendments, the Parish Council agreed that there were no grounds to object to this application.

After reviewing the other planning applications, the Parish Council decided to make no objections.

Other updates

Cllr Diamond is now the Parish Council representative on the South Milford Memorial Park and Playing Fields Association (Park Committee).

Cllr Shaw is now the Parish Council representative in the Sherburn Aero Club Liaison Group.

The Parish Council noted that the South Milford Against Flooding Group have been working hard to ensure the village is protected from flooding.

Next meeting

The next South Milford Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 17th March at Grove House at 19:30 – all are welcome to attend.

Follow us on Facebook and/or visit our website – www.southmilfordparishcouncil.co.uk