

Update from the Parish Council – October 2022

It's been a busy time for the Parish Council over the last few months.

- The Parish Council are aware that currently only one under 15s football team is playing at the **Mill Lane ground** (which is leased by the Parish Council to Swan Croft Sport Association). We are also aware that various other **South Milford football teams** which used to use the facility are now training/playing at alternative locations outside South Milford. The Parish Council is very keen that this current situation is rectified. In light of this the Parish Council have held meetings with Swan Croft, have added two councillors to the Swan Croft committee, and will continue to try and find a way through the current complex situation - with the aim being a solution which results in the Mill Lane facility being fully utilised by village football teams.
- There continue to be issues with certain **footpaths** around the parish (incorrect routes, blockages, potential closures, maintenance etc) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) who are responsible for these issues has been contacted on many occasions. Unfortunately resources at NYCC are in short supply, and we are struggling to get the responses / engagement we would like..
- There have been discussions to convert some of our **verges** back to nature - rewilding and planting seeds to provide areas for wildlife are very much in our plans. The verges would still be maintained and where appropriate a one metre strip of grass would continue to be regularly cut.
- Funds are available and have been secured to make subtle improvements to the **Old Quarry** (the area under the trees off Westfield Lane). The improvements should make the area more accessible and useful for the full range of residents, and an associated planning application should become live on the Selby District Council's planning portal shortly (which residents would be welcome to comment on),
- The **Park Committee** have made an application to Selby District Council (SDC) to seek one-off grant funding to purchase new play equipment for the main playground, including some that is disability friendly. The Park Committee are also considering the current usage of the overall land with the park, what changes/improvements could be made to this, including the possibility of a sensor garden area.
- Discussions have taken place with SDC regarding the current and future of **Grove House**, a SDC owned asset on the corner of Sand Lane and Grove Crescent (where you go to vote in elections!). We are hoping the facility can be open much more, and used by a wider range of residents, including hopefully as "warm space" during the challenging winter ahead.
- **Allotments** are a hot topic at the moment. The existing ones on Westfield Lane are small in number, have a long waiting list, and in any case will be taken over by the graveyard at some point in the not too distant future.
 - The Parish Council owns a piece of land on Turpin Lane, about half a mile outside the village (accessed by turning right after going over the second railway bridge on Common Lane), and we are currently investigating the possibility of creating allotments at this location.
 - There is a meeting for all interested parties on **Saturday 29 October at 3.30pm in the Church Hall**, to discuss this proposal in more detail and gauge interest.
 - If you can't attend this meeting, but would like to register interest, please contact **Glenis Shaw on 07980214130**.

Our next meeting is at 7:30pm at Grove House, on 15 November 2022. Please see our website for the agenda (when published) and lots of other useful information and updates.

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