

ALNE PARISH

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
IN ALNE ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017 AT 7.45PM**

PRESENT: Dr Robert Brech (Chairman)
Clerk: District Councillor Nigel Knapton.

6 members of the public were present.

17/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no apologies. There were no declarations of interests.

17/2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 MAY 2016

Minutes previously circulated and these were accepted and signed as a correct record.

17/3 CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S REPORT

We started the year with the sad death of Spike Bradley in July. He was only the third Alne Parish Councillor to die in office in the last 104 years. A walnut tree has been planted at the top end of the playing field in his memory and a memorial plaque will be erected shortly. Future generations will eat the walnuts and remember Spike.

We welcomed David Willis who was co-opted as a new Councillor.

We checked, approved or disapproved of countless planning applications as usual. We kept a close watch on the Village Farm conditions. It was also interesting to count up the new houses that were applied for within the year, viz. Old Post Office (1), Old Orchard (2), Mayfield (1), land adjacent Pond Farm (2), Land adjacent Church House (2), Alne Station (5). On top of 2016 Village Farm (6), land adjacent Fairhaven (1), this is a 10% increase in housing stock in just two years.

We kept a close eye on Yorkshire Water who continue to have to do work in the village to replace and restore the ageing pipework. As you can see, this is still ongoing.

My main preoccupation over the last year has been the restoration of the Alne verges – and this will probably be the same in the current year as well. In very brief summary, we moved ahead with the plan following the overwhelming vote at the Parish Assembly last year. We contacted nine contractors, whittled them down to one preferred contractor but then agreed to move ahead with a joint project with NYCC. The cost to the village was £55,000, with all risk and contingency being taken by NYCC. The cost of the project will be recouped from the parish precept over the next five years and we applied for a Public Works Loan to cover the cash flow in year one. I am pleased to advise that authorisation for this loan has now been granted. The work is expected to start in the first quarter of 2018 and the next meeting with NYCC will be on the ground later this week. We will also take the opportunity of discussing with them possible additional work at Alne Station.

I have also been researching the history of the Parish Council and have made lists of councillors going back to 1913, which are the earliest records we have. These will be made

Approved Chairman

available on the village website later this month. David Whiteley holds the record for most years as a Councillor (41) but John Teasdale only needs to stay on for another 11 years to overtake him.

I would like to thank all our Councillors who all get on with their own specialities and make my life much easier. And a big thank you to the Clerk who continues to do all that is necessary despite the distractions of other high offices, particularly at the present time.

A question was asked regarding the verges in Alne Station between the bridge and the junction and whether any of the additional precept could be redirected to undertake work there. It was agreed to ask the Parish Council to speak to NYCC Highways this week about the kerbing on the basis of safety and see what could be agreed.

A question was asked regarding whether the Parish Council had objected to the recent application in Alne Station to the Traffic Commissioner. It was confirmed that the Parish Council has objected but this had been rejected due to the Parish Council not being an adjacent landowner. The Parish Council had written to NYCC Highways and Hambleton DC to give their objections. The Clerk would write to the Traffic Commissioner to ascertain the current position and to Hambleton DC to see the planning situation.

A question was asked regarding the funding of the footway between Alne and Alne Station. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had doubled the precept in 2004/05 to contribute to the project but that NYCC Highways had eventually funded the entire project thus the precept was reduced the following year.

17/4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A question was asked regarding the village signs and whether they could be moved to encompass Alne Station. It was confirmed that this had been requested by the Parish Council to Hambleton District Council in the past but had not been done. It was agreed to ask the Parish Council to pursue this matter again.

17/5 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm