

Oldstead Annual Village Meeting

7.00 pm 28th May 2025 Oldstead Hall

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Stephen Cain.

Cllr Cain welcomed the following 24 residents and guests to the meeting:

Tony and Shiela Gillham, Jane Cain, Gill Williams, Neil and Nic Emsley, Andy Bricklebank, Jaqui and Bill Withnell, Roger and Jo Tarling, Martin and Andrea Barnes, Tom Kevill, Audrey Wetherill, Chris Burrows, Angus Hudson, Denise Marshall, Alison Menage, Gemma Cartwright.

The meeting was also attended by Cllr. John Williams, Chair of the Parish Council Cllr Christine Bradley and Parish Clerk Mike Bradley.

He also welcomed the guest speaker Steve Mason NY Councillor representing Amotherby and Ampleforth.

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue Pember, Kath Bricklebank, Claire Burrows, Diane and Ron Robinson.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes of last meeting 8th May 2024

Minutes of the last meeting had previously been circulated to residents and the minutes were approved as a true record.

4.0 Matters Arising

4.1 Defibrillator

Residents were urged to watch a training video on the use of the defibrillator and to attend a training session. Cllr Bradley will organise a further training session later in the year.

4.2 Jubilee Tree Plaque

The plaque has now been erected. Thanks to Alison and Richard Menage for their kind donation of the tree guard.

4.3 Potholes and other highway issues

Most major holes in the village have now been fixed although problems remain with subsidence local to the Black Swan. White lines at the intersection of the White Horse Bank and the Oldstead/Kilburn road need repainting as motorists exiting the bank are unclear about the right of way. Steve Mason holds a meeting with Highways each Friday to progress major issues and he is happy to raise this with them. Action: Cllr Williams to write to Steve Mason.

4.4 Broadband

Cllr Cain held a meeting with OpenReach to discuss the problem with falling trees on the internet fibre cable to the village. Little can be done as OpenReach have a “reactive policy” to repairs so the cable needs to be damaged before they will repair it.

5.0 Millennium Fund Balance

The Millennium Fund Balance currently stands at £301.05 having contributed to the Jubilee Tree Plaque and the Village sign. The forthcoming Village Picnic will replenish the funds.

6.0 Planning Applications

No planning applications in the village over the past year.

Cllr. Mason did comment that the village needed to be vigilant as many of the towns are trying to press more development onto the villages. The local development plan is also out for consultation.

7.0 Oldstead Biennale 2025

Tony and Sheila Gillham have kindly agreed to host the event again. Jane Cain and Gill Williams are coordinating food donations, salads and cakes. Ticket prices have unfortunately had to rise. A tent will be available for the event in case of rain.

List of sports on the day remains to be confirmed although it was confirmed the “Duck Race” would continue to feature.

8.0 Any other business

8.1 Oldstead Village “Tidyup”

A suggestion was made by Gemma Cartwright to hold a village “Tidyup” morning to cut the grass, trim trees and litter pick. The suggestion was agreed. Action: Cllr Cain.

8.2 Wass Open Gardens

Cllr Bradley noted that Wass Open Gardens was taking place next Sunday 1st June and that all residents of Oldstead would be welcome.

8.3 Wass WI

Cllr Bradley also noted that now that Kilburn WI had closed prospective members would be more than welcome at Wass WI. Contact details are on the Byland PC website under Organisations.

9.0 Guest Speaker – Steve Mason North Yorkshire Cllr Amotherby and Ampleforth Ward

Cllr Mason started by summarising his current workload which includes:

- Creation of biodiversity areas at Yearsley Wood ponds
- Policy development and implementation of:

- Home/School transport
- Waste Recycling changes
- Planning Applications
- Highways
- Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)
- Liaison with Utilities
- Visiting the 15 Parish Councils in his ward

With regard to LGR Cllr Mason advised that it was likely that Byland with Wass and Oldstead PC from the next election would be part of Helmsley Ward under Cllr George Jabbour.

Questions

Recycling – “Assisted Collection” was potentially available to pick up the new recycling bins from houses rather than at the end of the lane. Contact waste recycling for further information.

Highways issues – Upgrade of the road between the Black Swan and Coxwold needs to be considered due to the number of lorries and vans using the route. Email Cllr Mason. Action Cllr Williams.

The Drovers Road up to the Chapel is to be improved/repared. One problem with this might increase the incidence of off road vehicles and motorcycles speeding up the road.

Public Transport

The Mayor is responsible for Public Transport policy. Likelihood of getting bus service through the village is remote.

Malton, Thirsk and Easingwold are developing Transport Hubs to improve access to the countryside by providing parking for cars and shuttle bus services to amenities.

Fracking

No further Fracking is likely in the majority of North Yorkshire and all existing licences have been withdrawn. There remains a possibility of some sites around Scarborough due to different geology. Existing Fracking site at Kirby Misperton is being converted to a Geothermal Power site.

10.0 Vote of Thanks

Cllr Williams thanked Steve Mason for attending the meeting.

Refreshments were then served.

11.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in May 2025, date to be advised.