



Beswick Parish Council

*Serving Beswick, Kilnwick, Lund Moor, Glebe Farm, Kilnwick Lodges,
Wilfholme and outlying homes and businesses of the Civil Parish*

2023-2024 Newsletter



Beswick Parish Council March 2024 including ERYC Ward Councillor: Back left Ward Councillor Jeremy Wilcock, Beswick PC Councillors Tony Corscadden, Chris Hill. Front Left Beswick Chair Sarah Beachell, Vice Chair Ben Jeffrey and Councillor Sarah Duncan. Inset, Clerk Julia Bugg.

Beswick Parish Council

Beswick Parish Councillors

Sarah Beachell	Tel: 01377 270230
Tony Corscadden	Tel: 01377 270912
Sarah Duncan	Tel: 07427 019812
Chris Hill	Tel: 07595 923828
Ben Jeffrey	Tel: 07841 868560

Clerk to the Parish Council

Julia Bugg	Tel: 01964 551720
	Email: beswickpc@hotmail.com

Community Police Support Officer

Sarah Freer	Tel: 101
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Footpath Warden

West End	
Gerard Hodgson	Tel: 01377 270940
East End	
Victoria Scaife	Tel: 01377 270208

East Riding of Yorkshire, Beverley Rural Ward Councillors. Please see ERYC website for contact details or call ERYC on 01482 393939:

Paul Smith
Diana Stewart
Jeremy Wilcock

WhatsApp groups are available for the current residents of Beswick Parish. Please contact Cllr Jeffrey to join the Kilnwick group and Cllr Corscadden to join the Beswick group.

A Message from our Chair - 2023/24

May saw major changes to both our parish councillors and ward councillors following the 2023 elections. We were very sad to say goodbye to our former Chair, Ian Reid, who left the fold following many years service. Ian's extensive knowledge and skills will be greatly missed but we are fortunate enough to be able to call upon him on a consultation basis when he is available. We thanked Ian when Cllr Ben Jeffrey presented him with a token of the PC's appreciation. We also said goodbye to Ed Staples, who joined the PC in May but was unable to continue following a change in his circumstances. Ward Councillors Kevin Beaumont and Bernard Gateshill did not stand for re-election and so Paul Smith and Jeremy Wilcock joined Diana Stewart as Beverley Rural Ward Councillors; all now Liberal Democrat Councillors. We are happy to report that Jeremy Wilcock, a former Chair of the PC, resides in the parish and is now a regular at the meetings of BPC. Latterly, Chris Hill of Beswick has joined the PC as a result of being co-opted into post. We welcome Chris, who has been looking after the maintenance of the Beswick defibrillator since it was installed; we look forward to working with him.

Work has been undertaken to ensure that footpaths are maintained and access ensured with both local farmers, parishioners and the Local Authority. Keeping footpaths clear that cross farmland has been made more difficult by the land being too wet to allow the necessary equipment to have access but ultimately all work has been undertaken. Discussions with ERYC to have work done on the footpath alongside the C59 from Tibby Lane to the A164 at Driffield Road has been less successful as the necessary funding is not available to undertake the level of work needed. Whilst we will continue to pursue a positive outcome, it is highly unlikely that the budget will ever be made available to repair and improve the footpath.

The speed of traffic using the C59 as a rat-run continues to be an issue with a number of near misses in terms of collisions and in recent weeks damage not only being done to cars but also the lamp posts between School Lane and Church Lane in Kilnwick. Attempts by Councillor Jeffrey to seek permission for a Speedwatch group to be set up in the parish have proven fruitless but we do hope to see temporary speed monitoring equipment on the C59 at a point in the future.

Celebrations were in place in both Kilnwick and Beswick on the occasion of the Coronation of King Charles III, when the PC was able to provide support for these festivities as well as aiding in the successful

application for an additional grant to help finance the celebrations.

Councillor availability has led to some difficulties in meetings being quorate. Councillors have been reminded of the need to be free for the six meetings a year; dates are known in advance and times and location do not change. We would love to see more parishioners at the meetings so please come along if you are able. We are a very friendly bunch who look forward to welcoming you. We have very few parishioners currently receiving meeting documents and updates. If you would like to be added to the email list, please get in touch with the Clerk, Julia Bugg, who will be happy to add your details to the list. We don't inundate you with lots of junk emails and do not pass your details on to anyone else.

Extensive flooding in the eastern edge of the parish has been a major issue this year and will be addressed later in this newsletter.

The work of the Parish Council continues and I thank my fellow Parish Councillors, Ward Councillors and the Clerk for their work over the last 12 months.

Sarah Beachell

Chair, Beswick Parish Council 2023-24

Beswick Parish Council Meetings, Agenda & Minutes

Meetings of The Parish Council are normally held at 7.00 pm on the second Wednesday of alternate months between May and March, usually in Kilnwick Village Hall, School Lane, Kilnwick. Should matters demanding urgent attention arise during intervening months, Extraordinary Meetings will be held. If meetings are not quorate, rearranged meetings may have to take place. Venues of these as well as Extraordinary Meetings may vary and will be detailed on the Agenda.

Scheduled Meetings in 2024-25:

8 May 2024
3 July 2024 - please note change of schedule
11 September 2024
13 November 2024
8 January 2025
12 March 2025

As we have had to change meeting dates during the last year, Parishioners are advised to find out about where meetings are to be held by looking at the Council's Website or joining the email circulation list. Details will also be posted on the Notice Boards in Kilnwick and Beswick.

Meetings' Agenda and unconfirmed Minutes are posted on the Council's Notice Boards in Beswick and Kilnwick villages and may be found on the Council's Website, <http://beswickparishcouncil.org.uk>. These are also distributed as email attachments. Parishioners wishing to receive Agenda and Minutes by email are invited to provide The Clerk with their email addresses. Providing contact information will signify that the provider gives permission for the Clerk to retain the information securely as per the General Data Protection Regulations.

Parishioners wishing to raise issues for consideration

as part of Council Meetings' Agenda should contact The Clerk in the first instance and at least three weeks before a scheduled meeting.

In Memoriam

The Parish Council offers condolences to relatives and friends of parishioners who have passed away in the past year. All had lived in the Parish for many, many years and had been cherished members of our community. We mark the passing of Hilary Suggitt who was a well known member of the parish prior to moving into care in Hutton Cranswick.

Flooding in the Parish

At the January meeting of the Parish Council, Ian Reid was invited to attend in his capacity as a member of the Beverley and North Holderness Drainage Board, to detail the reasons for the flooding and give his expert opinion as to what BPC can do to assist the affected parishioners. Detailed below is the report



Flooding at Wilfholme, January 2024.
Photo: Social Media - owner unknown.

given by Ian, which is included in the minutes of the meeting:

It was noted that the area known as Aike Carrs, which includes Wilfholme and three of the homesteads in the vicinity, was historically a wetland and which now has a very complex drainage system; 'high' level drainage being the River Hull and its tributaries and 'low' level being the Beverley & Barmston Drain to the west of the river and Holderness Drain to the east. Both of these drains sit at a lower height than the river and thus do not feed into the river by gravity. The drains were dug to carry local ground water and local surface run-off towards the Humber, so allowing all-year agriculture and husbandry and, incidentally, preventing flooding downstream in the urban areas of Beverley, Woodmansey, Dunswell and ultimately Hull.



Wilfholme Flooding.
Photo: Tony Corscadden

When water levels in the Hull are low enough to allow for pumping of excess water from the drains, the three newly refurbished pumps at Wilfholme as well as those at Hempholme and Beverley Waterside are used. But if water levels are high then this is not possible. This means that in times of exceptional rainfall, the carr lands are still used

as a temporary holding area for excess water. Additionally, the Hull is still tidal at Wilfholme meaning that flow is upstream twice a day, blocking drainage towards the Humber. Groundwater levels in the Wolds are currently at the highest levels ever recorded and did not fall as they usually would during summer 2023. As there are very few wooded areas on The Wolds, rain adds directly to the groundwater. As a consequence, springs are now pushing water vigorously into West Beck (River Hull) and all its tributaries such as Watton Beck. This water, in addition to the tidal blocking, is keeping river levels high and restricting use of the pumps.

The Hull is not overflowing. However, because its level is high, spillways on its tributaries such as Watton Beck and Scurf Dyke are taking water towards the Beverley & Barmston Drain i.e. the 'low' level drainage system. In addition, a breach during 2018 in the 19th century levée at Foston means that one-time 'high' level water from Beeford and Dunnington is flowing into the 'low' level drainage towards Wilfholme. These distant sources are exacerbating the flooding of Aike Carrs, Wilfholme and other areas. The topography of the former marshland will allow it to flood and nothing can be done to alter this currently.

The Environment Agency has carried out a long-running study into the 'high' level drainage. The study is still underway, but early indications are that renovating the 'high' level levées will cost close to £300M. Whilst Tophill Low Water Treatment Plant and Wilfholme Pumping Station will be maintained and protected, it is unlikely that work will be done because of a need to protect Aike Carrs and similar areas in the Hull valley. Within the Parish, the area currently inundated affects about 250 acres of grade 3 (and poorer) farmland and three homesteads. Locally, the way forward is to improve resilience of buildings with adaptations to prevent flooding of the three homes which are low lying, examples of which have been seen elsewhere in the country.

A History of Wilfholme by Keith Smith, Soberhill Farm, Wilfholme

Wilfholme is a small hamlet within the Parish of Beswick, East Yorkshire. It lies approximately 6 miles north of Beverley and 6 miles south of Driffield. In the east it is adjacent to the west bank of the River Hull, being bounded by Watton Beck in the north and Black Dyke in the south.

In old documents relating to the area, it was described as "Common" or "Waste Land". The word "Common" meant that it could be used by any of the residents of the Parish (for example, as pasture/grazing land) and the word "Waste" simply meant that it was uninhabited, so we can assume that there were no dwellings in Wilfholme before the land was enclosed. Also, it was known to be "Carr" land,

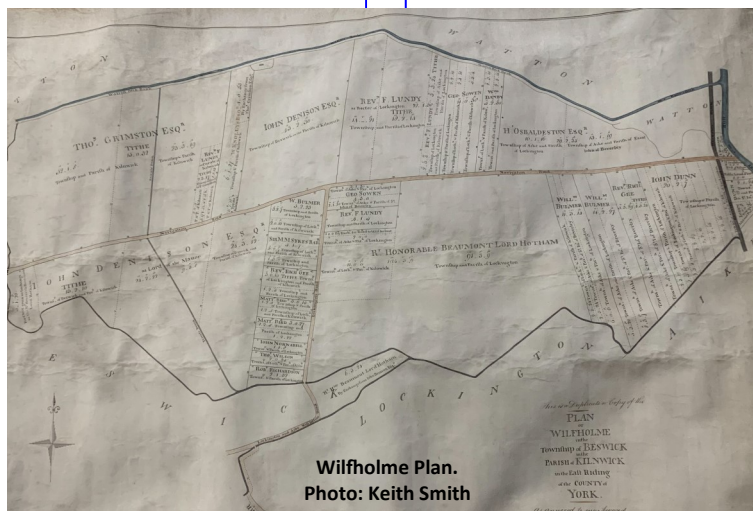
which indicates that it was typically wet with poor drainage - so probably only useful for grazing rather than cultivation.

Wilfholme does not have many residents. The Census records of 1851, 1861, etc show the members of households at Dunn's Farm, 3 Jolly Tars Farm, Corner House Farm and Wilfholme Cottages. In fact, these were the only dwellings at Wilfholme until the early 20th century Dunn's Farm was later renamed as Manor Farm and Corner House Farm was renamed as Soberhill Farm in 1982. Wilfholme Cottages were renovated to become a single dwelling in the early 2000s and it was renamed as Rose Cottage. Three new dwellings were constructed over the years. Manor Bungalow was constructed in the 1970s. In the mid 20th century, a new house was built adjacent to the Beverley & Barmston drain at Wilfholme Landing, for use by the Environment Agency and in the early 2000s, a dwelling was built at Ashfield Farm, close to Wilfholme Landing.

Enclosure

Until relatively recent times (18th/19th century), most of England comprised of open land. It was only after various Acts of Parliament were passed, that land started to be enclosed in fields or allotments. In the case of Wilfholme, this started in the early 19th century with the 1806 Act of Inclosure for Wilfholme. The original documents for this are held by the Treasure House in Beverley.

The Act defined how this process should be carried out and who was responsible for managing it. The person with overall authority was termed the "Commissioner" and Joseph Dickinson, a Quaker of Beverley Parks was appointed in this role. He could then appoint various others to fulfil necessary roles, one of which was the Surveyor. This was William Rawson of Barton on Humber, in the County of Lincoln. The role of the Commission was to assess the area and value of the land and then decide to whom it should be awarded. Additionally, the Commission authorised the erection of fences and/or hedgerows, the digging of drains and the laying out of roads, etc. The work of the Commission was published in 1814 in a document entitled "Kilnwick & Wilfholme Inclosure Awards", so effectively, the implementation of Inclosure commenced after this date.



References to Wilfholme in the document described it as "Common or Waste Ground" and assessed its size as slightly more than 532 acres. Subsequent references to areas of land or plots were measured in acres, roods & perches - with 1 rood being equal to 1 quarter of an acre and 40 perches being equivalent to 1 rood. Interestingly (or at least, I thought so), the road now known as "Wilfholme Road" began its formal

life under the name of "Navigation Road", leading from Kilnwick crossroads east towards the River Hull. Similarly, the road now known as "Wilfholme Carrs" and joining Navigation Road at

Wilfholme Corner, was originally designated with the name of "Lockington & Aike Wilfholme Road". There is also a reference to a bit of road known as "Narrow Carrs". I'm not exactly sure what this refers to, although I think it is the short stretch of road around Barff Hill, between the Aike Road and Barff Hill Causeway. The document also defines the width of the roads and authorises the erection of gates across the end of roads, so it sounds as though the roads were gated at various points, necessitating their opening and closing in order to make passage.

The document also authorises the digging of drains and ditches and for one drain in particular (I assume it to be Black Dyke, on the southern boundary of Wilfholme), it even states the depth and width at which it must be maintained. It also makes provision for a Staith or Wharf at a place on the west bank of the River Hull for the landing and getting of commodities and for the "getting of coals". Once the land required for public use (roads, dykes, etc) had been agreed by the Commissioner, the remainder was distributed amongst those persons who could claim an interest in the land at Wilfholme. There was a strict hierarchy in terms of those eligible, such that the Lord of the Manor (having ancient manorial rights) was at the top of the tree, followed by peers of the realm, the parish church, and then yeomen with land rights, etc. The result of the awards were that:

1. John Dennison, as Lord of the Manor at Beswick was awarded approximately 150 acres in a number of fields, both north and south of Navigation Road (now Wilfholme Road).
2. Beaumont Lord Hotham, as a peer of the realm, was awarded approximately 110 acres to the south of Navigation Road and the east of Lockington & Aike Wilfholme Road (now known as Wilfholme Carrs Road).
3. The Parish Church (in the name of Rev Francis Lundy, as Rector of Lockington) was awarded approximately 30 acres in various plots.
4. The Parish Church (in the name of Rev Richard Gee, of Lockington and the Parish of Kilnwick) was awarded approximately 16 acres, adjacent to the west side of Wilfholme Carrs Road.
5. Thomas Grimston Esq of Kilnwick was awarded approximately 72 acres between Navigation Road and Watton Beck at the western end of Wilfholme.
6. H Osbaldeston Esq of Aike was awarded approximately 60 acres between Navigation Road and Watton Beck, at the eastern end of Wilfholme, adjacent to Beverley and Barmston Drain.
7. William Bulmer of Aike was awarded approximately 30 acres in plots on the southern side of Navigation Road and at Wilfholme Corner (where Wilfholme Carrs Road joins Navigation Road).
8. The remainder of land, in plots of various sizes across Wilfholme were awarded to Sir M M Sykes (6 acres), John Dunn of Lockington (24 acres), William Knollys Esq of Kilnwick (6 acres), George Sowen of Aike (16 acres), William Danby of Lockington (6 acres), Matthew Bird of Lockington (6 acres), John Nornabell of Lockington (2 acres), Thomas Wilson of Lockington (2 acres) and Robert Richardson of Lockington (2 acres).
9. A small area of land of about 1 acre was also set aside for general public use at the eastern end of Navigation Road, adjacent to the River Hull, enabling the people of the various townships to send and receive goods by river.

Interestingly, no one from Beswick received land.

Defibrillators in the Parish

As you may be aware, we have three defibrillators located in the Parish, which are accessible to the general public; Kilnwick Village Hall, Beswick phone box and the pumping station at Wilfholme Landing. A fourth device is located at the Mineral Works on the C59 close to the Malton Road. You do not need any training to use these devices as they are fully automated but many organisations offer free online training if you would like to familiarise yourself with the process. Whilst not everyone has access to the Internet, for those who do, use the link:

[Learn CPR in 15 minutes | RevivR | BHF - BHF](#)

to load a free training course offered by the British Heart Foundation.



Parish Coronation Celebrations 2023



Parish Celebrations.

Photo: T & S Corscadden/B Jeffrey