

## Draft minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 29 January 2024 from 7.30pm at Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

**2401/2/1 Present:** Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, P Ward, J Hayes, J McAllister, County Councillor A Murday, PC Mike Spittlehouse (part) and Clerk (M Pearson). One member of the public attended (part).

**2401/2/2 Apologies:** Councillor R Ferguson due to illness. Councillor D Dickinson due to work commitments.

**2401/2/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** Councillor Welch declared an interest in planning application ZC23/04569/DVCMAJ as Chairman of the RAF Menwith Hill British and American Committee and took no part in the discussion or vote.

**2401/2/4 Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2024 were approved.

**2401/2/5 Public Statements:** A parishioner spoke to ask for assistance with a flooding problem affecting his property on Low Green, Darley. It was noted that the Environment Agency has suggested that North Yorkshire Council (NYC) should help (the lead flood authority) and that a request for help had been made by Clerk to NYC Flood Risk Management. County Councillor Murday agreed to visit to understand the problem and to seek assistance within NYC.

**2401/2/6 Brief talk and question and answer session with PC Mike Spittlehouse, North Yorkshire Police:** PC Spittlehouse gave a brief talk outlining his role in the Harrogate Outer Safer Neighbourhood Team. PC Spittlehouse encouraged everyone to use North Yorkshire Community Messaging ([www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk)) in order to receive news and updates on policing matters that are relevant for parishioners and the local community. It was agreed that the Council should also publicise this via the village newsletter; **Clerk to action.**

### 2401/2/7 Planning

#### a. Planning Decisions noted:

ZC23/04244/FUL Erection of single-storey rear/side extension and installation of 2 new conservation roof-lights to front elevation Ivy House Barn Crake Lane Darley APPLICATION REFUSED

ZC23/04150/FUL Single storey rear extension with basement following demolition of existing conservatory, single storey front extension and alterations to fenestration. Low Fold Silverdale Close Darley APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC23/04306/FUL Proposed rear single storey extension. New side window. 6 Stocks Lane Darley APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC23/03802/FUL Construction of two ponds as habitat for Great Crested Newts under Natural England's District Level Licensing programme. Land Comprising Field At 417275 457309 Menwith Hill Road Thornthwaite APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC23/04300/FUL Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of replacement single storey extension to the rear. Installation of rooflights to the rear. Conversion of loft space within the existing front gable. Installation of rooflights to front gable bathroom. Recladding of dormers. Reconstruction of existing door surround. Internal alterations and alterations to fenestration including replacement of existing windows. Construction of patio to rear garden. Lingmoor Main Street Darley. APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC23/04471/TPO Works to trees subject to Tree Preservation Order no. 05/1970 A20 ... Darley Cricket Club Cricket Ground Crake Lane Darley APPLICATION PERMITTED

#### b. Planning Applications considered:

ZC23/04569/DVCMAJ Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 20/03381/FULMAJ to allow for varied scheme of landscaping and reduction in the number of parking bays. Planning permission 20/03381/FUMAJ permitted the Creation of a new junction with the public highway and associated modifications to the existing highway, construction of front gate vehicle control canopy and new gate house. RAF Menwith Hill Main Street Menwith Hill Camp NO OBJECTIONS

**c. Planning enforcement:** *Doulton Lodge, Darley (22/00361/PR15 Doulton Lodge Darley ALLEGED BREACH: Untidy land and engineering operations (16/00062/FUL, 15/03092/AMENDS))*: It was noted that the developer has indicated that he intends to modify the plans and carry out the work in the near future. It was noted that without a Public Health or Health and Safety issue, it is not possible for NYC to insist on fencing around the site.

**d. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) Local Plan:** It was noted that there are no developments.

**e. Other planning matters:** None.

**2401/2/8 County Councillor's Reports:** County Councillor Murday reported the following:

Long Course Weekend Yorkshire, September 2024: NYC has confirmed that NYC will pay £25,000 to Activity Wales Events (AWE) for three years for a three day event involving running, cycling and swimming under an agreement made by Harrogate Borough Council but will not receive a revenue or profit-share from the event. NYC will also provide officer time to help coordinate the event. Communication from AWE to relevant parish councils is planned for February 2024 onwards. Concerns have been registered around the logistics of the event and its sustainability.

Road repairs: NYC Councillor Keane Duncan (Executive Member for Highways and Transportation) has confirmed that the extent of road maintenance had decreased in North Yorkshire over the past five years.

NYC budget 2024/25: The budget will be voted on at the full council meeting on 21 February 2024. Even with a number of savings (amongst proposed cuts are a reduction in the locality budget made available to each NYC Councillor and reduction in home-to-school transport provision) there is a predicted deficit of £6million (to be met from reserves). It is

proposed that council tax charges will be increased to the maximum allowed of 4.99%. It is claimed that most of the £30million shortfall is being met from savings resulting from local government reorganisation.

Recycling bins: New recycling bins were delivered to some parishioners with ill-fitting lids. This is due to the manner in which the bins were stored.

Garden waste collections: The subscription for NYC garden waste collections will be £44 this year.

#### **2401/2/9 Highways and footpaths**

- a. *Upgrade of two stiles within the Parish:* It was noted that Nicky Bunting, NYC Public Rights of Way Officer, has estimated that the cost of replacing two stiles with gates should be in the region of £1,200. NYC is happy to contribute to the project by way of liaising with landowners and supervising contractors. It was agreed that the Council should submit an application for a Farming In Protected Landscapes grant; **Chairman and Clerk to action.**
- b. *Broken road surface at the junction of Main Street and Stumps Lane, Darley:* It was noted that work to repair some of the junction was carried out in January 2024 but that problems remain; **Clerk to seek update from NYC.**
- c. *Vegetation overhanging and obstructing pavements on Main Street, Darley:* It was noted that there are a small number of areas where vegetation is hanging over the pavement and agreed that the owners of the relevant properties should be asked to cut the vegetation back; **Clerk to action.**
- d. *Streetlight 4, Low Green, Darley:* It was noted that this light is now fixed.
- e. *Parking on verges and around junctions:* It was noted that vehicles parked on verges continue to damage the verges and that vehicles parked near junctions can also reduce visibility for those exiting the junction. It was agreed that a request for parishioners to avoid doing so should be included in the next village newsletter; **Clerk to action.**

#### **2401/2/10 Village Maintenance**

- a. *NYC grass-cutting contribution towards urban grass-cutting 2024/25:* It was noted that NYC has offered £451.14 and agreed that the offer should be accepted; **Clerk to action.**
- b. *Tender process for appointment of new Parish Caretaker four-year contract from 1 April 2024:* It was agreed that the draft tender should be issued, with a decision to be made at the March Council meeting; **Clerk to action.**
- c. *Flooding affecting a property on Low Green:* Please see Item 5 above.
- d. *Replacement information board for Stocks Green, Darley:* It was agreed that the information board is in need of replacement and agreed that the Council should investigate whether commuted sums funding is available to replace the board. A budget of £1,000 plus VAT was agreed if no commuted sums funding is available. It was agreed that Chairman should arrange for updating of artwork and assist with finding replacement frame; **Clerk and Chairman to action.**

#### **2401/2/11 Reports:**

- a. *Nidderdale Plus Annual General Meeting, 28 November 2023:* Councillor Hayes reported that the Nidderdale Charity Shop is more successful than its Save The Children predecessor and that the Nidderdale Plus minibus service is seeking to expand. The full annual report can be found here: [www.nidderdaleplus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Nidd-Plus-2022-2023\\_Final\\_accounts.pdf](http://www.nidderdaleplus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Nidd-Plus-2022-2023_Final_accounts.pdf).
- b. *Darley Memorial Hall Charitable Incorporated Organisation, 8 January 2024:* Councillor Welch reported that the recent Ceilidh event was very successful.
- c. *YLCA Harrogate Branch meeting, 19 February 2024:* The Council agreed it would not submit an agenda item.
- d. *Darley Playing Fields Association:* Councillor Ward noted that plans for an additional sports pitch are developing and that new benches have been added to the children's play area.

#### **2401/2/12 Finance**

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: NYC Grass-cutting contribution 2023/24 £422.97, Deposit account interest to December 2023 £68.29. Payments: JE Benson - General caretaking April - November 2023 £834, JE Benson - Lanes and junctions grass-cutting 2023 £666, JE Benson - Village grass-cutting 2023 £3,156, Avenue Printing House - Wildflower survey inserts £54, Darley Playing Fields Association - Playground equipment grant 2023/24 £1,000, M Pearson Clerk salary to 31 December 2023 £1,132.56, M Pearson Clerk allowances and expenses to 27 January 2024 £153.75, Eon Next - Cmas lights (December) £25.38, Eon Next - Cmas lights (January) £25.38, Parish Online - Subscription to 25 January 2025 £54.
- b. The budget for January 2024 was approved.
- c. The purchase of additional salt to refill some of the grit bins within the Parish at an expected cost in the region of £75 plus VAT was agreed; **Clerk to action.**
- d. The renewal of the Parish Online subscription to January 2025 at a cost of £45 plus VAT was agreed.

#### **1/2/13 Correspondence received by the Clerk:**

- a. *Nidderdale Plus:* News from Nidderdale Christmas 23; Clerk to circulate.
- b. *North Yorkshire Council:* Home Upgrade Grant 2: It was agreed that the NYC poster should be displayed on Council noticeboards; **Clerk to action.**
- c. *North Yorkshire Council:* Funding of £2.5 million to transform facilities for communities; **Clerk to circulate.**
- d. *Office of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner:* Tim Forber confirmed as next Chief Constable for North Yorkshire; **Clerk to circulate.**

**2401/2/14 Items for Information and next Agenda:** It was agreed that the results of the wildflower survey should be included on the next agenda (26 February 2024); **Clerk to action.**

**2401/2/15 Date of next meetings:** 26 February, 25 March, 29 April, 20 May.

*These minutes are published subject to their approval at the next meeting of the Council*