

Draft minutes of the meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 28 June 2021 from 7.30pm at Hookstone Memorial Hall, Low Lane, Darley

2106/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, D McQueen, E Butler, D Dickinson, County Councillor Stan Lumley (part) and the Clerk M Pearson. One member of the public attended.

2106/2 Apologies: Councillor N Nicholas. Councillor J McAllister due to work commitments. Borough Councillor Tom Watson.

2106/3 Declarations of Interest and consideration of dispensations: Councillor Butler declared an interest in Item 7c 21/00240/PR15 Doulton Lodge Darley as the owner of the property.

2106/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the two meetings held on 24 May 2021 were approved.

2106/5 Public Statements: None.

2106/6 Coronavirus pandemic

- a. It was noted that no emergency decisions had been made since the last meeting (24 May 2021).
- b. No further actions were required in relation to the Coronavirus pandemic. Noting that Community Support Scheme (CSS) volunteers intend to stop delivering meals at the end of June 2021, the Council thanked all the volunteers who have helped provide this valuable service during the pandemic.
- c. No changes were recommended to the risk assessment concerning Council involvement in the CSS.

2106/7 Planning

a. **Planning Decisions** noted: None.

b. **Planning Applications** considered:

21/01951/FUL Erection of stables and store (revised scheme). Delves Ridge Cottage Menwith Hill Road Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

21/01386/FUL Retention of Replacement Dwelling West Croft Day Lane Darley
NEITHER OBJECTS TO OR SUPPORTS

21/02296/FUL and 21/02297/LB Refurbishment of listed farmhouse and conversion of adjoining barns with single storey link extension, new driveway and replacement garage. Field House Farm Dairy Lane Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

21/02285/FUL Erection of porch Dolly House Darley Carr Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

21/02404/FUL Erection of a two storey extension (revised scheme). Lollybogs Back Road High Birstwith

The Council NEITHER OBJECTED TO OR SUPPORTED the planning application, expressing concern that this might represent over-development of the property. The Council also questioned the consistency of the design of this extension relative to the design of the existing dwelling.
NEITHER OBJECTS TO OR SUPPORTS

21/02481/FUL Erection of detached garage/store Field House Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

c. **Planning Enforcement:** An update was given in relation to 21/00240/PR15 Doulton Lodge Darley *ALLEGED BREACH: Potential change of use from domestic garden to commercial storage (16/00062/FUL; 15/03092/AMENDS)*: Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) Planning Enforcement has confirmed that the rubble and other items on the site are understood to be intended for use as part of landscaping to create a flat access to accord with Disability Discrimination Act requirements. As such there is no breach of planning.

21/00311/BRPC15 Silverdale Farm Silverdale Close Darley *ALLEGED BREACH: Removal of electricity pylon and burying of associated powerline. Erection of bridge. Formation of access track. Works not in accordance with approved plans (19/02687/FUL 19/00468/BRPC15)* was noted.

d. **Other planning matters:** It was noted that HBC has updated its consultation portal to show the corrected map of the Darley village development limits (including the correct scope of area of DR13) and has confirmed that amendment to other sections of the website will be made.

2106/8 County Councillor Report: County Councillor Lumley reported that North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) continues to operate through online meetings, with decision-making by officers under delegated powers. It is likely that the use of online meetings will continue once in-person meetings resume.

NYCC Highways has ended its contract with Ringway and from 1 June 2021 will fulfil highway maintenance through a new subsidiary company. The new company will operate on an arms-length basis and is also able to provide services to third party public and private sector bodies.

The Kex Gill A59 realignment project is currently out to tender and it is anticipated that construction will start at the end of the summer. The project should be completed in 12-14 months (i.e. by late 2022). It was noted that Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Nidderdale AONB) will administer an Off-Site Measures Fund of just under £600,000 provided by NYCC to help mitigate the impact of the project on the local landscape.

2106/9 Councillor Code of Conduct: It was agreed that the new HBC code of conduct should be adopted by the Council; **Clerk to produce a clean draft document for approval at next meeting.**

2106/10 Highways and Footpaths

- a. *Drainage issues on Walker Lane, Darley, water leak outside Hillside, Main Street, Darley, water leak outside the Maples, Main Street, Darley and separate drainage ditch issue outside the Maples, Main Street, Darley:* It was noted that a team of NYCC Highways engineers visited Darley on 10 June 2021 to meet with the Chairman and Clerk to understand the issues on Walker Lane and Main Street. Further investigation work will be undertaken to understand how best to progress; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
Roadside gullies in Darley should also now be emptied by the new NYCC Highways company; **Clerk to monitor.**
It was noted that jetting of the blocked pipe outside the Maples on Main Street, Darley, has been carried out by the Parish Caretaker.
- b. *Stepping stones on River Nidd, Dacre Parish / Hartwith cum Winsley Parish:* No further information has been obtained since the last meeting.
- c. *Planned resurfacing of Main Street, Darley:* It was noted that NYCC Highways intends to carry out a resurfacing scheme to replace the top 50mm of road surface, together with targeted deep patching. This is expected to be in August/September 2021 following completion of the tender process; **Clerk to monitor.**
- d. *Stumps Lane road closure 4-10 August 2021:* It was noted that Stumps Lane will be closed 4 – 10 August 2021 in order for Northern Gas Networks to install a new gas service. A diversion via the B6451 and Menwith Hill Road will be in operation.
- e. *Footpath alongside Field House, Darley:* It was noted that further work has been carried out in June 2021 to remove loose render on the wall running along the footpath past Field House in Darley.
- f. No other highways and footpaths actions were agreed.

2106/11 Village Maintenance

- a. *Darley Wildflower Village project:* Understanding that the project organisers intend to use a plot on Low Green, Darley, to develop an wildflower area within the village, on the basis children play on the green and that other areas better suited exist with the village, the Council noted its objection to this. It was agreed that HBC should be contacted to clarify the position and, assuming the understanding is correct, to ask for a reconsideration; **Clerk to action.**
It was also agreed that confirmation should also be obtained from HBC as to whether the grassed areas it usually cuts (including Low Green) are scheduled to be cut this year. If not, the Council will consider whether to pay for these to be cut on an exceptional basis; **Clerk to action.**
- b. *Footpaths and benches strimming:* The emergency decision to clear village footpaths and benches in June 2021 following a period of extraordinary growth was ratified.
- c. *Verges and junctions strimming:* The Council agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to carry out a cut of road junctions and verges (to approximately one metre depth) to improve safety; **Clerk to action.**
- d. *Inspection of benches:* It was noted that only one bench was reported by the Parish Caretaker to be defective – at the bus stop near Stumps Lane, Darley. This was found to be beyond repair and the purchase of a replacement bench was suggested (Item 12c. below).
- e. It was noted that a new bench for Stocks Green (with a plaque to commemorate the work by volunteers during the Coronavirus pandemic) has been ordered. It was agreed that once installed, a small ceremony might be organised dedicated to the work of the volunteers; **Chairman and Clerk to arrange.**
- f. No other village maintenance actions were agreed.

2106/12 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: None; Payments: Eon Next cmas lights (June) £5, Darley in Bloom - 2021/22 Grant £500, M Pearson - Clerk salary quarter to 30 June 2021 £827.16, HMRC - Pay As You Earn income tax quarter to 30 June 2021 £3, M Pearson - Clerk allowances and admin expenses quarter to 30 June 2021 £141.11, Glasdon UK Limited - New bench for Stocks Green £494.78.
- b. The budget for June 2021 was approved.
- c. The purchase of a new bench to replace the broken one at the bus stop near Stumps Lane at a cost expected to be in the region of £500 was approved; **Clerk to action.**
- d. No other urgent financial matters were discussed.

2106/13 Reports:

- a. *Yorkshire Local Councils Associations Harrogate branch meeting 14 June 2021:* Councillor McQueen reported that NYCC Highways representatives attended the meeting and confirmed that email queries to NYCC Area 6 should be acknowledged within 5 working days and responded to within 20 working days; complaints should be acknowledged within 5 working days and responded to within 15 working days. The

main contacts for assistance with Area 6 Highways were confirmed as Melissa Burnham and Chris Blackburn.

A response from Central Government regarding the possible reorganisation of the North Yorkshire Local Authority structure is expected by mid-July 2021;

- b. *Nidderdale AONB Joint Advisory Committee meeting*: The Chairman reported that following the Glover review of designated landscapes in England, a change in the name "Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty" to "Protected Landscape" is being considered.

A Farming in Protected Landscapes programme has been launched to fund projects by farmers and landowners under four themes – climate, nature, people and place. The programme is administered by the Nidderdale AONB team. It was agreed that reinstatement of the public right of way between Dacre and Hartwith cum Winsley parishes (Item 10b above) might fall within the remit of the programme (e.g. providing more opportunities for people to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape or conservation of historic features of the landscape. It was agreed that this should be investigated further with Dacre Parish Council, Hartwith cum Winsley parish and the relevant landowner; **Clerk to coordinate**.

- c. *Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhoods Group Annual General Meeting 2 June 2021*: Councillor Robertshaw reported that the main topic discussed at the meeting was the prevalence of scams. It was noted that around 48% of people fall for scams. Further information on scams is available on the North Yorkshire Police website northyorkshire.police.uk/staying-safe/fraud/.

2016//14 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Police: Crime report to June 2021*: In the period from 17 May to 22 June 2021 two reports of livestock loose on the roads were noted.
- b. *Yorkshire Ultra Challenge 17-18 July 2021*: A 10km long distance event will pass through Darley on 17 July. Details are available at ultrachallenge.com/yorkshire-challenge/.
- c. *North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel*: It was noted that the panel is seeking to recruit two independent co-opted members with a closing date of 15 July 2021; **Clerk to circulate to Councillors**.

2106/15 Items for Information and next Agenda: Two items were agreed to be added to be considered at the next meeting:

- (i) an initiative to plant trees to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 (with the possible use of Oddy Garth, Darley, subject to agreement from the Charity of Isabel Day);
- (ii) consideration of the purchase of a defibrillator to be located at Hookstone Memorial Hall. The Council agreed in principle to fund up to £500 towards the cost of purchasing a new unit; **Clerk to investigate cost and available grant funding before next meeting**.

2106/16 Date of next meetings: 26 July; 20 September; 25 October; 29 November; 31 January 2022; 28 February 2022.

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