

Draft minutes of the meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 26 July 2021 from 7.30pm at Hookstone Memorial Hall, Low Lane, Darley

2107/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, N Nicholas, D McQueen, E Butler, D Dickinson (part), County Councillor Stan Lumley (part), Borough Councillor Tom Watson (part) and the Clerk M Pearson. Five members of the public attended.

2107/2 Apologies: Councillor J McAllister (self-isolating).

2107/3 Declarations of Interest and consideration of dispensations: None.

2107/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2021 were approved with one amendment – the new name being considered for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty is National Landscapes.

2107/5 Public Statements: Parishioners spoke in relation to Items 11, 13a and 14a (please see below).

2107/6 Coronavirus pandemic:

- a. It was noted that no emergency decisions had been made since the last meeting (28 June 2021).
- b. No further actions were required in relation to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- c. It was agreed that this item should now be removed from future agendas.

2107/7 Planning

a. **Planning Decisions** noted:

21/01951/FUL Erection of stables and store (revised scheme). Delves Ridge Cottage Menwith Hill Road Darley
PERMISSION GRANTED

21/01386/FUL Retention of Replacement Dwelling West Croft Day Lane Darley
APPLICATION REFUSED

21/02285/FUL Erection of porch Dolly House Darley Carr Darley
PERMISSION GRANTED

21/02481/FUL Erection of detached garage/store Field House Darley
PERMISSION GRANTED

b. **Planning Applications** considered: None.

c. **Planning Enforcement:** An update was provided in relation to *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)*. Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) Planning Enforcement is seeking to arrange a meeting before the end of July 2021 with the owner's planning agent on-site to resolve the alleged breach of planning.

d. **Other planning matters:** It was noted that a revised version of the Harrogate District Local Plan Village Policies Map for Darley village has been added to the HBC website. This highlights the error and includes a map showing the correct development limits for the village.

2107/8 County and Borough Councillors' Reports:

County Councillor Lumley reported that North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) continues to operate through online meetings, with decision-making by officers under delegated powers.

The Kex Gill A59 realignment project is currently out to tender and it is anticipated that construction will start before the end of the year. The project should be completed by the end of 2022.

Central government has confirmed that North Yorkshire will move to a single unitary authority structure alongside City of York Council unitary authority with effect from 1 April 2023. This means that one new council will replace the existing County and seven District councils. Elections should take place in May 2022, with a Council elected to serve until 2027. The new structure should remove ambiguities over which authority provides services, be more user-friendly, generate cost-savings and, following the election of a mayor and full devolution, attract additional investment in the County.

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that now a decision has been made, HBC is keen to work to make the new local authority structure succeed.

The recent meeting of full council took place in the Harrogate Convention Centre (the Convention Centre) in order to meet Government guidelines. Committee meetings are being held in the Civic Centre in Harrogate. Where possible, briefings are held online.

The Convention Centre is now also generally open for conferences, subject to the relevant Government guidelines on events.

The Coronavirus pandemic has led to additional costs for HBC in the region of £10m, with around £7.8m of this expected to be reimbursed by Central Government.

A mobile Coronavirus testing station is operational on certain days at West Park Car Park, Tower Street, Harrogate. Booking should be made online or by calling 119.

2107/9 Future meetings of the Council: It was agreed that the date of the next meeting should be changed to 27 September 2021. It was also agreed that meetings should be continued to be held in Hookstone Memorial Hall for the remainder of the calendar year; **Clerk to book.**

2107/10 Councillor Code of Conduct: It was agreed that the draft code of conduct circulated by Clerk should be adopted by the Council; **Clerk to add to Council website.** It was agreed that Councillors should evidence their agreement to abide by the code of conduct by signing a new Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting; **Clerk to arrange.**

2107/11 Climate Emergency:

A parishioner spoke in support of the Council declaring a climate emergency as a means of exhibiting concern for the effects of climate change and making sure that climate change is taken into account in decisions made by the Council.

Recognising that it has limited ability to significantly affect climate change, the Council agreed that it would instead give a commitment to take into account the environmental and climate impact in all of its decision-making.

2107/12 Defibrillator for Hookstone Memorial Hall:

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that a second-hand defibrillator unit and cabinet may be available from HBC. This could be loaned to the Council provided that the Council acted as “sponsor” – to be responsible for ongoing costs (such as the purchase of pads, batteries, maintenance and insurance) and care of the unit. The Council agreed to sponsor the defibrillator on this basis.

Clerk confirmed that the Hookstone Memorial Hall Committee (the Committee) is happy for the defibrillator to be installed on the outside of Hookstone Memorial Hall and use the building’s power supply. The Committee will also pay for electrical installation costs if required; **Clerk to liaise with the Committee.**

County Councillor Lumley kindly agreed that he would pay towards the costs of purchasing a new battery and pads (if required); **Clerk to complete Locality budget application form.**

It was agreed that training in the use of the defibrillator should be investigated once it is operational.

2107/13 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 following a visit to Darley on 10 June 2021 by a team of NYCC Highways engineers, further work to investigate the cause of the problems on Main Street and Walker Lane had been thwarted due to the camera equipment breaking. This has now been repaired and further investigation work was expected to be carried out in the weeks commencing 19 July and 26 July 2021; **Clerk to seek update.**

A parishioner highlighted that The Woodland Trust is offering a number of trees for free and that these could be used to plant additional trees on Walker Lane to help with flood mitigation. The Council confirmed that until work to investigate how best to mitigate flooding on Walker Lane was concluded, it was not intending to make any further changes.

It was noted that NYCC Highways is also looking into progress with the agreement to move the 30 mph limit zone further South on Stumps Lane. Given that this was thought to be a condition of planning application *16/01705/FULMAJ Erection of 9 dwellings (Site Area 0.66 ha). Land Comprising Field At 421065 459328 Stumps Lane Darley*, the Council agreed that HBC should also be contacted for advice; **Clerk to action.**

b. *Stepping stones on River Nidd, Dacre Parish / Hartwith cum Winsley Parish:* It was noted that funding may be available for the purchase of a bridge to enhance the public right of way from the Farming In Protected Landscapes Fund. Chairman (as Vice-Chairman of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) is seeking to arrange a meeting for stakeholders (including landowners, representatives of the local Parish Councils, NYCC Public Rights of Way and possibly the Environment Agency). The Council supported this proposal; **Chairman to update at next meeting.**

c. *Signage for Darley Memorial Hall car park:* It was noted that a response is awaited NYCC Highways regarding a new public car park sign on Main Street, Darley; **Clerk to chase.** A sign displaying the terms of public use of the car park (e.g. no overnight stays and no commercial vehicles) is being designed; **Councillor Nicholas to action.**

d. *The parking of a caravan and car on the grass outside East View, Darley was noted;* **Clerk to investigate and contact the owners/North Yorkshire Police/NYCC as necessary.**

- e. It was noted that surface dressing of the B6451 is expected to be carried out 27-28 July 2021. No other highways and footpaths actions were agreed.

2107/14 Village Maintenance

a. *Darley Wildflower Village project:*

A parishioner spoke to confirm that Darley's Angels WI had agreed with HBC that a defined section of Low Green, Darley would be turned into a wildflower area. The intention is that wildflowers will grow through once the daffodils have finished flowering.

Low Green has been chosen by the group on the basis of its prominence as a focal point in the village (to ensure that it is recognised that the village is taking positive steps to improve the environment) and its accessibility (everyone should be able to see and access the green). Other potential areas had been explored but were thought not meet these criteria.

The Council thanked the Darley's Angels WI group for their enthusiasm and work and, understanding that the area will be maintained appropriately on an ongoing basis, expressed interest in how the project develops. However, the Council reiterated its view that Low Green is not the best location for the project within the village and as a result it could not support the project.

- b. *Aggressive weed problems near Stumps Lane, Darley:* It was noted that a parishioner had contacted the Council regarding weeds in the layby near Stumps Lane and it was understood these had now been treated.
- c. *Planting trees to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration:* The Council agreed that planting a number of trees was a good idea and that Oddy Garth would make a suitable location. It was agreed that the Charity of Isabel Day should be contacted to discuss a lease of the land to the Council; **Chairman to action.**
- d. It was noted that the next village grass cut should be carried out by the Parish Caretaker during the week commencing 26 July 2021. It was also noted that benches for Stocks Green and Stumps Lane had been delivered to the Parish Caretaker for installation.
- e. No other village maintenance actions were agreed.

2107/15 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: Deposit account interest £0.48; Dacre Parish Council – Share of Clerk training costs £20; Payments: Eon Next cmas lights (July) £5, Glasdon UK Limited - New bench for Stumps Lane £494.78.
- b. The budget for July 2021 was approved.
- c. The purchase of a remembrance plaque for the outside of Darley Memorial Hall was confirmed at a cost expected to be in the region of £500 was approved; **Chairman to action.**
- d. No other financial matters were discussed.

2107/16 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Police: Crime report to July 2021:* In the period from 22 June to 19 July 2021 there were three reported incidents: anti-social behaviour involving neighbours, an alarm sounding and suspected fish poaching.
- b. *The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2 June 2022:* The invitation to light beacons on the evening of 2 June 2022 was noted.

2107/17 Items for Information and next Agenda: It was agreed that consideration of whether to host a celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the period 2-5 June 2022 and/or suggestions of any other projects to mark this anniversary should be added to the next agenda; **Clerk to action.**

2107/18 Date of next meetings: 27 September; 25 October; 29 November; 31 January 2022; 28 February 2022; 28 March 2022.

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