

Draft minutes of the meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 25 October 2021 from 7.30pm at Hookstone Memorial Hall, Low Lane, Darley

2110/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, N Nicholas, E Butler, D McQueen, D Dickinson, County Councillor Stan Lumley (part), Borough Councillor Tom Watson (part) and the Clerk M Pearson. One member of the public attended.

2110/2 Apologies: Councillor J McAllister due to illness.

2110/3 Declarations of Interest and consideration of dispensations: None.

2110/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2021 were approved.

2110/5 Public Statements: None.

2110/6 Planning

a. Planning Decisions noted:

21/03715/TPO Crown lift 1 no. Sycamore tree (T1) to ridge height of adjacent building and crown lift 1 no. Ash tree (T2) to provide 2 metre clearance above ridge height and lateral reduction to give 1.5 metre clearance. Within A18 of Tree Preservation Order 05/1970. 1 Darley House Darley Head Darley
APPLICATION PERMITTED

b. Planning Applications considered:

21/04174/FUL Conversion of redundant store to form a holiday cottage to include; new fenestration installed in the existing openings, re-roofing, the erection of a bike/bin store and the installation of a package treatment plant. Volta House Farm Day Lane Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

21/04290/CLEUD Certificate of lawfulness for the construction of a residential dwelling. West Croft Day Lane Darley
NO COMMENTS

c. Planning Enforcement: An update from Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) in respect of 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. Planning Enforcement has agreed with the owner's agent that land levels on the Northern boundary will be reduced and that further details will be submitted to HBC in respect of Surface Water Drainage (Condition 13), Landscaping (Condition 3) and Lighting (Condition 11). A six week timescale has been set for submission of these details.

d. Other planning matters:

(i) An update from HBC regarding 21/04008/DISCON *Approval of details required by Conditions 3 and 4 (Surface Water), 7 (Wheel Washing), 8 (Highway Survey), 9 (On site parking), 10 (Land Contamination), 14 (Surface Water), 15 and 16 (Material Samples), 17 (Landscaping), 20 (Control of Cotoneaster), Condition 23 (EV Charging) of planning permission 18/01040/FUL - Erection of 5 new detached dwellings with central access road. (revised scheme). Land Comprising Field At 420945 459286 Stumps Lane Darley* was noted. This confirmed that the relevant consultees have submitted approval for Conditions 7, Condition 8, Condition 9, Condition 10, Condition 17 and Condition 23. A sample of materials is expected to be made available to the Planning Officer in respect of Conditions 15 and 16. Responses are awaited from the relevant consultees in respect of Surface Water (Conditions 3,4 and 14) and Control of Cotoneaster (Condition 20). The Planning Officer has agreed to look into the comments received regarding ground levels in order to decide whether a separate planning application for a variation of conditions is required; **Clerk to monitor.**

(ii) *Consultation on Land Comprising Field At 420945 459286, Stumps Lane, Darley: Proposal Naming of 1 no street as Park Lane Gardens, Regency Gardens, Park View with a numbering scheme:* The Council was of the view that the proposed names are not in keeping with names of existing roads within the village and suggested that a name linked to the location of the new road (e.g. Stumps Drive, Way or Close) might be more appropriate; **Clerk to submit Council comments.**

2110/7 County and Borough Councillors' Reports: County Councillor Lumley reported that Central Government has chosen the new local authority structure for North Yorkshire from 1 April 2023 and that this will be a single unitary authority for the county outside of the existing City of York Council unitary authority.

County Councillor Lumley has been part of a cross-party group working to reassess division boundaries for the new authority and the recommended models have been submitted to Central Government and the Boundary Commission for England for approval. A decision is expected by the end of November 2021.

It is intended that six committee areas will be set up (to be based on the current Parliamentary Constituencies) and that these will have local powers and influence decisions of the new unitary authority relating to those areas.

Elections will be held for the new unitary authority for a five-year term in May 2022, with District Councillors also serving one extra year through to 31 March 2023. On this date all employees and assets belonging to District Councils will transfer to the new unitary authority and it will take on responsibility for the delivery of all services currently undertaken by the District Councils

There is a possibility of elections for the new post of Mayor to be held in May 2022 but this has not been confirmed.

Currently North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) continues to make use of remote meetings, with all final decisions made by the Chief Executive under delegated authority powers. It is likely that this will continue to some extent, although meetings of full council are likely to be in-person meetings.

The new company which has taken over management and repair of NYCC's roads (NY Highways Ltd) has invested in new items of machinery and is already showing examples of improvement in performance.

The A59 Kex Gill road project will be consulted on until the end of 2021, with a contractor to be appointed in 2022. The work is expected to take twelve months to complete.

NYCC is finding it difficult to recruit in the current environment as the local authority pay rates and structure are not as attractive as many commercial jobs.

Borough Councillor Watson noted that HBC Planning Department saw an increase in the number of planning applications of twenty percent in the first half of the year and that processing times were generally slower as a result. Steps have been taken to speed this up.

The HBC Nursery on Nursery Lane East, Harrogate, HG2 0FH, is open for the sale of plants, composts, etc to the general public and has seen an increase in sales relative to last year. A new site for the nursery is being considered.

The Local Lotto has now been operating for three years and has raised more than £160,000 for local causes.

The HBC staff recruitment freeze has now ended. Vacancies for the Council are usually advertised online (<https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/jobs>).

A shortage of drivers has meant that some Waste & Recycling Collections may be missed. Any missed collections are logged and additional collections are added to pick these up as soon as possible.

2110/8 Defibrillators:

a. *Christ Church Community Centre (CCCC) defibrillator:* It was noted that Borough Councillor Watson has identified a defibrillator unit and cabinet that can be repurposed for CCCC from another site in Harrogate. The machine was originally provided by AEDdonate. The Council agreed to sponsor the unit, with an initial purchase of defibrillator pads and a battery and then ongoing maintenance, checking of the unit and purchase of consumables as necessary; **Clerk to action.** County Councillor agreed to contribute towards the cost of installing the cabinet and purchasing a new battery and pads from his Locality Budget; **Clerk to complete application form for Locality Grant and liaise with CCCC.**

b. *Darley Playing Fields Association (DPFA) defibrillator:* It was noted that DPFA is also in discussions with Borough Councillor Watson to obtain a defibrillator and cabinet to be sited at the Darley playing fields. It was noted that DPFA is happy to purchase the battery and pads necessary to bring the machine into use and to pay for the electrical installation of the machine. County Councillor Lumley offered a Locality grant to help DPFA towards these initial costs; **Clerk to share draft Locality Grant application form with Councillors Nicholas and McQueen.** It was agreed that the Council would take over the ongoing monitoring of the unit and the purchase of replacement pads and battery once up and running if DPFA needs.

2110/9 Queen's Jubilee Celebrations: It was noted that the Focus on Darley New Year's Eve village celebration event will not be held in 2021 but that a Jubilee Ball event will instead be held in May 2022.

It was noted that DPFA is considering installing a new petanque court at the Darley playing fields to commemorate the Jubilee and suggested that the Council may wish to help towards the cost of this (e.g. towards the cost of the court and/or the purchase of a commemorative plaque). Estimates are currently being sought by DPFA. It was agreed that a formal proposal should then be made to the Council in respect of this; **Clerk to add to future agenda.**

No other commemorative events or ideas were suggested.

2110/10 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:* It was noted that no further update has been received from NYCC Highways since September 2021 despite the Clerk chasing. It was agreed that NYCC Highways should be asked to attend to the two issues on Main Street as a priority (i.e. within four weeks) due to concerns regarding safety in respect the leak outside the Maples (e.g. water running along the road surface will freeze and may cause

accidents) and concern regarding the ongoing disruption to parishioners living near Hillside; **Clerk to action.** It was noted that flooding on and below Walker Lane this year does not appear to have been as severe as in previous years.

- b. *Signage for Darley Memorial Hall (DMH) car park:* It was noted that a sign displaying terms and conditions of parking has now been installed at the car park. It was noted that NYCC Highways has carried out a site visit to collect measurements for a new public car park sign on Main Street, Darley; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- c. It was noted that at least one gully at the East edge of the village (near Nidd Lane) is blocked with tarmac following the resurfacing work in August; **Clerk to report.** It was noted that the hand-rail on the bridge crossing the River Nidd at the end of Nidd Lane is rotten; **Clerk to report.** It was noted that a vehicle parked on the pavement on Main Street near the corner of Sheepcote Lane was preventing those with pushchairs from passing; **Clerk to investigate.**
- d. It was noted that a repair has been carried out to the footpath on Main Street outside Daleside Park.

2110/11 Village Maintenance

- a. *Tree planting to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee celebration:* It was agreed that further thought should be given to potential locations for planting a tree to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee; **Clerk to add to future agenda.**
- b. It was noted that a HBC Waste and Recycling lorry had become tangled in the Christmas lights on Low Green. HBC reported no damage caused and that the lights had been made safe. It was agreed that the lights should be checked and new lights purchased if required; **Chairman and Clerk to action.**

2110/12 Reports

- a. *Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) Harrogate Branch meeting, 11 October 2021;* Councillor Nicholas reported a low turnout for this event. Topics discussed included the latest on the reorganisation of the local authority structure in North Yorkshire (largely covered under Item 7 above) and the importance of Councillor training; **Clerk to circulate new list of YLCA training courses to Councillors when published.**
- b. *The Royal British Legion (Nidderdale Branch) Remembrance Day Parade and Service:* It was agreed that Chairman and Clerk should represent the Council at this event on 11 November 2021;
- c. *DMH Remembrance Day Service:* It was agreed that Chairman should represent the Council at this event on 14 November 2021;
- d. It was noted that the DMH Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm in the Darley Memorial Hall on 11 November 2021.
- e. It was noted that DPFA is holding a fireworks event at the Darley Playing Fields on 5 November 2021 from 6.45pm.

2110/13 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: HBC Precept part 2 £7,875; NYCC Locality Grant £300, Deposit account interest to September 2021 £0.49. Payments: Eon Next cmas lights (October) £5, Vision ICT – Email address hosting to October 2022 £43.20; Studio One – Terms and Conditions sign for DMH car park £744.
- b. The budget for October 2021 was approved.
- c. It was noted that proposals for projects to be included in the budget for the financial year to 31 March 2023 should be notified to Clerk for inclusion on the next agenda (i.e. by 22 November 2021).
- d. No other financial matters were discussed.

2110/14 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Police: Crime report to October 2021:* In the period from 21 September – 19 October 2021 there were four reported incidents: anti-social disturbance by a group of drunk males, a job advert attempted fraud, a suspicious vehicle in the area and a vehicle reported to have mounted a grass verge accidentally striking a member of the public with no injury caused.
- b. *YLCA: Arqiva voucher scheme:* It was noted that this company has launched a voucher scheme to help those left without access to free to air TV channels as a result of the Bilsdale Mast fire. The company will contact those households thought to be affected but can be contacted by telephone on 0800 121 4828 if parishioners need assistance with this matter.

2110/15 Items for Information and next Agenda: Queen's Jubilee petanque court and setting of the Budget/Precept for the financial year ending 31 March 2023.

2110/16 Date of next meetings: 29 November; 31 January 2022; 28 February 2022; 28 March 2022; 25 April 2022; 23 May 2022.

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