

Draft minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 27 February 2023 from 7.30pm at Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

2302/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), J McAllister, P Ward, R Ferguson, D Dickinson, A Robertshaw, Borough Councillor Tom Watson (part), County Councillor Andrew Murday (part) and the Clerk (M Pearson). One member of the public attended.

2302/2 Apologies: None.

2302/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations: Councillor Ferguson declared an interest in Item 8 as the partner of the applicant and took no part in the discussion or vote. Councillor Robertshaw declared an interest in Item 6c as a neighbour to the development site. Councillor Welch declared an interest in Item 13d as a Council representative on the Focus on Darley Committee and took no part in the vote.

2302/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2023 were approved.

2302/5 Public Statements: None.

2302/6 Planning

a. Planning Decisions noted:

22/04250/LB Listed building application for conversion and extension of Mill Building to form 9 Residential Units including removal / relocation of machinery, ladders and glazed screen, insertion of staircases and mezzanine floor, and new and replacement doors and windows. Darley Mill Darley Carr Darley

APPLICATION PERMITTED

22/04785/FUL Alterations to access points to Dolly House/Rose House/Wayside Cottage to form 1no central access point to form a gated community. Rose House, Wayside House & Dolly House Darley Carr Darley

APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/02088/FUL Erection of 1 No. dwelling (Plot 2) in lieu of dwelling approved under Ref 18/03851/FUL.

REPUBLICISED. Stumps Lane Caravan Park Stumps Lane Darley

APPLICATION CLOSED

b. Planning Applications considered: None.

c. Planning Enforcement: 23/00029/BRPC15 Land Comprising Field At 420945 459286 Stumps Lane Darley
ALLEGED BREACH: Breach of Condition 7 – Parking was noted.

d. Other planning matters: None.

2302/7 County and Borough Councillors' Reports: County Councillor Murday noted the following:

Bus services: The current 24 bus service has been reprieved with the current timetable for the next financial year. North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is launching a consultation on public transport shortly, with a view to developing a local transport plan by 2024. County Councillor Murday is of the view that rural bus transport is sustainable under an alternative franchised model (rather than managed through partnership schemes).

Youth Council: County Councillor Murday met student leaders at Nidderdale High School recently to discuss setting up a Nidderdale Youth Council. County Councillor Murday will be visiting the school again to speak to the whole school and will also be making approaches to Nidderdale Young Farmers.

Show Ground car park, Pateley Bridge: The company which runs the carpark, Creative Car Parks, will not put a list of number plates of those who have Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) permits onto its computer system. It appears likely that NYC will continue the Pateley Bridge parking permit scheme for other car parks for the year 2023/24.

NYCC finances: NYCC recently approved the constitution for the new North Yorkshire Council (NYC) along with the budget for the financial year to 31 March 2024. Council tax is to rise by 4.99%. Even with the rise, there are likely to be cuts to services.

Care of cemeteries: Concern has been raised regarding care of cemeteries after local government reorganisation. A decision will need to be made as to whether NYC continues HBC's policy of levelling tombstones as a safety measure.

Borough Councillor Watson noted that HBC may have a deficit of around £1.2m for the financial year to 31 March 2023. The overspend is largely due to additional fuel and power costs.

Construction works at The Hydro leisure centre, Harrogate, should be completed in June 2023. Works at Knaresborough leisure centre should be completed in September 2023. The pool at Ripon Leisure Centre is operational whilst works continue.

HBC Planning Officers should continue to work on planning applications for the Skipton & Ripon Constituency Area for the twelve months from 1 April 2023. Contact with former HBC staff will be via a single telephone number for NYC.

Borough Councillor Watson attended a meeting with North Yorkshire Police which confirmed that North Yorkshire Police is to share office space in Ripon Fire Station and Ripon Town Hall. There have been 98 knives deposited in the Knife Bin in Harrogate since its launch in January 2023. Incidents of theft from unattended motor vehicles and building sites are increasing. Average response times for police to attend emergency calls are 20 minutes (rural areas) and 15 minutes (town centres).

2302/8 Co-option of a new Councillor: It was noted that one application to become a member of the Council had been received. It was agreed that the applicant, Joanne Hayes, should be co-opted to the Council with immediate effect. Ms Hayes signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Legal Declaration of Qualification to Hold Public Office as a Local Councillor; **Clerk to provide further information and relevant forms.**

2302/9 Community Resilience Plan: It was agreed that the Council should put in place a "light-touch" resilience plan including key emergency contact numbers, details of available emergency resources within the Parish and information regarding the Parish (roads, bridges, etc) and that this document should be available in hardcopy in a number of locations and on the Council website; **Clerk to draft.**

2302/10 Highways and footpaths

- a. *Pothole repairs:* It was noted that NYCC had carried out repairs to potholes on Dairy Lane, Low Lane, Walker Lane, Station Road and Menwith Hill Road following the last Council meeting.
- b. *Continuing problem with culvert on Menwith Hill Road:* It was noted that the pothole repair on Menwith Hill Road was only a partial repair and that NYCC Highways had agreed to carry out investigation work to determine the cause of the depression across the road; **Clerk to monitor.**
- c. *Road surface problems reported to NYCC Highways following the January meeting (Main Street and Stumps Lane, Darley):* It was noted that no response had been received from NYCC Highways regarding these two issues and agreed that County Councillor Murday should be asked to help; **Clerk to action.**
- d. *HBC sweeping of pavements:* It was noted that HBC had swept pavements on Main Street and Sheepcote Lane since the last Council meeting.
- e. *Grass verge outside Monteverdi, Main Street, Darley:* It was noted that a parishioner had asked for help in relation to the verge and it appears to be scored/marked by animals. It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked for advice regarding the issue; **Clerk to action.**

2302/11 Village Maintenance

- a. *Grass-cutting for Low Lane, Darley:* It was agreed that the North side of Low Lane will not be cut as part of the annual "lanes and junctions" cut; **Clerk to notify Parish Caretaker.**
- b. *Replacement bench for the junction of Crake Lane and B6451:* It was agreed that a replacement bench should be purchased and installed at an estimated cost of £500 plus VAT for the bench plus installation cost. It was agreed that, in the interests of safety and security, the bench should be attached to a concrete base unless the Parish Caretaker can advise on an alternative; **Clerk to action.**
- c. *Waste bin, Walker Lane, Darley:* It was noted that HBC had installed a green wheelie bin with a station post on Walker Lane.
- d. *Unstable Poplar tree and damage to wall, Fringill:* It was noted that the recent storms had led to a tree on the Fringill nature area becoming unstable and that it had damaged the wall with the adjoining Oddy Garth. It was noted that Clerk was in the process of seeking advice from English Tree Care regarding the appropriate remedy but that the Parish Caretaker had confirmed that he would be able to rebuild the wall. The Council agreed that up to £1,000 could be spent without further consideration but that Clerk should check whether the work was covered by insurance; **Clerk to obtain quotes and check with insurers.**

2302/12 Reports

- a. *Council-nominated Trustee of the Charity of Isabel Day:* It was noted that Bryan Dexter had agreed to be considered for the role and the Council agreed that Mr Dexter should be appointed as one of its three nominated trustees; **Chairman to notify Mr Dexter.**
- b. *Invite from the Church in the Dale / the Nidderdale Climate & Environment Group for Councillors to attend screening of The Letter on 30 March 2023:* **Clerk to circulate details.**
- c. *Events celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III:* It was noted that Focus on Darley is planning a Ceilidh at Darley Memorial Hall on Saturday 6 May 2023 and an Cream Tea party on Monday 8 May 2023..

2302/13 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: None. Payments: YLCA - Cllrs Ferguson and Ward new councillor training course January 2023 £100.20, TP Jones & Co LLP - Payroll services for the year ending 31 March 2023 £85.92, Cardiaid - Defibrillator service March 2023 £334.80.
- b. The budget for February 2023 was approved.
- c. *Internal auditor for the year ending 31 March 2023:* It was agreed that Ms. June Dowson should continue as internal auditor for the year.
- d. *Request by Focus on Darley for an annual grant:* The Council agreed that a grant given to Focus on Darley towards printing costs should be given annually going forward; **Clerk to add to Annual Meeting agenda.**
- e. *Purchase of new bench and installation by Parish Caretaker:* Please see Item 11b. above.
- f. *Work on unstable tree and repair of wall at Fringill:* Please see Item 11d. above,

2302/14 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *Nidderdale Plus* "Befriending Through Transport" day trips in 2023: It was agreed that details of this should be added to the Council website; **Clerk to action.**
- b. *Office of the North Yorkshire Police Fire & Crime Commissioner February newsletter*; Clerk to circulate.
- c. *Zero Carbon Harrogate*: February 2023 newsletter; **Clerk to circulate.**
- d. *Nidderdale Plus Community Hub / Mind in Harrogate* Nidderdale Men's Group: It was agreed that details of this should be added to the Council website; **Clerk to action.**
- e. *Harrogate Borough Council*: Protecting Dark Skies in the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Supplementary Planning Document Consultation to 20 March 2023: **Clerk to circulate.**
- f. *National Association of Local Councils*: Parliamentary Briefing - Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill: **Clerk to circulate.**
- g. *NYCC UK Shared Prosperity Fund webinars*: **Clerk to circulate details and check whether slides/recordings will be available afterwards.**
- h. *Yorkshire Local Councils Associations* – April – June 2023 training programme; **Clerk to circulate details. Councillors interested in training to notify Clerk.**

2302/15 Items for Information and next Agenda: None.

2302/16 Date of next meetings: 27 March; 24 April; 22 May.

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