

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

2303/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), J McAllister, P Ward, R Ferguson, D Dickinson, J Hayes, Borough Councillor Tom Watson, County Councillor Andrew Murday (part) and the Clerk (M Pearson). No members of the public attended.

2303/2 Apologies: Councillor A Robertshaw due to a prior commitment.

2303/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations: None.

2303/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 were approved.

2303/5 Public Statements: None.

2303/6 Planning

a. Planning Decisions noted: None.

b. Planning Applications considered:

23/00805/FUL Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey extension to rear. Demolition of existing detached garage to rear and erection of garage extension to side. Alterations to fenestration. Little Timble Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

c. Planning Enforcement:

- (i) An update on 23/00029/BRPC15 *Land Comprising Field At 420945 459286 Stumps Lane Darley ALLEGED BREACH: Breach of Condition 7 – Parking* confirmed that an investigation had been carried out and that vehicles were parked on the road prior to driveways, parking areas and access to the site being tarmacked. Following this work, similar problems are not expected as there is greater capacity on-site.
- (ii) 23/00080/BRPC15 *Field House Darley ALLEGED BREACH: Potential non-compliance with approved plans (21/04926/FUL)* was noted.
- (iii) *Doulton Lodge, Darley:* It was noted that no response had been received from HBC regarding this property and agreed that the name of a relevant HBC Planning Enforcement Officer should be obtained to follow up;
Clerk to action.

d. Other planning matters: Planning Appeal APP/E2734/D/22/3304418 (*Erection of first floor side extension to existing dwelling*) Ivy Cottage Crake Lane Darley
APPEAL ALLOWED

2303/7 County and Borough Councillors' Reports: Borough Councillor Watson noted that after forty-nine years, Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) will end as of 1 April 2023. The last meeting of the full Council was held on 22 March 2023, with eleven members receiving long-service awards. The last meeting of the HBC Planning Committee will be held on 28 March 2023.

The final building cost of the Civic Centre in Harrogate has been confirmed to be £12.53m, with sales of existing properties (Victoria Park House, Scottsdale House and Crescent Gardens) raising £6.9m and efficiencies through use of the new building of approximately £1m. The pet crematorium at Stonefall Cemetery, Harrogate, is now operational (www.harrogate.gov.uk/directory-record/40/stonefall-cemetery-and-crematorium).

Borough Councillor Watson said that it had been a pleasure and an honour to serve the people of Nidd Valley over the last seven years and that his last day in office will be Friday 31 March 2023.

Clerk read a report supplied by County Councillor Murday, which noted the following:

Bus services: North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) has commenced a public consultation on public transport, with a view to developing a county-wide local transport plan by 2024.

Youth Council: The first meeting of the Nidderdale Youth Council will be on 24 April 2023. The intention is for this to include any interested young adults (11-18 year-olds) within Nidderdale.

Pateley Bridge Show Ground car park: For the next year, at least, there will be residents' parking permits made available for Pateley Bridge car park but this will not be applicable for the showground.

NYCC finances: The full council passed the new constitution for North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and the budget for 2023-24 two weeks ago. Neither vote was unanimous. The council tax will be increased by 4.99%, the maximum allowed without conducting a referendum. There will be further cuts to services to be provided, with a £30m deficit to be met from reserves.

Threatened closure of Pateley Bridge Children's Centre: The NYCC Executive is conducting a consultation with an intention to close the Children's Centre, currently run in a room at St Cuthbert's school. It closed at the start of the pandemic but has not reopened.

Coronation celebration grant funding: The only source of funding for coronation celebrations from the unitary council will be through the councillor's Locality Budgets. An enquiry re funding has been received from the treasurer of Focus on Darley.

Flooding: County Councillor Murday added that he has been trying to coordinate a response from the Environment Agency, NYCC Highways and Yorkshire Water in the local area, including a meeting during the week commencing 27 March 2023 with the Environment Agency

2303/8 Highways and footpaths

- a. *Movement of the 30 mph speed limit to the South on Stumps Lane:* Correspondence from HBC Planning Enforcement confirming that the developer of the current site on Stumps Lane (*Land Comprising Field At 420945 459286 Stumps Lane Darley*) intends to widen the carriageway and is in discussion with NYCC Highways regarding this. Chris Blackburn, NYCC Highways Customer Communications Officer, also agreed to follow up on this but no response has been received to date.
- b. *NYCC Highways correspondence regarding delays in responding to requests:* Following requests from both County Councillor Murday and the Council, Chris Blackburn has agreed to look into the reasons for long delays at Area 6 NYCC Highways. This includes looking into the requests made in January 2023 regarding the condition of the road surface on and around the junction of Stumps Lane and Main Street, Darley and surface chippings blocking gulleys on Main Street, Darley. No response has been received to date.
- c. *Lighting column 17 on the corner of Main Street and Nidderdale Hill View* was reported to be faulty; **Clerk to report.**

2303/9 Village Maintenance

- a. *Unstable Poplar tree and damage to wall, Fringill:* It was noted that English Tree Care had removed the tree and that the wall had been left standing but needed straightening. The Parish Caretaker had recommended Chris Proctor of Dacre to straighten the wall and had provided an estimate of £300 for the work required.
- b. *Grass verge outside Monteverdi, Main Street, Darley:* Advice from the Parish Caretaker confirmed that the damage is most likely caused by voles. As these are legally-protected no further action was advised.

2303/10 Reports

- a. *Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhoods, 1 March 2023:* Clerk reported that the meeting included a presentation by Richard Webb, Director of Adult and Social Care, NYCC; **Clerk to circulate slides**, a report by PC Hickson and by Paul Metheringham, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. The next meeting is 1 June 2023, with a 2pm start at the Pateley Bridge Council Chamber.
- b. *Campaign to clean up the River Nidd, 13 March 2023:* Councillor Ward reported that this was a disappointing meeting mainly consisting of information on water sampling being shared.
- c. *Darley and Menwith Parish Assembly 2023, 24 April 2023:* It was noted that the Darley and Menwith Parish Assembly will start at 8pm in the main hall, Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley.
- d. *Events celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III:* It was noted that Hookstone Memorial Hall will be holding a screening of the Coronation on Saturday 6 May 2023 from 10.30am and a lunch from 12.30-4.30pm on Sunday 7 May 2023 (details can be found at <https://h-m-h.co.uk/>).

2303/11 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: VAT repayment for the period March 2022 – February 2023 £1,169.24 Payments: M Pearson – Clerk salary for the quarter to 31 March 2023 £916.56, M Pearson – Clerk allowances and printing expenses to 31 March 2023 £101.97, Darley Memorial Hall – Hire of meeting room September 2022 – March 2023 £120, English Tree Care – Removal of poplar tree at Fringill £1,800.
- b. The budget for March 2023 was approved.
- c. The decision taken by Clerk to appoint English Tree Care to carry out the tree work at Fringill (Item 9a) was approved.
- d. The use of Chris Proctor to repair the wall at Fringill (Item 9a) at an expected cost of £300 was approved.
- e. *Eon Next electricity contract for Christmas lights, Low Green:* It was noted that the current tariff will end on 31 March 2023 and that the expected cost under the new variable tariff from 1 April 2023 will be c. £191 per year (c. £60 per year currently). It was noted that as the Council contract with Eon Next is a domestic contract, the Council had been given Energy Bills Support Scheme payments totalling £400 since September 2022. It was agreed that Clerk should monitor tariff options available as they become available; **Clerk to action.**
- f. Attendance of Councillor Hayes on the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) new councillor training course at an expected cost in the region of £66 for the two sessions was approved.

3/12 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *Harrogate Borough Council: Commuted sums for Nidd Valley Ward, March 2023:* An updated spreadsheet circulated by HBC was noted; **Clerk to circulate to Councillors.**
- b. *Harrogate Borough Council: Consultation on Harrogate and Scarborough town council proposals:* A consultation to 5 May 2023 was noted; Clerk to circulate to Councillors.
- c. *Yorkshire Local Councils Associations: Request for resolutions for debate by Member Councils and Parish Meetings to the YLCA Joint Annual Meeting, 22 July 2023:* The request for resolutions to be considered by YLCA (and potentially the National Association of Local Councils) for lobbying was noted; **Clerk to add to future agenda.**
- d. *NYCC – Local Government Reorganisation Update March 2023;* **Clerk to circulate to Councillors.**

2303/13 Items for Information and next Agenda: None.

2303/14 Date of next meetings: 24 April (from 7pm), 22 May.

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