

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

**2311/1 Present:** Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, R Ferguson, J Hayes, J McAllister and Clerk (M Pearson). No members of the public attended.

**2311/2 Apologies:** Councillor P Ward due to a family medical appointment. County Councillor A Murday.

**2311/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** None.

**2311/4 Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2023 were approved.

**2311/5 Public Statements:** None.

### 2311/6 Planning

#### a. Planning Decisions noted:

ZC23/02412/OUT Outline application for the demolition of an existing detached dwelling and separate garage and construction of a new detached dwelling and separate garage with access and layout considered (all other matters reserved). White House Stocks Green Main Street Darley APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

ZC23/03550/TPO Fell 1 no. Ash tree of Tree Preservation Order No. 05/1970 A7 as it is dead. Greenbanks Niddside Darley APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC23/03552/CLEUD Certificate of lawfulness for an existing rear single storey extension Holme Cottage Darley  
LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE PERMITTED

ZC23/03357/FUL Erection of stable and store West Croft Day Lane Darley APPLICATION PERMITTED

#### b. Planning Applications considered:

ZC23/03822/FUL Temporary widening of both the B6451, with the installation of 20m x 1m hardstanding area to west side, and the existing vehicular access into RAF Menwith Hill. Lateral Reduction by 0.5m to south side of 1no. Hawthorn Tree (T8) and Lateral Reduction by 1m to north west side of 1no. Oak Tree (T9). Land Comprising Field At 420013 456784 Darley

The Council had NO OBJECTIONS provided that the road and verge are returned to their current state (i.e. the works are temporary) and that the work is not carried out whilst Menwith Hill Road is closed. NO OBJECTIONS

ZC23/04150/FUL Single storey rear extension with basement following demolition of existing conservatory, single storey front extension and alterations to fenestration. Low Fold Silverdale Close Darley NO OBJECTIONS

#### c. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) Local Plan:

- (i) *Draft Statement of Community Involvement consultation:* The Council agreed not to submit a response.  
(ii) It was noted that NYC is hosting a *North Yorkshire Local Plan Launch Briefing for Parish Councils* on 6 December 2023; **Clerk to circulate details.**

**d. Other planning matters:** ZC23/03357/FUL *Erection of stable and store West Croft Day Lane Darley:* It was noted that following the last meeting, further information had been sought from NYC Planning. NYC Planning had confirmed that the access will be unchanged and that the building is to house one horse. NYC Planning agreed that this information was not publicly available on the planning portal but did not consider it significant enough to provide additional time for the Council to consider the application at its November meeting. Clerk submitted a response noting that the Council did not therefore have an opportunity to agree and submit a view prior to the decision being made.

**2311/7 County Councillor's Reports:** County Councillor Murday reported the following:

Doulton Lodge planning enforcement: The legal advice provided to NYC suggests that the only grounds for NYC to take action at present is if there is an issue of environmental health associated with the site. In view of this County Councillor Murday suggests documenting the rat infestation which has been previously reported.

Road repairs: Noting that, nationally, road maintenance has decreased in the last five years, County Councillor Murday tabled a question for the NYC Executive Member for Highways regarding the road maintenance programme in North Yorkshire. The question was omitted from the agenda in error and a written reply is awaited.

**2311/8 North Yorkshire Council Draft Housing Strategy: 2024-2029 consultation:** The Council agreed not to submit a response, but Councillors were encouraged to respond individually.

**2311/9 Biodiversity duty:** The Council agreed to consider actions it might take to conserve and enhance biodiversity in the coming months.

**2311/10 North Yorkshire Council Statutory Budget consultation (Let's Talk Money):** The Council agreed not to submit a response but agreed that the consultation should be advertised on the Council website; **Clerk to action.**

### 2311/11 Highways and footpaths

- a. *Possible upgrade of two stiles within the Parish:* It was noted that Councillor McAllister had held constructive discussions with the second landowner and that replacement of the second stile with a self-closing and stockproof gate might also be possible in 2024. It was agreed that sources of grant funding should be investigated, including the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme and NYC Public Rights of Way; **Chairman and Clerk to action.**
- b. *Broken road surface at the junction of Main Street and Stumps Lane, Darley:* It was noted that NYC Highways had inspected the area and identified no actionable defects. It was noted that NYC Streetworks is to check that the reinstatement works carried out (by utility companies) are adequate; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**

- c. *Overhanging trees on the north side of Menwith Hill Road (between Day Lane and the B6451)*: A parishioner's report that trees and bushes were overhanging the road and causing an obstruction to vehicles was noted. It was agreed that NYC Highways should be asked to investigate; **Clerk to action.**
- d. *Streetlight 4, Low Green, Darley*: It was noted that NYC Highways reported that a resident had been asked to cut back a hedge to allow scaffolding to be erected for access to the column. As the light still appears to be out, it was agreed that an update should be sought from NYC; **Clerk to action.**
- e. It was agreed that NYC should be asked to clear leaves on pavements and roads within Darley; **Clerk to action.**
- f. It was noted that cars continue to park on the pavements and junction at the East end of Low Green, Darley, and agreed that North Yorkshire Police should be made aware of this again; **Clerk to action.**
- g. It was noted that a vehicle that appears to have an oil leak continues to park on Main Street near Sheepcote Lane and agreed that North Yorkshire Police should be asked to look at whether action can be taken; **Clerk to action.**

#### **2311/12 Village Maintenance**

- a. *Rats at Fringill Beck*: It was noted that the tenant at Oddy Garth had taken further action in relation to the problem (including changing the type of bait used in stations and stopping storing food in the stable). The tenant had also agreed to put up signs asking that parishioners do not feed the goats but that this did not appear to have happened; **Clerk to follow up.** It was agreed that if a problem persists, the Council should consider writing to households in the vicinity of Oddy Garth to ask that food is not thrown to the goats; **Clerk to monitor.**
- b. *Christmas Lights on Low Green, Darley*: Clerk reported that Derek Hinds had carried out a check of the lights on 18 November 2023 and has added some extra lights. It was noted that Mr Hinds had advised that the Christmas tree would need new lights next year but that it did not appear possible to add lights to any new trees (those which do not currently have lights either have too few branches or are not accessible to be checked in November when the ground is soft). It was noted that Mr Hinds may retire in 2024 and that a new contractor may need to be appointed to check the lights in November 2024 or 2025.
- c. *Noticeboard at Darley Village Shop*: It was noted that the Parish Council noticeboard at the village shop had been damaged recently and that Councillor Ward was helping investigate. It was agreed that a permanent solution should be discussed at the next meeting; **Clerk to add to next agenda.**

#### **2311/13 Reports:**

- a. *Darley Memorial Hall Charitable Incorporated Organisation Annual General Meeting, 7 November 2023*: It was noted that Councillor Dickinson had been unable to attend. It was agreed that Councillor Ferguson would act as a deputy and attend meetings if Councillor Dickinson had difficulty in attending.
- b. *Introductory Webinar for the North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy, 21 November 2023*: Clerk reported that the strategy includes an aim to map areas of importance within North Yorkshire and that the team is keen to hear from parish councils undertaking local projects designed to help nature recovery. The strategy is not likely to be finished before March 2025.
- c. *Nidderdale Plus Annual General Meeting, 28 November 2023*: It was noted that the Nidderdale Plus AGM will be held at Christ Church Community Centre at 6pm; **Councillor Hayes to attend.**
- d. *Upcoming local events noted: 12 December 2023*: Focus on Darley Christmas Tea Party, Darley Memorial Hall, 2-4pm; Christmas Carols on Low Green, 21 December 2023, 6.15pm.

#### **2311/14 Finance**

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted*: Receipts: None. Payments: Eon Next - Cmas lights (November) £25.38, D Hinds – Check of Christmas Lights November 2023 £250.
- b. The budget for November 2023 was approved.
- c. *2024/25 Budget and Precept*: The draft budget for 2024/25 was agreed and it was agreed that the precept should be unchanged at £15,750; **Clerk to notify NYC.**
- d. The purchase of new defibrillator pads for the unit at Christ Church Community Centre at an expected cost in the region of £50 plus VAT was agreed; **Clerk to action.**
- e. It was noted that the National Joint Council rate for local authority employees had increased by £1 per hour with effect from 1 April 2023 and agreed that Clerk's salary should increase by this; **Clerk to notify payroll provider.**
- f. It was noted that the latest account balance with Eon Next was £22.07 debit and that it was expected that the monthly direct debit would reduce from January 2024 onwards; **Clerk to monitor.**
- g. It was agreed that Clerk should attend the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) Experienced Clerks training course on 31 January 2024 at an expected cost of £50.

#### **2311/15 Correspondence received by the Clerk:**

- a. *Just B*: It was agreed that information regarding two helpline services should be displayed on Council noticeboards; **Clerk to action.**
- b. *YLCA training courses, January – March 2024*; **Clerk to circulate details.**
- c. *NYC - Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Consultation*: A consultation to 31 January 2024 was noted; **Clerk to circulate details.**

**2311/16 Items for Information and next Agenda**: It was agreed that PC Mike Spittlehouse, North Yorkshire Police, should be invited to speak at the next meeting (29 January 2024); **Clerk to action.**

**2311/17 Date of next meetings**: 29 January 2024, 26 February 2024, 25 March 2024, 29 April 2024, 20 May 2024.

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