

Draft minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 27 January 2025 from 7.30pm at Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

2501/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, J Hayes, R Ferguson, J McAllister, D Dickinson (part), County Councillor A Murday (part) and Clerk (M Pearson). No members of the public attended.

2501/2 Apologies: Councillor P Ward due to illness.

2501/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations: None.

2501/4 Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2024 were approved.

2501/5 Public Statements: None.

2501/6 Planning

a. Planning Decisions noted:

ZC24/03743/TPO Selective pruning of epicormic growth (up to 5m from ground level) and lateral reduction (of 2m) of 4no Lime trees and 4no Maple trees within A14 of Tree Preservation Order 05/1970 Hay Gate Cottage Stumps Lane Darley
PART APPROVED & PART REFUSED

b. Planning Applications considered:

ZC24/04173/FUL Erection of lean to side extension to Garage. Erection of new external stone skin to be built around the outside of the existing man-made stonework. Addition of solar panels to garage and alterations to fenestration Milner Mount Farm Darley Carr Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

ZC25/00028/FUL Proposed single storey side and rear extension with raised patio and attached lean-to timber frame store side extension. Alterations to fenestration and erection of boundary fence. Greenlea Main Street Darley
NO OBJECTIONS

c. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) Local Plan: It was noted that North Yorkshire Council (NYC) has released information on the sites submitted in response to its "Call for Sites" (<https://app.maptionnaire.com/q/6h6aur4sn3c8>) for information only at this stage (a full consultation is to follow).

d. Other planning matters: It was noted that Clerk had submitted a response to planning application ZC24/04265/TPO *Felling of 1no Maple tree under Tree Preservation Order 70/00005 White House Stocks Green Main Street Darley* with the agreed response - "The Parish Council neither supports nor objects to this application but recommends that the advice of the North Yorkshire Council Arboricultural Specialist is followed".

e. It was noted that Martha Graham, NYC Principal Ecologist, has recommended a condition be included in any approval for planning application ZC24/03603/FUL *Demolition of existing dwelling to be replaced by a self build single dwelling Highfold Cottage Darley* to protect the semi-wild verge opposite the site from potential damage from construction vehicles.

f. It was noted that there has been no update in respect of planning enforcement 22/00361/PR15 *Doulton Lodge Darley ALLEGED BREACH: Untidy land and engineering operations (16/00062/FUL, 15/03092/AMENDS)* for many months and agreed that NYC Planning Enforcement should be asked for an update; **Clerk to action.**

g. Empty property Silverdale Close: Noting that this property has been unfinished and unoccupied for many years, it was agreed NYC Empty Homes should be asked to consider whether there is anything that can be done to bring it back into use; **Clerk to action.**

2501/7 County Councillor's report: County Councillor Murday noted the following:

A59 Kex Gill closure: The landslip onto the A59 has caused concern that further landslips present a hazard to traffic. The road opened on 24 January 2025.

NYC public lavatory policy consultation: NYC has drawn up a draft policy document for management of the public lavatories under the auspices of the authority.

NYC budget for 2025/26: The budget setting meeting is being held later in February 2025. There are a number of financial pressures for NYC, including the loss of the Rural Development Grant (a change by Central Government means that NYC no longer qualifies for approximately £14m). Council Tax is likely to rise by 4.99% in order to help reduce the deficit.

2501/8 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE): North Yorkshire Boundary Review: County Councillor Murday noted that a group of Liberal Democrat NYC Councillors submitted an alternative proposal to LGBCE which did not include dividing the current Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale division and that the LGBCE proposal should be published for consultation in the next few months. It was noted that Daniel Harry, NYC Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny, had passed the Council's letter regarding the lack of consultation on the NYC proposal to the team who put the proposal together and asked them to respond directly; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**

2501/9 Nidderdale National Landscape Joint Advisory Committee Election: The Council agreed not to nominate a parish council representative; **Clerk to notify Iain Mann, Nidderdale National Landscape Manager.**

2501/10 Opinion Research Services: The Council decided not to submit a response to the North Yorkshire Council Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2024/25.

2501/11 Highways and footpaths

a. A59 Kex Gill update: Please see Item 7 above.

b. Calls held with NYC Highways on 10 December 2024 and 10 January 2025: The following was noted:

- NYC Highways was made aware of an accident on the B6451 at Hardgroves Hill on 12 December 2024 (a lorry left the road) and asked to review the stretch of road urgently;
 - NYC swept the leaves in the village at the beginning of December 2024 meaning that the Council did not need to ask the Parish Caretaker to do it;
 - NYC Highways Officers will inspect grit bins and grit piles in the parish and any needing topping will be resupplied; **Clerk to check and update at next meeting;**
 - the next call is scheduled for 5 February 2025.
- c. It was noted that a parishioner has reported an open ditch on Walker Lane, Darley, as being potentially very dangerous and agreed that NYC Highways should be asked to consider whether there is anything that can be done to make it safer; **Clerk to discuss with NYC Highways on next call.**
- d. It was noted that a gate at the entrance to Footpath 1 on Main Street, Darley, needs attention but the relevant landowners are planning to repair it.

2501/12 Village Maintenance:

- a. *NYC Highways Asset Management proposal for grass-cutting 2025/26:* The Council agreed to accept the contribution to grass-cutting costs of £451.14; **Clerk to notify NYC.**
- b. *Update on Christmas Lights:* It was noted that a problem with the timer in one of the lighting columns that supply power meant that a replacement timer was needed after the November meeting of the Council. This was purchased from Yorkshire Lighting & Electrical Limited at a cost of £190+VAT. It was confirmed that the Christmas lights have now been turned off.
- c. *Trees overhanging path, Main Street, Darley:* It was noted that a parishioner had reported problems with overhanging branches on the pavement between Walker Lane and the Wellington Inn; **Clerk to investigate.**
- d. *Damage to Darley Memorial Hall sign:* It was noted that the sign appeared to have been struck by a vehicle and was out of shape; **Clerk to ask Parish Caretaker to straighten (if possible).**

2501/13 Reports:

- a. *Nidderdale Plus Community Hub Annual General Meeting, 26 November 2024:* Councillor Hayes reported that Nidderdale Plus has published its first impact report for the year to 31 March 2024 (<https://www.nidderdaleplus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Nidderdale-Plus-Impact-Report-2024-Final.pdf>). Nidderdale Plus intends to expand the Digital Champions service (expanding to eight venues), purchase an electric car and runs two grant-funding schemes using money generated by its shop in Pateley Bridge. The organisation is financially stable and is benefitting from NYC's Community Anchor Collective Grant scheme.
- b. *Commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day 2025, 8 May 2025:* The Council decided not to hold an event but to publicise any events taking place locally; **Clerk to action.**
- c. *Mental Health Aware and First Aid in Pateley Bridge, 8th February 2025:* It was noted that Nidderdale Plus is working with Mind in Harrogate and the British Red Cross to hold two workshops (10am – 12pm and 1pm - 5pm); **Clerk to circulate details.**

2501/14 Finance

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: Deposit account interest to 31 December 2024 £69.22. Payments: M Pearson Clerk salary to 31 December 2024 £1,180.41; Yorkshire Lighting & Electrical Ltd – Supply and installation of new timer £228, JE Benson & Sons – General caretaking to November 2024 £528, JE Benson & Sons – Grass-cutting to November 2024 £672, Darley Playing Fields Association Play equipment grant 2024/25 £1,000, M Pearson Clerk allowances and expenses to 31 December 2024 £109.72, Eon Next cmas lights (December 2024) £17.76, Eon Next cmas lights (January 2025) £17.76, GeoXsphere Ltd - Parish Online renewal to January 2026 £54.
- b. The budget for January 2025 was noted.
- c. The renewal of the 24 month defibrillator service agreement with Cardiaid from 24 February 2025 was approved at a cost of £309 plus VAT; **Clerk to notify supplier.**
- d. The attendance of Clerk on Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) webinar training on Biodiversity on 4 March 2025 was approved at a cost of £35,10 (to be shared with Dacre Parish Council).
- e. The renewal of the subscription to Parish Online to January 2026 was approved at a cost of £45 plus VAT.

2501/15 June meeting 2025: It was agreed that the June meeting of the Council would be held on 23 June 2025.

2501/16 Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Council - Tesco Stronger Starts Programme;* **Clerk to circulate.**
- b. *Nidderdale Plus - New Community Projects:* It was noted that Nidderdale Plus has two new projects (a small grant scheme and a befriending service) and it was agreed that these should be publicised on the Council website; **Clerk to action.**
- c. *Correspondence from a parishioner thanking the Council for supporting the creation of a new bee and butterfly pollinator plot and highlighting data on the decline in butterfly numbers was noted.*
- d. *Correspondence from parishioners thanking the Council for its help in making Darley village a well-kept place to live with a great sense of community was noted.*
- e. *YLCA Training programme to March 2025;* **Clerk to circulate.**

2501/17 Items for Information and next Agenda: None.

2501/18 Date of next meetings: 24 February, 24 March, 28 April, 19 May, 23 June.

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