

## Draft minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 19 May 2025 from 8pm at Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

**2505/2/1 Present:** Councillors S Welch (Chairman), A Robertshaw, D Dickinson, J McAllister, P Ward, County Councillor A Murday (part) and Clerk (M Pearson). Four members of the public attended (part).

**2505/2/2 Apologies:** Councillor J Hayes due to holiday. Councillor R Ferguson due to holiday.

**2505/2/3 Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** Councillor McAllister declared an interest in planning application ZC24/03603/FUL as a neighbour to the site and took no part in the vote.

**2505/2/4 Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2025 were approved.

**2505/2/5 Public Statements:** Two parishioners spoke to raise concerns regarding the surface of the road at Darley Playing Fields, and in particular, the dust that is generated being a potential health hazard. It was agreed that Councillor Ward would raise the matter at the next meeting of Darley Playing Fields Association and contact the parishioners.

It was noted that a parishioner intervened in an attempted fly-tipping incident at the playing fields. It was also reported that there have also recently been several instances of people cold-calling within the village (suspected to be criminals looking for vulnerable people to steal from or properties to burgle). It was agreed that the Council would contact North Yorkshire Police to report both of these; **Clerk to action.**

It was confirmed that there has been no recent planning application in respect of development at Darley Playing Fields and that, should an application be submitted, it would be expected that North Yorkshire Council (NYC) would advertise the usual consultation locally and the Council would also expect to be consulted on it. It was noted that all planning applications to be reviewed by the Council are specifically mentioned on the relevant agendas.

### **2505/2/6 Planning**

#### **a. Planning Decisions** noted:

ZC25/00847/TPO Felling of 1no Sycamore tree (T1) under Tree Preservation Order 05/1970 G23 1 Pine View Darley  
APPLICATION REFUSED

ZC25/00696/FUL Alterations and extensions to garage including addition of solar panels (revised scheme) Milner Mount Farm Darley Carr Darley  
APPLICATION PERMITTED

ZC25/00934/FUL Demolition of 2 no. existing stone/uPVC extensions. Addition of 3no replacement extensions including raised terrace. Construction of dormers, timber pergola and porch. Alterations to fenestration and replacement of solar panels. Greenbanks Station Road Darley  
APPLICATION PERMITTED

#### **b. Planning Applications** considered:

ZC24/03603/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling to be replaced by a self build single dwelling to include the provision of a retaining wall, Air Source Heat Pump and solar panels. Highfold Cottage Darley

The Council agreed that, provided that the level of noise from the air source heat pump is not excessive (i.e. will not negatively affect neighbouring properties) it would have NO OBJECTIONS. **NO OBJECTIONS**

#### **c. Planning Enforcement:** None.

**d. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) Local Plan:** It was noted that NYC has launched a consultation on "Issues and Options" for the Local Plan. This is the opportunity for anyone to give feedback and how the plan should manage sustainable growth (such as choices around the type of settlements to be chosen to develop growth and how the plan deals with current development limits and green-belt land). It was agreed that the Council would consider a response to the consultation at its next meeting (23 June 2025); **Clerk to circulate consultation document and add to next agenda.**

It was noted that NYC has hosted two calls to introduce the consultation and that Clerk had attended the first call (15 May 2025). It was noted that a recording of the second call (19 May 2025) should be available; **Clerk to circulate** to Councillors.

It was noted that there has been no addition to the existing list of sites with Darley and Menwith Parish submitted to NYC under its Call for Sites since the last meeting.

#### **e. Other planning matters:** None.

### **2505/2/7 County Councillor's report:**

Local plan consultation: There will be an eight-week consultation on the local plan from 19 May 2025 - 15 July 2025. This consultation is focussed on the scope of the plan, overall vision, objectives, growth strategy and thematic matters rather than specific place related.

Full NYC Council meeting this week: The Annual Meeting of NYC is on 21 May 2025. Issues that are of particular concern are the home-to-school transport policy, customer service and the A59 Kex Gill overspend.

### **2505/2/8 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) - North Yorkshire Boundary Review:**

It was noted that LGBCE has published a proposal for North Yorkshire with an intention to remove two parishes (Thorntwaite with Padside and Thruscross) from the existing Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale division of NYC and is currently consulting on this to 9 June 2025.

It was noted that Bewerley Parish Council noted that the new proposal excludes some Nidderdale parishes but is of the view that it broadly reflects the community within the division.

The Council agreed that it would respond to the consultation confirming that, whilst it generally welcomes the new proposal, it would ask that LGBCE considers adding the consulting parish of Thornthwaite with Padside to the proposed Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale division. This is on the basis that this parish has now and has had historically very close links with Darley & Menwith and it has little connection with Wharfedale; **Clerk to action.**

#### **2505/2/9 Highways and footpaths:**

- a. *Calls with NYC Highways in April 2025 and May 2025:* It was noted that Clerk attended calls with Chris Blackburn, NYC Highways Communication Officer (CB) and Darren Griffiths, NYC Highways (DG), and that the following actions were agreed:  
Street signs: DG confirmed that he has recently taken over responsibility for this team but that there is a huge backlog. This means that repairs to signs for Daleside Park and Low Lane will not be carried out in the near future. DG confirmed that he would have no problem if the Parish Caretaker carried out repairs.  
Review of safety on Hardgroves Hill, B6451: DG confirmed that a review of the section of B6451 from "Dangerous Corner" through to Darley village had been carried out some years ago and recommendations made were awaiting a decision on funding for the Department for Transport. DG noted that he did not intend to review this section again. CB agreed to ask a NYC Highways engineer to pick this up.  
Review of 40mph speed limit on B6451: DG confirmed that, although NYC had announced a policy to review speed limits across North Yorkshire, it was unlikely that a review of this section of road would be carried out soon due to the scale of work involved. CB agreed to ask a NYC Highways engineer to pick this up.  
Road surface near the Holme, Crake Lane, and Walker Lane: CB confirmed that a new NYC Highways Officer had taken over responsibility for Darley and Menwith Parish and would be asked to look at these roads (including a review to improve safety of the culverts on Walker Lane and to investigate running water near the Holme).  
Gully outside Oak House, Darley: CB confirmed that the gully is adversely affected by equipment owned by a utility company and that a solution is being sought.
- b. *RAF Menwith Hill new speed limit:* It was noted that the speed limit on sections of Menwith Hill Road and the B6451 outside the base will be reduced to 40mph and that this is expected to take effect from 27 May 2025.
- c. *NYC request for sites for verge clearing in the Harrogate area:* It was noted that NYC is seeking recommendations for sections of road which would benefit from verge-cleansing. The Council agreed that it would suggest Stumps Lane, Darley; **Clerk to action.**
- d. *Update from NYC on the Kex Gill realignment:* It was noted that there is an overspend of £11.7m due to the project requiring removal of a larger volume of material from the site than previously expected. The project is due to be completed in Summer 2026.
- e. *Repair of broken street signs on Daleside Park and Low Lane, Darley:* The Council agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to repair these signs; **Clerk to action.**
- f. It was noted that a number of gullies on the B6451 (from Hardgroves Hill through to Darley Beck) are sinking and may need repair; **Clerk to report.**
- g. It was reported that the hedge outside Tranmer Croft, Station Road, is overgrown; **Clerk to investigate.**
- h. It was reported that there are trees overhanging the path along Main Street, Darley, between Walker Lane and the B6451; **Clerk to investigate.**

#### **2505/2/10 Village Maintenance: None.**

#### **2505/2/11 Reports:**

- a. It was agreed that the Council would ask to add the problem of cold-calling to the agenda for the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations Harrogate Branch meeting on 9 June 2025; **Clerk to action.**
- b. It was noted that Darley Open Gardens will be held on 29 June 2025 and the Village Event will take place on 13 July 2025.
- c. It was noted that the RAF Menwith Hill 4<sup>th</sup> July celebration will take place on 21 June 2025 and that Councillors wishing to attend should contact Councillor Welch.

#### **2505/2/12 Finance**

- a. *Receipts and Payments noted:* Receipts: NYC Precept part 1 £8,268.75. Payments: Eon Next - Cmas lights May 2025 £17.76, Zurich Municipal - Renewal of insurance to 31 May 2026 £435.63, J Dowson - Internal audit services for the year ending 31 March 2025 £50.
- b. The budget for May 2025 was noted.
- c. No other urgent financial matters were discussed.

#### **2505/2/13 Correspondence received by the Clerk:**

- a. *Yorkshire and North Yorkshire Combined Authority - Deputy Mayor Newsletter April 2025;* **Clerk to circulate.**
- b. *North Yorkshire Council - Revenues and Benefits System Upgrade:* It was noted that NYC is currently undertaking a system upgrade to merge the seven legacy systems into one. This will mean that changes will only be possible after the end of June 2025; **Clerk to add details to the Council's website.**
- c. *NYC – Local Council Plan 2025-2029;* **Clerk to circulate.**

#### **2505/2/14 Items for Information and next Agenda: None.**

#### **2505/2/15 Date of next meetings: 23 June, 28 July, 22 September, 27 October, 24 November.**

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