



Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council
held on 27 July 2026 from 7:30pm at
Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

2607/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), D Dickinson, P Ward, J McAllister, A Robertshaw, County Councillor A Murday (part), and Clerk (D Rutherford-Walshe)

2607/2 Apologies: Councillors R Ferguson and J Hayes.

2607/3 Declarations of Interest and consideration of dispensations: None

2607/4 Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting held on 29 June 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

2607/5 Public Statements: None

2607/6 Planning

- a. **Planning Decisions** to note: None to Note
- b. **Planning Applications** to be considered:

Siting of a Storage Container - Playing Fields And Pavilion Station Road Darley North Yorkshire HG3 2PW Ref. No: 26/03658/FUL

NO OBJECTIONS

- c. **Other planning matters:** None to Note

2607/7 County Councillor's Report:

a. It was reported that North Yorkshire Council Highways had provided the name of a company able to undertake analysis of the dust arising from the road surface adjacent to the playing field. It was noted that expert opinion had already been obtained.

b. The Council was advised that County Councillor Murday is in the early stages of establishing a Nidderdale Community Land Trust. It was noted that the initiative would require broad community support in order to progress.

c. It was reported that road closures are scheduled on Moorcock Lane between the 11– 13 August 2026, and Crake Lane between 17 – 19 August 2026.

2607/8 Highways and footpaths

- a. The Council noted that North Yorkshire Council's new Highways Reporting Portal had gone live on 15 July 2026 and could be accessed at: <https://portal.my.northyorks.gov.uk/>
- b. An update was received regarding the damaged manhole covers on Main Street. It was noted that enquiries had been made with a few utility providers; however, responsibility for the damage had not been established. The matter had been referred to North Yorkshire Council for further support.
- c. The Council considered whether it wished to formally support the *Average and Fixed Speed Cameras - North Yorkshire* campaign and be added to the register of supporting councils. It was resolved to support the campaign and be added to the register of supporting councils. It was also noted that North Yorkshire Council has an ongoing speed camera programme in development.
- d. It was noted that concerns regarding the poor reinstatement of the road surface on Main Street at its junction with Fringill Lane had been raised with North Yorkshire Council via Christopher Blackburn. Feedback from a parishioner regarding a non-serious fall on the uneven surface of Fringill Lane was also noted.

- e. It was noted that a temporary road closure had been implemented at Darley Head from 30 June to 4 July 2026 to enable repairs to a leaking communication pipe.
 - f. It was noted that a temporary road closure is scheduled on Low Lane from 8 to 11 September 2026 to facilitate works associated with a water connection.
 - g. It was noted that defects in the road surface had been identified on Station Road, including at the entrance to Darley Village Shop. It was further noted that previous repair works had not proved successful. It was noted that the Clerk would raise the matter with Christopher Blackburn at North Yorkshire Council.
- Clerk to Action**
- h. It was noted that the Clerk had met with Christopher Blackburn of North Yorkshire Council on 21 July 2026 to discuss new and ongoing highways issues within the parish. It was further noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 25 August 2026.

2607/9 Village Maintenance

- a. It was noted that the vegetation on the footpath from Stocks Green to the river had been cleared.
- b. It was noted that agreed works to the Christmas lights and associated trees had commenced.
- c. It was resolved that County Councillor Andrew Murday would liaise with North Yorkshire Council regarding the overhanging trees at Sheepcote Lane and provide an update to the Clerk. If NYC were not taking action it was agreed that the Parish Caretaker be asked to cut them back.
- d. A parishioner's feedback regarding the wildflower area on Stocks Green was noted. It was resolved that the feedback would be considered as part of the next review of the project.
- e. Following feedback from a parishioner, it was agreed that issues surrounding dog waste would be raised in the next Focus on Darley newsletter.

2607/10 Reports

- a. It was noted that the Clerk had attended the Wildfire Prevention Campaign Briefing on 9 July 2026. The briefing included information on the 'Don't Spark Disaster' campaign, which is supported by North Yorkshire Council. The presentation slides are available at: <https://tinyurl.com/ehtyv4p8>. It was resolved that County Councillor Murday would provide posters for distribution throughout the parish.

Clerk to Action

- b. Councillor P. Ward reported that the Playing Fields Association had resolved to write to North Yorkshire Council regarding concerns about dust from the track and requesting that NYC take action.

2607/11 Finance

- a. Payments to note: Annual subscription for Focus on Darley £55.00, Yorkshire Lighting & Electrical Services (Christmas Lights) £2,404.80, Defibrillator Battery £324.00, Hire of Darley Memorial Hall (April – July) £110.00, Parish phone top-up £10.00, ICO subscription £47.00, E.On Next (Christmas lights) £17.76.
- b. The budget for July 2026 was approved.
- c. An approved PAYE payment of £223.80 to HMRC was noted.
- d. It was noted that the necessary forms to enable online banking access had been completed. The Clerk would submit the completed forms to the bank.

2607/12 Correspondence received by the Clerk

- a. It was noted that the Clerk had been granted access to the new North Yorkshire Parishes website.
- b. Correspondence from Nidderdale Plus regarding a survey to assess community demand for local banking services and the potential establishment of a banking hub was noted. The survey is available at <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/GCD4sVw0fe>.

- c. Correspondence regarding forthcoming North Yorkshire Council briefing sessions on preparation of the new North Yorkshire Local Plan was noted. It was noted that online briefing sessions would be held on 4 August 2026 and 12 August 2026, and that the Clerk would attend one of the sessions.
- d. Correspondence from North Yorkshire Council regarding parish precept arrangements and the timetable for setting the 2027/28 precept was noted.
- e. Correspondence from North Yorkshire Council regarding revised Register of Interests forms and supporting guidance, issued following changes to the publication requirements for councillors' residential addresses, was noted.

2607/13 Items for information and next Agenda: none to note.

2607/14 Dates of next meetings: The next Ordinary Meetings of the Council were scheduled for 28 September 2026 and 26 October 2026.

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