



Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darley and Menwith Parish Council held on 28 September 2026 from 7.30pm at Darley Memorial Hall, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

2609/1 Present: Councillors S Welch (Chairman), D Dickinson, P Ward, J McAllister, J Hayes, R Ferguson, County Councillor A Murday (part), Clerk (D Rutherford-Walshe), and one Parishioner.

2609/2 Apologies: Councillor A Robertshaw

2609/3 Declarations of Interest and consideration of dispensations: None

2609/4 Approval of Minutes The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 July 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

2609/5 Public Statements (Maximum 15 minutes total)

A parishioner raised concerns regarding obstruction and signage on PROW 15.91/47/1, which they had previously reported to NYC, and requested the Council's support in progressing the matter. It was resolved that the Clerk and County Councillor A Murday would contact NYC for an update.

Clerk to Action

2609/6 Planning

a. Planning Decisions to note:

26/02791/OUT – Land South of Main Street, Darley

Outline planning application for the development of one self-build residential dwelling and associated infrastructure with access, layout, and scale included. **APPLICATION REFUSED**

26/02699/AMENDS – Darley Mill, Darley Carr, Darley

non-material amendment to allow alterations to the number, size and position of automatic opening smoke vent roof windows in connection with the approved Darley Mill conversion and housing development. **APPLICATION APPROVED**

26/01972/TPO – Hall Field House, Sheepcote Lane, Darley

Application to fell two sycamore trees (T2 and T3) within Tree Preservation Order 5/1970.

PART APPROVED/PART APPROVED

26/04415/FUL - 10 Low Green Darley North Yorkshire HG3 2QA

Side extension to existing dwelling.

APPLICATION APPROVED

b. Planning Applications to be considered: None to Consider.

c. Other planning matters

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Update: The Council noted that the revised NPPF came into force on 17 August 2026, including changes to national planning policies and their application in planning decision-making.

Planning Enforcement: The Council noted planning enforcement case 26/01046/PR15, Little Timble, Darley Head, regarding the alleged unauthorised erection of a summer house.

It was noted that planning application 26/06060/PIP, Land Off Main Street, Darley, HG3 2PZ, had been received following publication of the agenda and that an extension to the consultation period had not been granted. Given the nature of the application and the potential interest to parishioners, it was resolved that an extraordinary meeting would be held on 5 October 2026 at 7.30pm to enable the Parish Council to consider the application and determine its response within the consultation period.

2609/7 County Councillor's Report: The Council received the County Councillor's report, with the road restriction information recorded under Highways and Footpaths.

2609/8 Highways and footpaths

- Road Restriction Notices: The Council noted temporary road restrictions for telecommunications works on Thornthwaite Brow (5-7 and 27-29 October 2026), Dairy Lane (8-10 October 2026), Walker Lane (13-15 October 2026), Stumps Lane (2-4 November 2026), Heck Gill Lane (5-7 November 2026) and Moorcock Lane (13-17 November 2026).
- The Council noted the Clerk's meeting with Christopher Blackburn of North Yorkshire Council on 25 August 2026 regarding ongoing highways matters. Further updates would be provided as received.
- The Council received an update on the previously reported drainage issues near The Holme. It was noted that only one gully had been cleared and that drainage issues remained. It was resolved that the Clerk would raise the matter again with North Yorkshire Council.

Clerk to Action

- d. The Council noted an intermittent fault with lamp post 17, outside the White House and opposite Stocks Green. It was resolved that the Clerk would raise the matter with North Yorkshire Council. **Clerk to Action**
- e. The Council noted that no progress had been made regarding the steps and handrail on Footpath 15.91/1 over the railway embankment (CAMS refs. 76239 and 76240). The Council would consider contributing towards repairs, subject to North Yorkshire Council's agreement. It was resolved that the Clerk would raise the matter again with North Yorkshire Council. **Clerk to Action**
- f. The Council noted a footpath issue extending into Birstwith parish. It was resolved that Councillor Dickinson would confirm the location with the Clerk, who would then refer the matter to Birstwith Parish Council.

2609/9 Village Maintenance

- a. Pollinator Area, Stocks Green: Feedback from parishioners was noted. Additional feedback had been invited through the Parish Council's report in *Focus on Darley*. It was resolved that the Council would allow a reasonable period for further feedback before considering the future management of the pollinator area and its continuation in 2027.
- b. Village Green Plug Planting Project: It was resolved that the Council would participate in the Nidderdale National Landscape plug planting project and that Councillor Hayes would liaise with Joseph Haywood at Nidderdale National Landscape to coordinate the Council's participation.
- c. A report of fly-tipping on Walker Lane on 9 September 2026 was noted.
- d. Tree Cutback, Sheepcote Lane: It was noted that the tree works remained outstanding. The Parish Caretaker had been contacted and had confirmed that the works would be undertaken at the earliest opportunity.
- e. Concerns were noted regarding overgrown trees restricting passage along the bridleway at Fringill Lane, particularly for horse riders. It was resolved that the Parish Caretaker be instructed to undertake the necessary works to address the issue. **Clerk to Action**

2609/10 Reports

- a. North Yorkshire Local Plan Briefing: The Clerk reported on the North Yorkshire Council Local Plan briefing held on 12 August 2026. The revised timetable and statutory process for preparation of the Local Plan were noted.
- b. Nidderdale Business Association: Councillor Ward reported on his attendance at the Nidderdale branding workshop.
- c. Darley Playing Fields Association: Councillor Ward reported that two items of play equipment had been removed and that an evaluation of the remaining equipment was underway. The potential for a future Parish Council contribution towards replacement equipment was discussed. The Council confirmed that it would consider any proposals submitted by the Darley Playing Fields Association.

2609/11 Finance

- a. Receipts and Payments noted: Receipts: North Yorkshire Council, grass cutting £466.47. Payments: E.ON Next, Christmas lights £35.52; Clerk's salary £896.15; HMRC, PAYE £223.80; Vision ICT, website and email hosting £435.83.
- b. The budget for September 2026 was approved.
- c. The Clerk undertaking the ILCA and FILCA qualifications, together with the associated expenditure, was approved.
- d. The National Joint Council 3.3% pay award was noted. The corresponding amendment to the Clerk's salary, backdated to 1 April 2026, and payment of arrears were approved.

2609/12 Correspondence received by the Clerk

- a. It was noted that North Yorkshire Council's Polling District Review Consultation is open until 12 October 2026. Further information and details on how to participate are available at: northyorks.gov.uk/your-council/consultations.
- b. It was noted that correspondence had been received from Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) regarding the introduction of the new Small Authority Portal and future Digital AGAR Portal arrangements. It was further noted that the Council's details on the Small Authority Portal had been reviewed and updated.
- c. It was noted that correspondence had been received from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority regarding consultation on the draft Mayor's Local Transport Plan. The consultation includes proposals relating to rural transport and connectivity and is open until 4 November 2026. Further information on the consultation is available at: <https://yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk/local-transport-plan-consultation/>
- d. The annual review of the North Yorkshire Council Parish Charter was noted. It was resolved that Councillors would provide comments on their experience of working with North Yorkshire Council and that the Clerk would collate these and prepare a response on behalf of the Council for approval prior to submission by 16 October 2026.

Clerk to Action

2609/13 Items for information and next Agenda: none to note.

2609/14 Dates of next meetings: Extraordinary Meeting: 5 October 2026, Ordinary Meeting: 26 October, 30 November 2026

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