

# DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on  
Tuesday, 12 January 2021 from 7.30pm

## To comply with Government advice, this meeting was held by conference call

1. **Present:** Councillors J Kerr (Chairman), K Johnson, J Dales, C White, A Brown, S Darnbrook, R Brown, County Councillor Stan Lumley, Borough Councillor Tom Watson (part) and M Pearson (Clerk). One member of the public attended (part).
2. **Apologies:** None.
3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** Councillor White declared an interest in Item 17a (Nidderdale Greenway extension) as a landowner on the proposed route.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2020 were approved; **Chairman to sign.**
5. **Public Statements:** Clerk read out a public statement in relation to Planning Application 20/04618/FUL *Conversion of existing barn to a dwelling. Beech Croft Dacre* under Item 7b. Further background on the application was provided by a member of the public during consideration by the Council.
6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**
  - a. It was noted that no emergency decisions had been taken since the last meeting (8 December 2020).
  - b. Recent advice provided by the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) in January 2021 was noted. This included confirmation that the YLCA continues to advocate meetings are held online/by conference call and that public toilets are allowed to remain open under the current national restrictions.
  - c. No further actions were considered necessary.

### 7. Planning:

- a. **Planning Decisions** noted:

20/03069/FUL Demolition of existing agricultural shed and erection of replacement agricultural shed and detached stables Deer Ing Heights Dacre  
APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

Correspondence received by the Clerk from the applicant explained that he has been unable to reach agreement with Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) planning officers over the current scheme and is struggling to understand the legal basis for the advice being provided to him as to what is acceptable. The applicant has also been unable to escalate the matter (to senior planning officers or to the HBC Planning Committee).

- b. **Planning Applications considered:**

20/04618/FUL Conversion of existing barn to a dwelling. Beech Croft Dacre.

A statement provided to the Clerk confirmed that the applicant is keen to ensure that the existing barn (which is now redundant for modern farming practices) is saved from falling into disrepair through its conversion into a residential dwelling. The design incorporates the advice given by HBC planning officers on previous applications (regarding access and curtilage) and is intended to be sympathetic to the historic character of the barn. The applicant is keen to remain part of the village and community.

The Council had NO OBJECTIONS to the planning application.

- c. **Planning Enforcement:** None.
- d. **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Overview of the CIL framework and its impact on Dacre Parish Council:** Clerk presented a brief overview of how the new CIL regime is expected to apply to the Council.
- e. **Planning matters update:** None.

### 8. County and Borough Councillors' Reports:

County Councillor Lumley confirmed that the new A59 Kex Gill road scheme has now received planning approval. The cost (approximately £60 million) will be largely funded by central government and the next stage is to obtain the funds from central government.

North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is in the process of finalising its budget for the year ending 31 March 2022. The Coronavirus pandemic has made this challenging but feasible given the reserves available to NYCC.

The Coronavirus pandemic has led to an additional amount of £80 million over the expected budget being spent by NYCC in the current year. A large part of this has been refunded by central government.

The process to move to one or more unitary authorities in the County is progressing, with two proposals having been submitted to central government. It is expected that the review of these by central government will be concluded in February 2021, with the preferred proposal(s) to be put back to local authorities for consultation. A decision is expected in Summer 2021, with a shadow county council continuing until elections can be held in May 2022.

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that HBC is currently experiencing a very high demand for local authority property searches. HBC is working hard to deal with the increased demand (in one week in December 2020, HBC completed 160 property searches - the highest number in a single week to date).

HBC is currently finalising its budget for the year ending 31 March 2022. The HBC Overview and Scrutiny Commission is currently reviewing the draft budget before it is expected to be presented to full Council in mid-January 2021.

HBC Garden Waste licences for 2021 are now available with collections expected to run from mid-March to November. These can be obtained by contacting HBC ([www.harrogate.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/gardenwaste) or 01423 500600).

#### 9. Updates on current issues:

- a. Both defibrillators were confirmed to be working. There were no problems to report with electricity or water.

#### 10. Review of public conveniences

- a. Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Greenhow Fund administrator seeking a discussion regarding projects suitable for funding and is awaiting a reply. It is intended that quotes for carrying out redecoration of the public conveniences will be obtained once it is clear what funding might be possible; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**

#### 11. Footpaths and Highways:

- a. *Road closure*: A planned road closure Dike Lane to Nought Moor Road from 18 January 2021 for up to five days was noted. This is for work by Northern Powergrid to install a new connection.
- b. *Road safety project*: It was noted that the payment of £980 from the AJ1 Road Safety Fund has been received.

It was agreed that the application form for the NYCC Locality Fund grant will be signed by Councillors Kerr and R Brown; **Clerk to submit once signed.**

Clerk confirmed that he contacted Gordon Milne of NYCC Highways in December 2020 to update on progress with funding and to seek a conference call to discuss how the project should best proceed in but has not had a response. It was agreed that Clerk should follow up and that Councillors Johnson and R Brown should join that call; **Clerk to action.**

- c. *Safety concerns around the entrance to Grange Road, Dacre Banks*: Clerk confirmed that nothing further has been heard from NYCC Highways as to whether further measures may be proposed to improve visibility for those using the junction; **Clerk to follow up.**
- d. *New double yellow lines outside the Church View development on the West side of B6451, Dacre Banks*: It was noted that nothing further has been heard since the last meeting; **Clerk to monitor.**
- e. *Grange Road, Dacre Banks water leak*: Georgina Fernandes of NYCC Highways has arranged for further investigative work and it appears that a utility company has damaged a sewer pipe. Mrs Fernandes is arranging a meeting with the utility company to discuss how repairs are to be carried out. The Council praised the work carried out by Mrs Fernandes to move this long-standing issue forward and agreed to provide this positive feedback to NYCC Highways regarding Mrs Fernandes's input; **Clerk to draft.**
- f. *Cabin Lane, Dacre Banks Tree Preservation Order query*: Advice from Alan Gilleard, HBC Arboricultural specialist has been obtained. This confirms that there should be nothing to prevent branches overhanging neighbouring properties from being cut back by those householders; **Clerk to contact the affected householder to share this advice.**

The Council agreed that a copy of the advice can be shared with the owner of the property on which the relevant tree stands; **Clerk to action.**

- g. *Surface and kerbs on Church Avenue, Dacre Banks*: It was noted that the surface of Church Avenue is damaged with a large number of potholes. This has been reported to NYCC through the Parish Portal; **Clerk to monitor and update at next meeting.**
- h. It was noted that Heyshaw Road, Heyshaw is untreated and has been difficult to use for a number of weeks during the recent bad weather. It was agreed that a request should be made to NYCC seeking inclusion of this road in its schedule of roads to be treated routinely; **Clerk to draft.**
- i. No other footpath and highways issues were noted.

**12. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association (DHPFA):** It was noted that the Clerk of Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council (Hartwith PC) has confirmed that the meeting held in October 2020 between Hartwith PC and Councillor Kerr and Clerk (as representatives of the Council) to discuss DHPFA will be discussed at the next Hartwith PC meeting in January 2021; **Councillor Kerr to update at next meeting.**

**13. Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall:** It was noted that, rather than extending the lease of the village hall to the Council, it might be preferable to take the alternative (and less expensive) route of obtaining a letter of comfort from the Diocese of Leeds confirming that it expects the lease to be renewed with effect from 1 January 2025 in line with the current agreement. This may be sufficient for the Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall Committee to access commuted sums from HBC. It was agreed that Councillor Kerr should investigate this further; **Councillor Kerr to update at next meeting.**

It was noted that the floor of the hall of the village hall has suffered serious apparent water damage in December 2020. Investigations to establish the cause are ongoing and may lead to an insurance claim.

**14. Parish Caretaker:**

- a. It was noted that Councillor Johnson has obtained a replacement light for the bus shelter at Dacre, together with a spare for £30 including VAT; **Councillor A Brown to install.**
- b. No new tasks for the Parish Caretaker were considered.

**15. Reports:** No meetings or events were noted.

**16. Finance/Statutory:**

- a. Receipts and payments were noted: Receipts: AJ1 Road Safety Fund grant £980; Payments: Eon - Electricity Public Conveniences to 18 December 2020 £9.38, Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 December 2020 £14.61, M Pearson - Clerk admin expenses to 31 December 2020 £63.36, Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (Jan) £50.
- b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 11 January 2021 was confirmed as £37.47; **Clerk to bank.**
- c. The budget to 10 January was approved.
- d. The Council approved attendance of Councillor R Brown on two YLCA planning courses and Councillor Kerr on a YLCA conducting appraisal course in January 2021 at a total cost of £60.
- e. No other issues were raised by the RFO.

**17. Correspondence received by the Clerk:**

- a. *Sustrans – Update on the Nidderdale Greenway extension from Ripley to Pateley Bridge*: A draft report updating on progress with a possible extension of the Nidderdale Greenway from Ripley to Pateley Bridge and beyond was noted. The Council agreed that for the project to succeed, public consultation was vital, together with careful consideration of the full impact on places along the route (such as Dacre Banks).
- b. *North Yorkshire Police: Crime report for Dacre Parish to 2 January 2021*: It was noted that the report contained one report of a possible breach of Coronavirus regulations only.
- c. *Harrogate Borough Council: Census Day – 21 March 2021*: It was noted that the national census will be carried out on Sunday 21 March.

**18. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda:** None.

**19. Dates of future meetings:** 9 February; 9 March; 13 April; 11 May; 8 June (provisional).

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