

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 13 October 2020 from 7.30pm

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

1. **Present:** Councillors J Kerr (Chairman), K Johnson, C White, A Brown, J Dales (part), R Brown, Borough Councillor Tom Watson, and M Pearson (Clerk). No members of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** Councillor S Darnbrook due to family illness. County Councillor Stan Lumley.
3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** None.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 September 2020 were approved; **Chairman to sign.**
5. **Public Statements:** None.
6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**
 - a. It was confirmed that no emergency decisions were taken between meetings.
 - b. It was noted that the latest advice from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) is for Parish Council meetings to be held remotely. It was agreed that meetings of Dacre Parish Council should continue to be held online/by conference call for the foreseeable future.
 - c. No further actions were considered necessary.
7. **Planning:**
 - a. **Planning Decisions** noted: None.
 - b. **Planning Applications considered:**

20/02782/FUL Erection of barn for hay and storage. Holme Farm Barn Heyshaw

The Council NEITHER OBJECTED TO NOR SUPPORTED the application but asked to be consulted again if revisions are made to the planning application (e.g. design and/or location). NEITHER OBJECTS NOR SUPPORTS

- c. **Planning Enforcement:**

20/00278/PR15 *Spring Wood South Of Land Comprising Field At 417535 463967 Glasshouses ALLEGED BREACH: Excavation and earthworks for potential siting of static caravan:* The Planning Officer has carried out an investigation and will meet with the owner of the site to discuss available options.

- d. **Planning matters update:** Clerk confirmed that Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) is consulting on Supplementary Planning Documents adding detailed guidance to its Local Plan 2014-2035; **Clerk to circulate details of the consultation to Councillors and add to next agenda.**

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

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that HBC meetings are continuing to be held online - the public remains welcome to join these meetings online. A task force is currently reviewing the UCI Road World Cycling Championships held in Harrogate in September 2019 and after gathering and reviewing the evidence, it will report back to the HBC Overview & Scrutiny Commission.

The Nightingale Hospital in the Harrogate Convention Centre remains on standby. Confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the Harrogate District in the seven days to 9 October were 194. A new Coronavirus testing station is being constructed at the HBC Dragon Road car park in Harrogate and is expected to be operational from 22 October 2020. The station should operate 8AM - 8PM seven days a week.

It was noted that the proposed application to close of the Grange Medical Centre in Dacre Banks was described as "deferred" in a recent North Yorkshire County Council ("NYCC") Scrutiny of Health Committee meeting. Reports of applications to close surgeries in Hampsthwaite and Scarborough were given as evidence of a trend in changes to the model used by GP medical practices.

The Borough and District Councils within North Yorkshire have been asked to submit proposals for reorganisation of the local authority structure within the County by November. Borough Councillor Watson

remains opposed to the NYCC plans for one or two unitary authorities on the basis that it reduces democracy and is likely to be very difficult to manage for a county the size of North Yorkshire.

9. Updates on current issues:

- a. *AJ1 Project Fund Application*: Clerk confirmed that no decision on the application has been received; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- b. *The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018*: It was noted that the Council website is in line with the regulations that came into force on 23 September 2020 requiring parish council websites to be accessible for those with disabilities.
- c. Both defibrillators were confirmed to be working. It was reported that the cabinet number of the defibrillator at Dacre Banks had faded and needs re-writing; **Councillor White to action.** There were no problems to report with electricity or water.

9. Footpaths and Highways:

- a. *Water leak on Grange Road, Dacre Banks*: Clerk confirmed that no update has been received from NYCC Highways to date; **Clerk to chase up with NYCC Highways.** Given the severity of the problem and the difficulty in obtaining help, it was agreed that the Council should write to Julian Smith, the Member of Parliament for Skipton and Ripon to seek assistance; **Councillor Dales to draft.** It was also agreed that Mike Wickens, Senior Land Drainage Engineer at HBC should be contacted to ask for assistance; **Clerk to action.**
- b. Clerk reported that an inspection of the drains between Dacre and Dacre Banks on the B6451 suggested that no cleaning had taken place (approximately 70% were blocked or partially blocked). A further request has been made to NYCC Highways; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- c. It was noted that NYCC Highways has carried out work to clear a long-standing problem with a blocked culvert on School Lane, Dacre Banks.
- d. It was reported that the public conveniences maintained by HBC in Dacre Banks are in need of attention; **Clerk to report to HBC.**

10. Review of public conveniences: It was agreed that, weighing up the cost and benefit of managing the public conveniences, and the potential costs of closing the building, the Council should continue to manage the public conveniences at Dacre.

It was further agreed that, subject to Ian Grayshon being happy to refill the units as part of his regular duties, alcohol hand-sanitiser units should be installed and stocked with hand-sanitiser gel on an ongoing basis (estimated cost of £100+VAT to purchase the units and an annual cost of £100+VAT to stock with hand-sanitiser gel); **Clerk to action.**

It was agreed that the possibility of grant funding to help with the purchase (e.g. from The Greenhow Fund) should be investigated; **Clerk to action.**

11. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association (DHPFA):

- a. It was noted that a meeting with Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council to discuss the Trustee structure is expected to be held in the week commencing 19 October.
- b. It was noted that the annual playground inspection highlighted a number of repairs to be carried out and one item to be replaced, with an overall rating of "Medium risk"; **Councillor Kerr to forward the playground inspection report to DHPFA.**

12. Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall: It was noted that discussions with the Leeds Diocese regarding the renewal of the lease of the village hall to Dacre Parish Council are ongoing; **Councillor Kerr to update at next meeting.** It was also noted that the exterior of the building has been decorated and the electrics inside the hall have been upgraded.

13. Lengthsman/Parish Caretaker:

- a. It was noted that the Parish Caretaker has been asked to investigate the cost of a replacement clock for the bus shelter in Dacre Banks; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- b. It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to refurbish a bench on the B6451 between Dacre and Dacre Banks; **Clerk to action.**
- c. It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to clean the road signs in the Parish as required; **Clerk to action.**

- d. It was agreed that, subject to agreeing that the owner is happy for the Council to do so, the Parish Caretaker should be asked to cut back the hedge bordering the Nidderdale Way footpath on Grange Lane; **Clerk to contact owner and arrange with Parish Caretaker.**
- e. It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to make the phone box at Dacre Banks weather-proof to allow it to be used as a book exchange; **Clerk to action.**
- f. It was noted that there is confusion as to whether Tree Preservation Orders are in force around Cabin Lane, Dacre Banks. It was agreed that Clerk should contact Alan Gilleard, HBC Arboricultural Specialist to obtain confirmation; **Clerk to action.**
- g. The recent delivery of wildflower seeds was noted. It was agreed that Councillors should consider where best to plant the seeds; **Clerk to add to next agenda.**
- h. No other new tasks were considered.

15. Reports

- a. *Yorkshire Local Councils Associations Harrogate Branch Meeting 11 October 2020*: Councillor White updated that the meeting had provided confirmation that in-person meetings were not advised (Item 6b above) and that speakers from HBC and NYCC are to be arranged for future meetings.
- b. It was noted that meetings of the Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhoods Group are currently suspended in light of the Coronavirus pandemic and the planned meeting in November 2020 may not go ahead.
- c. No other meetings or events were noted.

16. Finance/Statutory:

- a. Receipts and payments were noted as follows: Receipts: Honesty Box (September) £21.82, Bank interest (September 2020) £1.83; HBC Precept part 2 £5,000; Payments: Brooks Electrical - Repair of light at public conveniences £93.24; Eon - Electricity Public Conv to 18 September 2020 £12.81; Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 September 2020 £8.64; Business Stream - Public Conveniences Water to 10 September 2020 £47.43; Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (October) £50; Clerk expenses - mobile phone top-up and duplicate key for honesty box £14; Caretaker - Services to 30 September 2020 £367.50.
- b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 13 October was confirmed as £32.84; **Clerk to bank.**
- c. The budget to 11 October was approved.
- d. The purchase of replacement pads for the defibrillator unit at Dacre Banks at an expected cost of £35+VAT was approved.
- e. The increase in Clerk salary in line with the *National Joint Council for Local Government Services* pay scale from 1 April 2020 was approved; **Clerk to notify payroll services provider.**
- f. The review of the finance file by Councillor Johnson and Councillor White during September 2020 was noted.
- g. The purchase of a Christmas tree for the village green at Dacre Banks was approved at an expected cost of around £40; **Councillor Kerr to action.**
- h. No other issues were raised by the RFO.

17. Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Police report to 6 October 2020*: It was noted that the report from June – October included two reported frauds (an email account was hacked and goods not ordered were delivered to a victim) and one attempted theft of a dog). A recent attempted theft of a quad bike in Dacre Banks and attempted email fraud were also noted.
- b. *HBC Horticultural Nursery plant sale*: Plants are now being sold from HBC's Nursery on Nursery Lane East, off Harlow Moor Road, Harrogate HG2 0FH, through until 24 December 2020.

18. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda: In light of the precept for the year ending 31 March 2022 being set in December, Councillors were asked to propose any project ideas for the next financial year at the next meeting (10 November). It was agreed that a Halloween decoration could be added to the tree on the village green in Dacre Banks in October.

19. Dates of future meetings: 10 November; 8 December; 12 January; 9 February; 9 March.

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