

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 14 April 2020 from 7.30pm

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

1. **Present:** Councillors J Kerr (Chairman), C White, K Johnson, S Darnbrook, A Brown, Borough Councillor Tom Watson and M Pearson (Clerk). No members of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** County Councillor S Lumley.
3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** None.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020 were approved.
5. **Public Statements (Maximum 15 minutes total):** None.
6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**
 - a. **Council Business Continuity Plan:** The following was agreed:
 - Councillor Kerr kindly agreed to cover the role of Parish Clerk if the Clerk was unable to work for a period of time;
 - in the event that Ian Grayshon was unable or unwilling to continue to look after the public conveniences at Dacre, or if any change in Government advice subsequently requires a closure, Clerk will arrange for the locks to be changed and the building locked; **Clerk to monitor;**
 - in the event that the Parish Caretaker is unable to carry out essential tasks, cover to be arranged by Clerk. It was noted that grass-cutting is currently considered a non-essential task. The Council expressed its thanks to a number of volunteers who are maintaining planting troughs and cutting grass verges in the Parish; **Clerk to write to thank volunteers;** and
 - if the Council is unable to make lawful decisions (e.g. if due to the Coronavirus pandemic a quorum at a meeting is not possible), delegation of certain powers to the Clerk in line with Yorkshire Local Councils Association advice (see 6b below) should allow the Council to carry out essential tasks.
 - b. In order to ensure the operation of the Council during the Coronavirus pandemic, it was agreed that the Council would delegate the making of emergency decisions to the Clerk. This includes anything necessary to ensure the continuous business of the Council and to deal with mandatory undertakings in order to prevent the authority from incurring liability during the period that the delegation is applicable and is to be in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillors as far as reasonably possible.
 - c. The Parish Council commended the Community Volunteers group set up to help deliver food and medicine and to help those in self-isolation. The work of a number of Parish Councillors in setting up and helping within the group was noted.

The Parish Council also commended the work of Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) staff to keep everything going in such an extraordinary situation.
 - d. It was noted that the Parish Assembly has been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. An update will be given on this in due course.

It was agreed that Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall should be checked and then monitored weekly during the Coronavirus pandemic; **Councillor White to action.**
7. **Recruitment of new Councillors:** It was confirmed that one application has been received. It was agreed that the applicant, Jess Dales, should be co-opted to the Parish Council, subject to qualification checks; **Clerk to action.**

8. Planning:

a. Planning Decisions noted:

20/00105/TPO Lateral reduction (by 2m) with crown thinning and dead wooding to no1 Salix Udensis tree within W1 of Tree Preservation Order 26/2019 - Yorke House Dacre Banks APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/00200/TPO Crown lift (to give 2m ground clearance) and crown thinning (by 5%) to 1 no. Beech (W1) within TPO 26/2019. Yorke House Dacre Banks APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/00499/REM Reserved matters application for erection of agricultural workers dwelling (appearance, scale and landscaping considered) under outline permission 19/00669/OUT. Ings Farm, Dacre APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/00225/FUL Demolition of agricultural building; Conversion of barn to form part of dwelling; Erection of garage and stables - RESUBMISSION. Deer Ing Heights, Dacre APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

b. Planning Applications considered:

20/00479/TPO Crown lift (2m clearance): Lateral reduction (by 2m) to give clearance of telephone wires and buildings; Lateral reduction and crown lift to give clearance of road to 1No. Beech tree within W1 of Tree Preservation Order 26/2019, Yorke House Dacre Banks NO OBJECTIONS

20/00895/FUL Formation of outdoor riding arena Land South Of Carr Lodge Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite
The Council NEITHER OBJECTED TO OR SUPPORTED THE APPLICATION, raising the question, given the proposed site is understood to be within the flood plain adjacent to Darley Beck, as to whether a more environmentally-friendly alternative might be available to the proposed use of rubber chippings (e.g. possibly wood chippings?).
NEITHER OBJECTS OR SUPPORTS

20/01111/PROW Stopping up/diverting 50.5 metres of Footpath no. 15.29/64/1. Dike Lane Farm Dacre NO OBJECTIONS

9. County and Borough Councillors' Reports:

Borough Councillor Watson expressed a big thank you to all of those helping within the region in delivering shopping, medication and providing other assistance to those in isolation during the Coronavirus pandemic.

There have been changes to the collection of garden waste to help ensure the collection of general waste and recycling during recent weeks but it is expected that garden waste collections will resume from 14 April / 20 April onwards. Reallocation of staff from HBC Parks and Gardens has also helped keep collections operating.

The Harrogate Convention Centre is currently being converted to an NHS Nightingale hospital facility.

During the last twelve months, 345 affordable houses have been completed in the HBC district. The number represents huge progress on previous years and is very much welcomed.

Borough Councillor Watson asked that parishioners experiencing problems accessing HBC services to make contact with him (please ask the Clerk for contact details if needed).

10. Updates on current issues

i) It was confirmed that the VE Day Celebration planned for 8 May 2020 has been postponed due the coronavirus.

ii) The defibrillators at Dacre Top and in Dacre Banks were confirmed to be working. The Yorkshire Ambulance Service Community Defibrillation Coordinator has requested that weekly checks are carried out, together with the submission of a form to confirm; **Clerk and Councillor Kerr to action.**

Water and electricity meter checks were made and no problems reported.

11. Footpaths and Highways:

a. Clerk updated that in relation to the 30mph speed limit sign on the B6451 approaching Dacre Banks from Dacre Top, Darren Griffiths of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) confirmed that there was unlikely to be support for relocating the speed limit away from the junction. However, traffic-calming measure may be possible and the case was referred to Area 6, NYCC for further consideration; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**

b. It was noted that work is being carried out by the river in Dacre Banks to repair the footpath eroded during the recent floods. The work is currently being undertaken to the east of the Max Pullan Playing Fields.

A query was raised as to whether the path to the west of the B6451 is also to be repaired; **Clerk to obtain confirmation.**

12. Lengthsman/Parish Caretaker: No essential tasks were considered.

13. Finance/Statutory:

- a. Receipts and payments were noted as follows: Receipts: VAT debtor 2018/19 £71.62, Honesty Box March £25.55; Payments: Dacre United Reform Church – Room hire to March 2020 £192, Clerk admin expenses March 2020 £16.90, Eon - Public Conveniences electricity to 18 March 2020 £11.39, Eon - Kiosk electricity to 18 March 2020 £8.07, Business Stream Water to 12 March 2020 £19.96; Darley and Menwith Parish Council – Share of Clerk costs £54.50; TP Jones – Payroll services to March 2020 £78; Ian Grayshon (April) £50; DHPFA – Contribution for 2020/21 £500; Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Subscription to March 2020 £302.
- b. The money from the Honesty Box as of March was confirmed as £25.55. It was agreed that, subject to using appropriate protective equipment, Cllr Kerr would collect and count the Honesty Box takings in April (to be noted at the next meeting) for Clerk to bank.
- c. The budget to 12 April was approved.
- d. It was agreed that, when required, a new defibrillator battery should be purchased by the Clerk for the unit at Dacre Top at an expected cost of around £250 plus VAT; **Clerk to monitor.**
- e. The annual contribution to the Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association of £500 for the year to 31 March 2021 was agreed.
- f. The renewal of the Council's subscription to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association to 31 March 2021 was agreed at a cost of £302.
- g. No other issues were raised by the RFO.

14. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda: It was noted that a request has been received from the developer of Church View to relocate the Council noticeboard in Dacre Banks. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting (12 May) but in the meantime, it was agreed that Clerk should contact the developer with the instruction that the notice board should not be removed until after a decision has been made by the Council; **Clerk to contact developer.**

15. Dates of future meetings: 12 May (with Annual Meeting); 9 June; 14 July; 8 September.

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