

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 27 April 2021 from 7.30pm

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

1. **Present:** Councillors J Kerr (Chairman), K Johnson, S Darnbrook, C White, A Brown, R Brown and M Pearson (Clerk). No members of the public attended.

2. **Apologies:** Councillor J Dales due to work commitments. County Councillor Stan Lumley. Borough Councillor Tom Watson.

3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** None.

4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 were approved; **Chairman to sign.**

5. **Public Statements:** None.

6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**

a. It was noted that following the postponement of the meeting scheduled for 13 April 2021, one emergency decision had been made by the Clerk under delegated authority: in order to meet the deadline for responding to the consultation on reorganisation of the local authority structure in North Yorkshire, the submission prepared by Councillors was submitted on 19 April 2021. A copy of the proposed submission was circulated to all Councillors on that date for information.

b. It was noted that the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) has issued guidance that under current legislation it will not be lawful for meetings of the Council to be held remotely after 6 May 2021. Central Government has also confirmed that new legislation will not be issued to re-introduce this power.

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting of Dacre Parish Council should be rearranged to Tuesday 4 May and will be held remotely/by conference call from 7.30pm. An ordinary meeting of the Council will follow the Annual Meeting, again remotely/by conference call; **Clerk to action.**

It was noted that the High Court has heard a case made by Hertfordshire County Council arguing that further legislation is not required in order for local authorities to hold meetings remotely/by conference call. The decision is expected by 30 April 2021.

c. No further actions were considered necessary.

7. **Planning:**

a. **Planning Decisions noted:**

20/05067/AMENDS Realignment of retaining wall alongside access road to units 1-4 Site Of Church Hill Filling Station Dacre Banks APPLICATION APPROVED

21/00131/FUL Erections of stables, tack and store. Oakroyd Dacre APPLICATION PERMITTED

21/00316/FUL Erection of single storey extension to side. High Barn Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite APPLICATION PERMITTED

21/00233/FUL Erection of stables, tack and store. Carr Lodge Cottage Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/04205/FUL Formation of outdoor riding arena. Carr Lodge Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite

APPLICATION PERMITTED

b. **Planning Applications considered:**

21/00881/FUL Erection of agricultural building Hill Top Farm School Lane Dacre Banks NO OBJECTIONS

21/01084/FUL Conversion of barn to form a single dwelling. Oxen Close Farm Dairy Lane Darley NO OBJECTIONS

21/01405/FUL Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Harewell Woods Farm Glasshouses NO OBJECTIONS

c. **Planning Enforcement:** 21/00136/BRPC15 14 Church Avenue Dacre Banks ALLEGED BREACH: Potential breach of condition 19 (boundary treatments) & 18 (maintenance of soft landscaping)- 15/03868/FULMAJ plus dumping of materials (15/03868/FULMAJ 18/02826/DISCON) was noted. An update provided by Harrogate

Borough Council (HBC) planning enforcement confirmed that an investigation has been carried out and that the officer is planning to meet with the property owner to discuss in more detail. The Council agreed that clarification should be sought regarding this case as the address given on the notice did not appear to match the planning application references quoted; **Clerk to contact HBC planning enforcement.**

d. Planning matters update:

- (i) *Empty Homes*: It was noted that an update from the HBC Empty Homes officer confirmed that work to refurbish the property at Church Hill Garage, Dacre Banks, is subject to conditions associated with the development of the surrounding site being correctly discharged and that he was unaware that any conditions had been discharged to date.

It was confirmed that the development of Woodbine Cottage, Dacre Banks, had been held up by the development of the Site of Church Hill Filling Station on the adjacent plot but that the owner anticipates works being complete by the end of the year.

It was agreed that the Council should continue to monitor both cases; **Clerk to seek future update.**

- (ii) *Cabin Lane development*: It was noted no work has taken place on the Cabin Lane development in Dacre Banks for several months and that a number of parishioners had questioned whether the site (former pasture land) could be tidied up (e.g. removal of materials, fences, etc.) in the short term. It was agreed that HBC Planning Enforcement should be asked whether anything can be done; **Clerk to action.**

- 8. Updates on current issues:** No problems were reported with the defibrillator at Dacre Banks or the electricity or water supplies. A battery problem was identified with the defibrillator at Dacre on 25 April 2021 and a replacement battery is being sent to Clerk by the manufacturer under the warranty; **Clerk to action and then to monitor the unit.**

9. Footpaths and Highways

- a. *Dacre to Dacre Banks road safety project*: It was noted that difficulties have been experienced obtaining any update from North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Highways on help with the project. It was agreed that County Councillor Lumley should be asked for his help in order to understand what resource might be available within NYCC Highways to help with the project; **Clerk to action.** It was noted that the funding for the project has been received and is in place (this has been reserved within the accounts of the Council).
- b. *Grange Road, Dacre Banks, water leak*: NYCC Highways confirmed in April 2021 that two sections of the broken pipe have been replaced but a third section could not be installed due to the presence of equipment belonging to a utility company. The NYCC Highways officer will pursue the matter with the utility company; **Clerk to monitor.**
- c. No other highways and footpath issues were discussed.

- 10. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association (DHPFA)**: It was noted that Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council (Hartwith PC) has prepared a draft letter to be sent to DHPFA on behalf of both Hartwith PC and the Council. The letter seeks a number of changes to the constitution on DHPFA aiming to improve the control that the trustees of DHPFA (who are appointed by Hartwith PC and the Council) have over key matters such as financial matters and the appointment of new trustees. The letter also seeks the re-introduction of a condition that requires trustees to have a connection with the playing fields (e.g. residing within ten miles).

It was agreed that it was in the interests of the Council to seek these changes and that the letter should be sent to DHPFA jointly by Hartwith PC and the Council; **Clerk to notify Hartwith PC.**

The Council also agreed that it should offer to support DHPFA to make changes to its constitution through the use of its resources (e.g. the use of Clerks' time) and/or consideration of a financial contribution towards legal costs (if required).

11. Parish Caretaker:

- a. The Council agreed that work to make the phone box at Dacre Banks water-tight should be carried out as soon as possible in order that it can be brought into use; **Clerk to contact caretaker.** A new use for the phone box at Dacre could then be considered.
- b. No new tasks for the Parish Caretaker were considered.

12. Reports:

- a. *Greenhow Enhancement Fund (Greenhow Fund)*: It was noted that Les Ellington has resigned as the representative of the Council on the Greenhow Fund Committee with effect from 31 March 2021. The Council thanked Mr Ellington for carrying out this role for many years. It was agreed that Councillor Kerr would take over from Mr Ellington; **Clerk to contact the Greenhow Fund administrator to confirm.**
- b. *YLCA Training Conference 21-22 April 2021*: Clerk updated that he attended a number of training sessions over this two-day event held remotely and that the event was a useful update across a number of areas.

13. Clerk appraisal for the financial year ending 31 March 2021: It was confirmed that the appraisal was held on 19 April 2021 remotely by Councillors Kerr and Johnson. Feedback received on the Clerk's performance during the year was all positive and the Clerk continues to undertake the required training, including passing the Introduction to Local Councils Administration qualification offered by the Society of Local Council Clerks. The recommendation that the Clerk progress to the next point on the relevant pay-scale (Point 12 on the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) agreed pay-scale) was agreed by the Council with effect from 1 April 2021; **Clerk to notify payroll service provider.**

14. Finance/Statutory:

- a. Receipts and payments were noted: *Receipts*: Honesty Box March £12.82, Deposit account interest to 31 March 2021 £0.33; HMRC VAT repayment February 2020 – February 2021 £263.72; *Payments*: Eon - Electricity Public Conveniences to 18 March 2021 £4.33, Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 March 2021 £8.07, Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (Apr) £50, M Pearson, Clerk expenses (Purchase of litter-pickers x 3) £35.57; TP Jones & Co LLP – Payroll services for the year to 31 March 2021 £78, YLCA – Subscription to 31 March 2022 £307; DHPFA Grant for the year to 31 March 2022 £500; Eon - Electricity Public Conveniences to 18 April 2021 £4.60, Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 April 2021 £8.36.
- b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 13 April 2021 was confirmed as £32.17; **Clerk to bank.** A 19th Century coin was also found in the Honesty Box; **Chairman to investigate if the coin has any value.**
- c. The budget to 11 April 2021 was approved.
- d. Renewal of the Council's subscription to the YLCA for the year to 31 March 2022 at a cost of £307 was approved.
- e. The awarding of a grant of £500 to DHPFA for the year to 31 March 2022 was approved.
- f. A budget in the region of £25 for the purchase of plants for the planters on Dacre Banks village green was approved; **Chairman to action.**
- g. No other issues were raised by the RFO.

15. Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *North Yorkshire Police: Crime report for Dacre Parish to April 2021*: It was noted that for the period 2 March – 12 April 2021 there were five reported incidents including two possible COVID breaches, one of fraud (a prize-winner email scam), one road traffic damage-only collision and a report of a car abandoned in the Church car park.
- b. *New ladders installed near the bridge over the River Nidd, Dacre Banks*: Clerk received correspondence raising concerns regarding the impact of new installed near the bridge between Dacre Banks and Summerbridge. It was confirmed that the ladders have subsequently been removed.
- c. *UK Cycling Events: Yorkshire Tour Sportive cycling event 5 June 2021*: The plan to hold this cycling event with three routes across North Yorkshire was noted, together with advance notice that there may travel disruption on the day. The event passes through Pateley Bridge but not Dacre Parish. Full details are available at www.ukcyclingevents.co.uk/events/yourkshire-tour-cycling-sportive/.

16. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda: A question was raised as to whether any planning applications to develop the Nidd Valley Saw Mills site in Dacre Banks had been submitted. It was confirmed that no applications were showing on the HBC Planning Portal at present.

20. Dates of future meetings: 4 May (with Annual Meeting) – please note rearranged date; 8 June (provisional); 13 July (provisional); 14 September (provisional); 12 October (provisional).

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