

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 8 December 2020 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). No members of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** None.
3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** None.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2020 were approved; **Chairman to sign.**
5. **Public Statements:** None.
6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**
 - a. It was noted that no emergency decisions had been taken since the last meeting (10 November 2020).
 - b. It was agreed that the notices placed on the Council noticeboards and website to advertise meetings during the Coronavirus pandemic should continue to explain how to obtain the virtual meeting/conference call details from the Clerk. This is to counter a potential security risk if full meeting details are advertised.
 - c. It was noted that the Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) Local Restrictions Support Grant scheme (to support businesses affected by Coronavirus within the Harrogate district) and the Local Fund (to support not-for-profit organisations within the Harrogate district) are open. Details are available on the Council website (www.dacreparishcouncil.org.uk).
 - d. No further actions were considered necessary.
7. **Planning:**
 - a. **Planning Decisions** noted:
20/02782/FUL Erection of barn for hay and storage. Holme Farm Barn Heyshaw
APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
 - b. **Planning Applications considered:**
20/03069/FUL Demolition of existing agricultural shed and erection of replacement agricultural shed and detached stables Deer Ing Heights Dacre NO OBJECTIONS
20/04205/FUL Formation of outdoor riding arena. 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 grey rubber chippings.
NEITHER OBJECTS OR SUPPORTS
 - c. **Planning Enforcement:**
An update was provided on 20/00178/PR15 Ings Farm Dacre ALLEGED BREACH: *Unauthorised stationing of a static caravan for purpose of residential occupation (20/00499/REM)*: The Planning Enforcement Officer has confirmed that the presence of a caravan is acceptable on a temporary basis during construction.
 - d. **Planning matters update:** Following the November 2020 Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) meeting, a question was referred to HBC on the impact of the Government White Paper on potential reforms to the planning system on the Harrogate District Local Plan. HBC confirmed that it has reviewed this policy document and considered its implications. There is understood to be discussion within Government as to whether this policy will be taken forward as drafted or whether changes will be made.
8. **County and Borough Councillors' Reports:**
County Councillor Lumley attended the Executive (Performance Monitoring) meeting of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) on 8 December and raised questions regarding the plans for NYCC to continue to support private and public transport companies and the measures to be put in place to encourage growth and job creation. A review is being undertaken by NYCC to consider how best to support these sectors.

Dr Lincoln Sargent is leaving his position of Director of Public Health at NYCC to take up another position. Louise Wallace will take over from Dr Sargent on 12 December.

The NYCC project to improve access to superfast broadband is entering its fourth and final phase (aiming to increase the availability of superfast broadband to cover 97% of the County).

County Councillor Lumley confirmed that two proposals have been submitted to Central Government – NYCC favours a single unitary authority for North Yorkshire excluding the City of York Council; the majority of the district councils within North Yorkshire prefer two unitary authorities dividing on an East/West basis (roughly along the line of the A1). A decision is expected from Central Government in Spring 2021 followed by a consultation on its preferred model(s) with a view to implementing any agreed change with effect from April 2022. Each model will incorporate the election of a Mayor, allowing for greater devolution of power from Central Government and access to additional funding.

The Council expressed its gratitude to County Councillor Lumley for his regular attendance and valuable input into Council meetings.

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that HBC is also currently reviewing budgets ahead of the new financial year starting 1 April 2021 and it is clear that this will be difficult as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

At a recent HBC Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting, a senior officer confirmed that North Yorkshire Police receive around 1,000 calls each day (usually answered within 90 seconds). For the period January – September 2020 there were approximately 5,000 reported crimes (24% less than the same period in 2019). Concerned regarding ongoing problems with parking in certain areas within the District (such as around Brimham Rocks), Borough Councillor Watson has asked for clarification of the legal position regarding vehicles obstructing access to single-track roads and properties or parking partly across footpaths.

The Nightingale Hospital is currently being used for non-Coronavirus cases, with an agreement in place with the NHS through to March 2021.

The Council thanked Borough Councillor Watson for his regular attendance and input into Council meetings and for the help that he routinely provides voluntarily to parishioners in Dacre and surrounding parishes.

9. Updates on current issues:

- a. Both defibrillators were confirmed to be working. Clerk confirmed that new pads for the unit at Dacre Banks were installed in November. There were no problems to report with electricity or water.

10. Review of public conveniences

- a. Clerk updated that work to maintain the public conveniences at Dacre did not appear to be eligible for a grant from the Greenhow Fund. It was agreed that Clerk should contact the Greenhow Fund to check and, if not eligible, to explore other potential sources of funding; **Clerk to action.**

11. Footpaths and Highways:

- a. *AJ1 Project Fund application for a warning sign for cyclists between Dacre and Dacre Banks:* It was noted that the Improvement Manager at NYCC thought that it would be difficult to deliver this project for less than £3,500 plus VAT. It was agreed that the Council should claim the £980 offered by the AJ1 Project Fund, the £500 offered by County Councillor Lumley and contribute up to £2,020 from Council funds (VAT should be recoverable). It was agreed that the Council should work with NYCC Highways to reduce the overall cost through design and use of the most cost-effective suppliers and contractors as far as possible; **Clerk to action.**
- b. *Introduction of double yellow lines around entrance to Grange Road, Dacre Banks:* It was noted that NYCC Highways had confirmed the double-yellow lines installed are as intended by the order. The Highways Project Engineer has agreed to refer concerns that visibility at the entrance to Grange Road remains very limited at times for further investigation; **Clerk to follow up with NYCC Area 6 Highways.**
- c. *New double yellow lines outside the Church View development on the West side of B6451, Dacre Banks:* This is understood to be due for consideration by NYCC in the near future; **Clerk to add to future agenda.**
- d. *Water leak on Grange Road, Dacre Banks:* NYCC Highways has carried out an investigation which identified a blockage but was unable to clear this with the equipment available. Another attempt will be made with larger equipment. Further investigation work has been recommended by the NYCC Highways Officer, with safety boards to be kept in place in the meantime; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- e. *Cabin Lane, Dacre Banks Tree Preservation Order query:* It was noted that the owner of the site on which the tree overhanging Cabin Lane stands is prohibited from carrying out any work on trees on the site as a planning condition. He is happy for an approach to be made to HBC for permission to cut back trees that

- are causing concern but asks for copies of any permission provided. It was agreed that the Council should seek permission from HBC and consider further action at its next meeting; **Clerk to action.**
- f. It was noted that the "Give Way" signs at the traffic-calming in Dacre Banks have slipped recently and may need attention; **Clerk to contact NYCC Highways.**
 - g. No other footpath and highways issues were noted.
- 12. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association (DHPFA):** It was noted that no response has been received from Hartwith cum Winsley since the last meeting and agreed that Chairman should follow up in the New Year; **Chairman to action.**
- 13. 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 the Council are ongoing. A solicitor experienced in dealing with lease renewals in this sector has been identified; **Councillor Kerr to update at next meeting.**
- 14. Lengthsman/Parish Caretaker:**
- a. *Replacement solar light for the bus shelter at Dacre:* It was agreed that a replacement light should be sourced and installed; **Councillor Johnson and Councillor A Brown to action.**
 - b. *Further work to clear Nidderdale Way footpath from Grange Lane to Grange Road, Dacre Banks:* It was agreed that the Caretaker should be asked to clear weeds from the path between Grange Land and Grange Road; **Clerk to liaise with Caretaker to arrange.**
 - c. It was noted that the clock at the bus shelter in Dacre Banks has been removed but that a parishioner had offered to contribute to the purchase of a replacement. It was agreed that the Chairman should discuss further with the parishioner and update at the next meeting; **Chairman to action.**
 - d. No other tasks were considered.
- 15. Reports**
- a. *Nidderdale Plus Annual General Meeting 17 November 2020:* Chairman reported that this meeting highlighted the work carried out by Nidderdale Plus during 2019 and in 2020 during the Coronavirus pandemic. Nidderdale Plus is currently seeking a Trustee.
 - b. No other meetings or events were noted.
- 16. Finance/Statutory:**
- a. Receipts and payments were noted as follows: Receipts: Honesty Box (December) £30.12, Deposit Account interest to December 2020 £0.33; Payments: YLCA - Councillor Kerr Social Media training course £15, Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (December) £50, Eon - Electricity Public Conv to 18 November 2020 £9.83, Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 November 2020 £8.36, PHS - Sanitary waste collection services to December 2021 £40.90, Business Stream - Public Conveniences Water to 25 November 2020 £47.62, M Pearson - Salary and allowances to 31 December 2020 (including salary adjustment in respect of April – October 2020) £781, YLCA - Councillor Kerr Planning training course £22.50, Caretaker - Services to 30 November 2020 £210.
 - b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 6 December was confirmed as £30.12; **Clerk to bank.**
 - c. The budget to 6 December was approved.
 - d. Budget and precept 2021/22: The recommended budget for 2021/22 was approved, with a 10% increase in precept to £11,000; **Clerk to notify HBC.** This equates to an estimated £2.72 increase in contribution for a Band D property to £29.87 per annum.
 - e. No other issues were raised by the RFO.
- 17. Correspondence received by the Clerk:**
- a. *North Yorkshire Police:* Crimes in the Parish included one online fraud (a social media account being hacked), an animal injured, a dog-on-dog attack and two driving offences (both for defective lights).
 - b. *NYCC Consultation on annual budget, Council Tax for 2021/22 and longer-term plans and priorities:* The NYCC budget consultation to 11 January 2021 was noted (www.northyorks.gov.uk/yourservicesyoursay); **Clerk to circulate details to Councillors.**
- 18. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda:** None.
- 19. Dates of future meetings:** 12 January; 9 February; 9 March; 13 April; 11 May.

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