

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 8 October 2019 from 7.30pm at the United Reform Schoolroom, Dacre

1. **Present:** Cllrs J Kerr (Chairman), A Brown, C White, S Darnbrook, K Johnson, A Cottrill, County Cllr Lumley (part), Borough Cllr 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 September 2019 were approved.

5. **Public Statements (Maximum 15 minutes total):** None.

6. **Planning:**

a. **Planning Decisions** noted:

19/02707/FUL Conversion of barn to provide additional guest accommodation; Demolition of fold barn; Erection of garage; Erection of 4 no. stables and a tackroom. Deer Ing Heights Dacre

APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

19/03148/FUL Erection of ancillary building/annex. Holme Farm Barn Heyshaw

APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

19/00691/FUL Erection of dwelling with landscaping and change of use of agricultural land to form paddock (amended details received 09/08/2019). Land Comprising Field At 419753 462086 Dacre Banks

APPROVED

b. **Planning Applications** considered: None.

c. **Planning Enforcement:**

An update was provided in respect of 19/00461/PR15 The Old Mistal Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite ALLEGED BREACH: 3 shipping containers on site (14/02058/FUL, 07/02593/FUL). The Planning Enforcement Officer has requested more information from the owners but at this stage has no evidence that would demonstrate that the containers are not being used in a lawful manor (i.e. existing farming/storage use).

A Notification of Breach of Condition Notice in respect of Land and premises at Newall Hall Farm Foldshaw Lane Dacre was noted.

d. **Planning Appeals** noted:

19/00046/NREFPP Stud Farm End Oak Lane Dacre Banks (Planning Application 18/05020/FUL)

APPEAL DISMISSED

e. **Update on other Planning Matters:**

Clerk updated in respect of the two properties which had been reported to the Harrogate Borough Council Empty Homes Officer (Church Hill House, Dacre Banks and Woodbine Cottage, Dacre Banks). Discussions are ongoing with the owner of the former regarding options for the property (refurbishing or possibly demolishing). The second is under-going renovations but these are being held up by a watercooler issue; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**

7. **County and Borough Cllrs' Reports:**

County Cllr Lumley confirmed the refurbishment of County Hall, Northallerton is under way, with a number of obsolete buildings being demolished. The project is expected to be completed in mid-2020.

County Cllr Lumley has chaired a number of meetings looking at road safety, engaging with North Yorkshire Police, the "20's Plenty" and "95 Alive" groups to help formulate North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) policy in this area. He has also chaired a meeting considering climate change and in particular how NYCC policy should be adapted to make climate impact a consideration in decision-making.

A further £15.1m contract has been awarded to improve digital infrastructure in the county. The project will see 180km of new fibre laid to 370 public sector sites, including council offices, schools and health authorities'

buildings, across 16 North Yorkshire town areas, with benefits likely to include reduced travel through online meetings and online consultations and increased sharing of education resources.

NYCC has been chosen as one of three counties to take part in a large pilot programme aimed at protecting young people who are in danger of going into care. Inclusion reflects the 'outstanding' grade achieved by NYCC in every category under the new Ofsted social care inspection framework.

The Kex Gill A59 proposed route has been agreed with interested parties and carefully chosen to avoid protected marshland and taking into account the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Site of Special Scientific Interest requirements. It is anticipated that work can start in 2020 aiming for completion in 2021.

Borough Cllr Watson confirmed that Harrogate Borough Council achieved 97.8% Council Tax collection in 2018/19 against a target of 98.2%. This is a very good collection rate relative to most areas in the UK.

It is appreciated that there are still some issues with the waste & recycling collections – anyone experiencing problems should contact Borough Cllr Watson.

Examples of speeding in Dacre Banks have been reported to Borough Cllr Watson. It was noted that Parish Councils can consider the purchase of speed surveys and road signs (including vehicle-activated-signs); **Clerk to add to the agenda for the next meeting.**

Borough Cllr Watson is pushing to ensure that contractors adequately restore parts of Dacre Banks following works. These include issues with pavements, street signs and potentially drains.

Significant work will be undertaken to restore the Stray in Harrogate following the UCI World Championship Cycling event. This is likely to include improving drainage.

8. Updates on current issues:

a) i) *Parking on B6451 Dacre Banks*: Clerk confirmed that a letter sent to David Bowe at North Yorkshire County Council supporting the recommendations of the Fatal Collision Inspection Report has been passed to Mr Barrie Mason, Assistant Director for Highways and Transportation and a response is expected mid-October.

ii) *Proposed closure of Grange Medical Centre*: Discussions between the Nidderdale Group Practice and parties interested in taking on the Grange Medical Centre building are understood to be ongoing. It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to monitor the situation with no change to its position of maintaining the restrictive covenant on the building.

Borough Cllr Watson confirmed that there had been a large response to the petition against closure of the building. The responses received will be independently processed.

b) Both defibrillators were confirmed to be working. Electricity meter checks had been carried out. A check of the water meter at the public conveniences to be made once the water table subsides; **Clerk to action.**

9. Management of Public Conveniences: The management of public conveniences at Dacre Top by Dacre Parish Council was discussed. It was noted that the average cost per elector within the Parish of providing the public conveniences is less than £2 per annum.

It was also noted that the public conveniences in Dacre Banks are owned and maintained by Harrogate Borough Council and not Dacre Parish Council.

It was agreed that the best option at this stage was to continue to provide the public conveniences but to seek more and larger donations from users by adding further and more prominent signs within the building; **Clerk to action.**

It was further agreed that the electrics and lighting should be checked; **Clerk to arrange.**

It was agreed that a sanitary waste collection service would not be engaged at this time.

Further work will be undertaken to seek grants to help contribute towards the cost of providing the public conveniences (e.g. from the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Countryside Fund); **Cllr Kerr to investigate.**

10. Footpaths:

a) Correspondence received from North Yorkshire County Council Public Rights of Way regarding an application to record a Public Bridleway and a restricted Byway between Heyshaw and Dacre Lane, Dacre was noted. It was agreed that further information should be obtained regarding the impact of an Order before representations could be considered; **Clerk to obtain and circulate all information to Cllrs.**

11. Highways:

a) Correspondence received by a parishioner from North Yorkshire County Council regarding verges and stones being deposited onto the highway in Heyshaw was noted.

b) i) A request to North Yorkshire County Council to repair the road surface at the junction of School Lane and the B6451 to be made; **Clerk to action.**

ii) Water is flooding on the top end of Grange Road, thought to be from the field above. North Yorkshire County Council are aware; **Clerk to report to Yorkshire Water.**

iii) Water is flooding from the B6451 in Dacre Top opposite the United Reform Schoolroom onto at least one property on the East side of the road; **Clerk to report.**

12. Lengthsman/Parish Caretaker:

a. A request for the verges on School Lane, Dacre Banks and around the junction with the B6451 to be cut by the Parish Caretaker was considered. Given budget restrictions, the Parish Council resolved not to ask the Parish Caretaker to add this to the list of areas to cut.

b. i) It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be asked to plant a donated holly bush in the trough at the end of Grange Road, Dacre Banks; **Clerk to action.**

ii) It was agreed that the Parish Caretaker should be engaged to cut back foliage pushing through the fence at the garages on Grange Road, Dacre Banks; **Clerk to action.**

iii) It was noted that the cost of purchasing and installing the bench on the Village Green at Dacre Banks had been wholly covered by a grant from County Cllr Lumley's North Yorkshire County Council locality budget. The Parish Council expressed its thanks to County Cllr Lumley.

iv) It was noted that the verges outside of the properties at Church View, Dacre Banks were being cut by their occupants and agreed that these would not be cut by the Parish Caretaker.

v) The planter in front of the Dacre millstone sign at the South end of Dacre Top has been cleared by Cllr White and will be planted using bulbs and plants kindly donated by a parishioner.

13. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association: Cllr Kerr confirmed that at the meeting on 24 September the trustees representing Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council had resigned – new trustees will be sought. Work to stain the pavilion has identified that some of the cladding is starting to fail with remedial work being required. A grant is being sought from the Harrogate Borough Council Small Transport Scheme to purchase bicycle racks for the playing fields. The next meeting is 26 November 2019.

It was noted that the annual playground inspection report has been received from Harrogate Borough Council; **Clerk to review.**

14. Reports:

a) *Hardcastle Trust:* The next meeting is 14 October 2019.

b) *Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall Committee:* The Hall has relatively few bookings at present (other than the recurring bookings) and more would be welcomed. A roof survey has been carried out and this confirmed that attention will be required. A survey report for the main building is expected shortly. Fire officer and boiler checks are being carried out.

An application has been made for grant-funding to paint the railings outside of the building.

The recent jumble sale has raised at least £600 to date. The Royal Oak has been asked to hold a quiz night and raffle to help raise further funds for the village hall. Further members of the 200 Club are needed. The next meeting is 4 December 2019.

c) *Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhoods Group*: The next meeting is 27 November 2019.

d) i) *YLCA Branch meeting, 7 October*: Cllr Cottrill confirmed that the invited speaker from the Planning Department at Harrogate Borough Council did not attend. The meeting covered the debate regarding parish council powers around vehicle activated signs, the YLCA's current workload and cases covered, the trial of a YLCA training webinar and an open forum discussion.

ii) *Harrogate Borough Council Parish Briefing, 1 and 2 October*: Cllr Kerr and Clerk attended these events which were focused on planning (including the Local Plan, Community Infrastructure Levy and the role of Harrogate Borough Council as the planning authority).

15. Finance/Statutory:

a. Receipts and payments were noted as follows: Receipts: £4,500 Harrogate Borough Council Precept Part 2; Payments: £7.73 Eon - Public Conveniences to September 2019; £39.95 Yorkshire Water re Public Conveniences to September 2019; £105 Caretaker September 2019; £8.56 J Todd & Sons – Toilet rolls September 2019; £20.67 M Pearson Clerk admin and travel expenses to September 2019; £43.34 Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (Oct).

b. Money from Honesty Box as of 8 October 2019 was noted as £17.44.

c. The budget to 6 October was approved.

d. An update to be provided regarding reimbursing the cost of planting three stone troughs outside of Gate Eel Farm on a one-off basis at the next meeting; **Cllr Kerr to seek further information.**

e. The cost of the purchase of a Christmas tree for the village green at Dacre Banks to be confirmed at the next meeting of the Parish Council; **Cllr Kerr to seek further information.**

f. It was agreed that a wreath would be purchased for the Parish Council for the Remembrance Day service at Summerbridge; **Clerk to arrange and seek further details regarding the event.**

g. The cost of the Annual Play Area Inspection (£55+VAT) was approved.

16. Correspondence:

a) *Yorkshire Local Councils Association*: A consultation of proposed reforms to permitted development rights to support the deployment of 5G and extend mobile coverage was noted. The proposed changes are focused on allowing equipment and masts to be built under permitted development rules and in some cases without prior notification to the planning authority; **Clerk to circulate consultation to Councillors.**

b) *National Association of Local Councils*: A Policy Consultation Independent Review Into Local Government Audit was noted; **Clerk to circulate a link to the consultation to Councillors.**

c) *Warm & Well in North Yorkshire Campaign*: A campaign to address the impact of cold homes on vulnerable people in North Yorkshire was noted and in particular that the project focuses on households where there are: people on low incomes or benefits (including state pension); anyone with physical or mental health issues; and families with young children; **Clerk to circulate details to Cllrs.**

18. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda: Cllrs were reminded of the Ethical Training event at Harrogate Borough Council's Civic Centre on 7 November at 5.30pm.

19. Circulation papers: The White Rose Update for September 2019 was circulated.

20. Dates of future meetings: 12 November; 10 December; 14 January; 11 February.

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