

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 8 September from 7.30pm

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

1. **Present:** Councillors J Kerr (Chairman), C White, A Brown (part), S Darnbrook, J Dales, R Brown, County Councillor S Lumley, Borough Councillor Tom Watson, and M Pearson (Clerk). No members of the public attended.

2. **Apologies:** Councillor K Johnson due to holiday.

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

4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 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. No further actions were considered necessary.

7. **Planning:**

a. **Planning Decisions** noted:

19/05223/LB Listed building consent for the replacement of 5 windows and 1 door. Pyefield House Farm Dacre
APPLICATION REFUSED

20/01111/PROW Stopping up/diverting 50.5 metres of Footpath no. 15.29/64/1. Dike Lane Farm Dacre
RIGHT OF WAY ORDER TO BE MADE

20/02293/AMENDS Non material amendment to alter the rear elevation fenestration detailing to Units 1-4
(House Type F) and Units 5 and 6 (House Type F) Site Of Church Hill Filling Station Dacre Banks
APPLICATION PERMITTED

20/01454/FUL Erection of single storey rear extension. 2 Holly Villas Dacre Banks Harrogate
APPLICATION PERMITTED

b. **Planning Applications considered:**

20/02761/FUL Conversion of barn and outbuilding to form dwelling and ancillary store. Grange Farm Barn Dike
Lane Dacre
NO OBJECTIONS

c. **Planning Enforcement:**

20/00263/PR05 Dike Lane Farm Dacre ALLEGED BREACH: Demolition and re-construction of existing barn
(16/01442/FUL 18/05269/DISCON) was noted. The Planning Enforcement Officer confirmed that the owner of
the property has agreed to cease any further works on site until a lawful planning resolution has been reached.

d. **Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government White Paper - Planning for the future:** The
consultation on possible reforms of the planning system was noted. It was agreed that Councillors would send
comments to Chairman by 22 September and that Chairman would draft a formal response to the National
Association of Local Councils (NALC) with the Council's view; **Councillors and Chairman to action.**

e. **Planning matters update:** The approval of Harrogate Borough Council's Community Infrastructure Charging
(CIL) Schedule on 8 July 2020 was noted, with planning applications for new developments expected to fall
under the new regime from late 2020 onwards. It was agreed that Clerk would provide Councillors with a
reminder of the new CIL system at the meeting scheduled for 12 January 2021; **Clerk to action.**

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

County Councillor Lumley confirmed that North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) continues to carry out
Council business using virtual meetings, including Scrutiny Committees and area constituency meetings
attended by the Member of Parliament.

The biggest issue being considered by NYCC is the change to the local authority structure in the county. NYCC currently favours a single authority covering North Yorkshire excluding the City of York (which would continue to operate as a unitary authority). This model would allow local decision-making in area constituencies, with corporate and strategic decisions taken at the higher level under an elected Mayor.

The seven districts within North Yorkshire (including Harrogate Borough Council (HBC)) currently favour a different model utilising two more equal authorities (split either East/West or North/South).

It is anticipated that a change in structure would bring the benefits of devolved power (more decision-making being made locally), increased funding from Central Government and cost savings through a reduction in administration. Advice has been sought from similar counties that have made the change (including Cornwall and Durham) as part of the work to understand the challenges and advantages of changing structure.

Proposals are to be submitted to Central Government in September. A change in structure would most likely mean that elections planned for 2021 would be cancelled, with Councillors serving an extended term to help transition to the new structure.

Borough Councillor Watson highlighted that NHS Community Equipment that has been borrowed but is no longer needed can now be returned to the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Penny Pot Lane, Harrogate.

In a typical week, HBC collects 990 tonnes of household waste, processes 35 planning applications, carries out inspections of ten food premises, processes 980 benefit claims and changes; and repairs 154 properties.

Borough Councillor Watson is currently seeking a solution to the issue of parking on the roads around Brimham Rocks. At times vehicles parked on junctions and roads are a danger to other road users and potentially restrict access for emergency vehicles. The matter is to be raised with National Trust.

Borough Councillor Watson will seek formal confirmation that plans to close the Nidderdale Group Practice surgery at Dacre Banks have been withdrawn.

9. Updates on current issues:

- i. AJ1 Project Fund Application: Clerk confirmed that an application was submitted in August 2020. A decision on the application is expected in October 2020; **Clerk to update at next meeting.**
- ii. Both defibrillators were confirmed to be working. A minor issue with a light at the public conveniences has been fixed. Otherwise there were no problems to report with electricity or water.

10. Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields Association (DHPFA): Chairman updated that work to clean and redecorate the pavilion has now taken place. The cost was met by a grant provided by Sport England.

It was noted that Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council (Hartwith Parish Council) had engaged a consultant to review the current arrangements for operating DHPFA and in particular the role of Trustees and Members of the Management Committee. This follows difficulties experienced recently by Hartwith Parish Council in appointing Trustees.

It was agreed that Chairman and Clerk should seek a meeting with representatives from Hartwith Parish Council to discuss the report and seek a preferred way forward (to be considered by the Council at a future meeting); **Clerk to liaise with the Clerk of Hartwith Parish Council to arrange a meeting.**

11. Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall: Chairman confirmed that work has been carried out to update the electrical wiring in the building and that the outside of the building is in the process of being redecorated.

It was noted that the existing lease of the building to the Council expires on 1 January 2025 and a new 28-year lease would normally be put in place from that date. However, given that access to commuted sums (contributions made by developers towards the provision of community buildings) is dependent on the recipient holding a tenure of at least ten years, it is likely to be beneficial for the Council to seek an earlier renewal. It was agreed that Chairman should discuss this with the landlord (now Diocese of Leeds); **Chairman to action.**

12. Footpaths and Highways:

- a. It was noted that following repeated flooding of a property on Oak Lane, Dacre Banks, representatives from NYCC Highways visited Dacre Banks in August and arranged for a repair to be made to a broken drain on Oak Lane. A number of gullies were also cleaned along Oak Lane and the B6451.

Following the visit, NYCC Highways is also investigating flooding which occurs around the junction of School Lane and the B6451; **Clerk to monitor and update on progress at next meeting.**

- b. Correspondence from a parishioner expressing concern regarding speeding vehicles and dangerous parking in Dacre Banks was noted. It was agreed that the Council should continue to seek more police enforcement in Dacre Banks; **Clerk to action.**
- c. It was highlighted that a problem with water leaking through the road at the West end of Grange Road, Dacre Banks had not been fixed and that there was a danger that the road or pavement would collapse. County Councillor Lumley agreed to raise with NYCC Highways again at a meeting in mid-September.

It was queried whether gullies on the B6451 from Dacre to Dacre Banks had been cleaned as expected; **Clerk to check and follow up with NYCC Highways as necessary.**

13. Lengthsman/Parish Caretaker:

- a. No new tasks were considered.

14. Reports

- a. *NYCC webinar regarding potential changes to the North Yorkshire County local authority structure, 19 August 2020:* Cllr R Brown confirmed that the call was useful to understand the proposals being put forward by NYCC and the experiences of other counties that had made the transition. There remained some questions as to whether the skills and experience necessary to operate the new structure were already in place, whether service levels were likely to improve or reduce, the potential impact on employment and the likely use of any savings generated (whether retained by Central Government).
- b. No other meetings or events were noted.

15. Finance/Statutory:

- a. Receipts and payments were noted as follows: Receipts: Honesty Box July £25.67, Honesty Box August £26.55; Payments: Eon Public Conveniences Electricity to 18 July 2020 £15.05, Eon Public Conveniences Electricity to 18 August 2020 £15.75, Eon Kiosk Electricity to 18 July 2020 £8.91, Eon Kiosk Electricity to 18 August 2020 £8.07; Fenland Leisure – Replacement rope for playground equipment £157.20; Caretaker services in July 2020 £75, Caretaker services in August 2020 £330; Harrogate Borough Council Playground Inspection 2019 £66; Avenue Printing House – Notices leaflets £35; Clerk salary and allowance to 30 September 2020 £727; I Grayshon – Public Conveniences August 2020 £50; I Grayshon – Public Conveniences September 2020 £50, I Grayshon – Public Conveniences consumables £14.38, Information Commissioners Office – Data Protection Fee to June 2021 £35.
- b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 10 August was confirmed as £26.55 and on 8 September £21.82 **Clerk to bank.**
- c. The budget to 6 September was approved.
- d. The purchase of Dacre and Hartwith Playing Fields playground inspection report for 2020 at a cost of £55 plus VAT was approved;
- e. A proposed new energy contract with Eon Energy (a one-year deal with no standing charges) from 9 December 2020 was approved;
- f. The payment of expenses of £14.38 incurred by I Grayshon in caretaking the Public Conveniences was approved.
- g. No other issues were raised by the RFO.

15. Correspondence received by the Clerk:

- a. *Arthritis Action:* It was noted that Arthritis Action is a UK charity offering online Action Group meetings during the Coronavirus pandemic (www.arthritisaction.org.uk/media-centre/events/). It also provides access to a number of exercise videos (www.arthritisaction.org.uk/living-with-arthritis/resource-centre/exercises/).

16. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda: The annual review of the management of the public conveniences should be carried out in October; **Clerk to add to agenda.**

17. Dates of future meetings: 13 October; 10 November; 8 December; 12 January 2021; 9 February 2021.

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