

DACRE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Tuesday, 9 March 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, J Dales, C White, A Brown, R Brown, County Councillor Stan Lumley (part), Borough Councillor Tom Watson (part) and M Pearson (Clerk). Three members of the public attended (part).
2. **Apologies:** None.
3. **Declarations of interest and consideration of dispensations:** Councillor White declared an interest in Item 13 *Nidderdale Greenway Extension* as a landowner on the proposed route.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2021 were approved with one addition – it was clarified that the timescales for Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) processing property searches was quoted in terms of working days; **Chairman to sign.**
5. **Public Statements:** Two parishioners spoke in objection to planning application *20/05012/FUL Little Barn Dike Lane Farm Dacre*. The reasons given for objecting included:
 - the application is for a new build residence on agricultural land within the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and, as such, is contrary to AONB planning policy;
 - the proposed building is visually exposed from public roads and rights of way;
 - although the developer intends to re-use the original stone, it has been cut to form more regular shapes and reconstructed in a manner which is not in keeping with the appearance of the original building;
 - demolition of the barn is contrary to the original proposal which confirmed that the structure was effectively sound and needed only minor alterations to convert to a residence; and
 - allowing a retrospective approval for work carried out without planning permission in this way would set a bad precedent in respect of development of other buildings.

A petition objecting to this planning application signed by nineteen people was also given to the Parish Council; **Clerk to submit to HBC Planning Consultations.**

6. **Coronavirus pandemic:**

- a. It was noted that no emergency decisions had been taken since the last meeting (9 February 2021).
- b. It was noted that the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) guidance remains for meetings to be held remotely/by conference call and that the next two meetings of the Council should be held in this way.
- c. No further actions were considered necessary.

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

County Councillor Lumley confirmed that a balanced budget for North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) for the financial year ending 31 March 2022 has been approved. There has been approximately £100m of unbudgeted spend due to the Coronavirus pandemic, some of which has not been refunded by Central Government, coupled with a loss of Council income streams. For the year from 1 April 2021, there will be a 1.99% basic increase in Council Tax plus an additional 1.5% increase to be spent on social and adult care.

NYCC elections for May 2021 have been cancelled with new elections expected in May 2022. This should allow for any agreed change to the local authority structure to be implemented from this date.

Central Government has agreed to fund the A59 Kex Gill realignment. Assuming construction starts in Summer 2021, a 12-14 month construction schedule should mean that the revised layout is in use by the end of 2022.

Borough Councillor Watson confirmed that two members of HBC's Parks Department with a combined service of over ninety years are due to retire shortly. Their extensive knowledge and experience will be missed.

It was noted that a Central Government consultation on the future of the New Homes Bonus scheme (incentives awarded to local authorities to encourage construction of new homes) from 2022/23 onwards closes on 7 April 2021. This is a significant scheme for driving the availability of new affordable houses.

The Harrogate Convention Centre will be returned to HBC on 1 April 2021 following its use as an NHS Nightingale Hospital. The process to restore the building to a conference-centre venue, including decisions regarding the cost, are to be decided.

Two units on the Church View development, Dacre Banks, remain available to those with a local connection through the affordable homes “share to buy” scheme. Details are available from Home Group www.homegroup.org.uk.

8. Planning:

a. Planning Decisions noted:

20/04618/FUL Conversion of existing barn to a dwelling. Beech Croft Dacre PERMISSION REFUSED
20/00250/CLEUD Certificate of lawfulness for retention of use of caravan structure as permanent dwelling. Newall Hall Farm, The Caravan Foldshaw Lane Dacre LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE PERMITTED
20/05139/FUL Installation of automated prescription collection machine and solid panel surround in place of existing windows to front elevation. Nidderdale Group Practice The Grange Medical Centre Dacre Banks PERMISSION GRANTED
20/04639/LB Replacement of 5 no. windows & 1 no. glazed door. Pyefield House Farm Dacre PERMISSION GRANTED

b. Planning Applications considered:

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. The Council also expressed concern should there be any intention for artificial lighting on or around the arena.
NEITHER OBJECTS OR SUPPORTS
21/00233/FUL Erection of stables, tack and store. Carr Lodge Cottage Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite NO OBJECTIONS
21/00316/FUL Erection of single storey extension to side. High Barn Dacre Pasture Lane Thornthwaite NO OBJECTIONS
21/00294/FUL Erection of two storey rear extension, alterations to existing dwelling, roof height and fenestration. Temporary siting of static caravan on-site during building works. Lodge Farm Dacre
On the understanding that access to the public footpath will not be affected during construction, and that suitable conditions could be put in place to ensure that the use of the static caravan as a residence is limited to during construction only, the Council had NO OBJECTIONS to the planning application. NO OBJECTIONS
20/05012/FUL Erection of a single dwelling in accordance with the plans for a barn conversion approved under Ref 16/01442/FUL. Little Barn Dike Lane Farm Dacre NO OBJECTIONS
21/00131/FUL Erections of stables, tack and store (amended details received 15th February 2021). Oakroyd Dacre NO OBJECTIONS

c. Planning matters update: None.

9. Updates on current issues: No problems were reported with defibrillators, electricity or water supplies.

10. Proposed changes in North Yorkshire County local authority structure: A Central Government consultation on two possible models until 19 April 2021 was noted. It was agreed that Councillors J Kerr, R Brown and White would review the proposals and make a recommendation for a Council response to the consultation at the next meeting (13 April); **Clerk to add to next agenda.**

11. Footpaths and Highways

- Dacre to Dacre Banks road safety project:* It was noted that an email had been sent to Gordon Milne, NYCC Highways, seeking an update on 8 March 2021 but no response received; **Clerk to chase.**
- Grange Road, Dacre Banks, water leak:* NYCC Highways confirmed in February 2021 that the utility company which had agreed to carry out repairs is now disputing liability; **Clerk to monitor.**
- Installation of new telecommunications poles on Dike Lane, Heyshaw:* It was noted that new poles were installed on Dike Lane during February 2021. The Council understood that these were to improve access to

- broadband and welcomed this but noted that these had an adverse visual impact on the rural landscape within the AONB. It was agreed that the Council should contact BT to register its concern and copy the correspondence to the Nidderdale AONB team for information; **Clerk to draft.**
- d. It was noted that the road surface of School Lane, Dacre Banks, Church Avenue, Dacre Banks and of the B6451 through Dacre and Dacre Banks have been marked for repairs. Gully-cleaning along the B6451 between Dacre and Dacre Banks on 9 March was also noted.
- e. It was noted that potholes in the Heyshaw Road, Heyshaw, surface reported in early 2020 have not been repaired; **Clerk to report.** An unfinished trench dug by a utility company on Heyshaw Road was also noted; **Clerk to report.** A defective footpath on the B6451 in Dacre Banks was noted; **Clerk to report.**
- 12. Parish Council Noticeboard:** It was noted that C&AJ Marshall has purchased and installed the new Parish Council Noticeboard in Dacre Banks and that this is now in use. The old noticeboard has been dismantled.
- 13. Nidderdale Greenway Extension:** The Council agreed that the proposals given in the December 2020 draft report needed full public consultation to progress the project. The Council suggested a public meeting should be held locally to consult and agreed to help facilitate this; **Clerk to submit feedback.**
- 14. Parish Caretaker:**
- a. It was noted that a water leak at the public conveniences due to frozen pipes had been found by Ian Grayshon and fixed by A Simpson & Co during February. It was agreed that Clerk should discuss with A Simpson & Co what can be done to prevent further leaks (e.g. the lagging of pipes); **Clerk to action.**
- b. No new tasks for the Parish Caretaker were considered.
- 15. Reports:** No meetings or events were noted.
- 16. Clerk Appraisal for the financial year ending 31 March 2021:** It was agreed that Councillors Kerr and Johnson would carry out the Clerk appraisal with the timing to be agreed; **Chairman to arrange.**
- 17. Finance/Statutory:**
- a. Receipts and payments were noted: Receipts: Honesty Box February £12.91; Payments: Eon - Electricity Public Conveniences to 18 February 2021 £7.04, Eon - Electricity Kiosk to 18 February 2021 £8.91, Ian Grayshon re Public Conveniences (Mar) £50, Councillor K Johnson – Reimbursement of cost of replacement bus shelter lights £29.99, A Simpson & Co – Plumbing repairs at Public Conveniences February 2021 £107.14, M Pearson Clerk salary and allowances to 31 March 2021 £745; Caretaker – Services to 28 February 2021 £45.
- b. The money collected from the Honesty Box on 9 March 2021 was confirmed as £12.82; **Clerk to bank.**
- c. The budget to 7 March 2021 was approved.
- d. The attendance of Clerk at YLCA Training Conference April 2021 at a total cost of £40 (to be shared equally with Darley and Menwith Parish Council) was approved. It was confirmed no Councillors wished to attend;
- e. The purchase of litter picker devices for use by volunteers within the Parish at a total cost of no more than £50 was agreed; **Clerk to action;**
- f. No other issues were raised by the RFO.
- 18. Correspondence received by the Clerk:**
- a. *North Yorkshire Police:* Crime report for Dacre Parish to March 2021: It was noted that for the period 6 January – 2 March 2021 there were ten reported crimes including two possible COVID breaches, one of fraud, one dog-related incident and six incidents involving vehicles.
- 19. Minor Items for Information or Future Agenda:** Councillor Johnson confirmed that he had applied for a licence to remove signal crayfish from the River Nidd. It was noted that a takeaway curry fund-raising event for Holy Trinity Church will be held on the evening of Saturday 27 March 2021.
- 20. Dates of future meetings:** 13 April (with Parish Assembly); 11 May (with Annual Meeting); 8 June (provisional); 13 July (provisional); 14 September (provisional).

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