



The monthly meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 10th January 2018** at Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: G. Banner, J Day, R Findlay, E Watson, R Rudsdale, I Margetts, I Dodsworth, C/Cllr C Pearson and J. Preston (Clerk).

1. Declarations of Interest None declared.

2. Apologies for absence Cllr Caffry & Cllr Stonehouse.

3. Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held 13th December 2017 were accepted by resolution as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

The Clerk presented an update regarding the issues he had been required to deal with.

1. The bridge railings on Easton Lane have been repaired / replaced.
2. The blocked gullies reported on Easton Lane & adjacent to Castleton Church will be cleared (no date given).
3. Lead Lane, Westerdale, the 30mph sign positioned in drainage ditch has been removed and the ditch dug out / cleared.
4. The poor state of the road / potholes on Dibble Bridge Bank from the Esk crossing up towards Comondale will be addressed (no date given).

5. External reports C/Cllr Pearson informed the meeting that both the Borough Council and County Council will be increasing the Precept for the coming financial year. Despite the increases however both councils will be in deficit and may need to make additional savings.

The Police Report had been circulated separately in advance of the meeting and published on the website.

6. Planning

6.1 Planning application NYM/2017/0834/R3 under Regulation 3 (Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992) for siting of a storage container at Unit 1b Langburns Bank, Castleton. Resolved – No objection.

7. Accounts

7.1 The monthly breakdown of accounts was presented – accepted by resolution.

7.2 Budget and Precept for the forthcoming financial year. The Clerk had prepared and circulated a detailed breakdown as to the current financial situation together with projections for the coming year.

Based on the current Precept (ie £12,200) with no increase in costs there would be a budget deficit in the region of £1500. With a projected index linked increase in costs the deficit would rise to around £2000.

Members discussed the situation at great length and acknowledged it was difficult to plan / set a budget not knowing when SBC would be closing the public convenience at Danby, which would affect the amount received from SBC by way of the Toilet Maintenance Grant. Closing the toilets would also however potentially cut Parish Council expenditure in relation to the monthly cost of toilet cleaning (3 units to clean instead of 4).

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

It was also recognised that grants received had reduced but various costs had increased.

Following lengthy debate and giving due consideration to how an increasing the Precept would be received / perceived, it was resolved to increase the Precept for the forthcoming financial year to £13,000.

The increase will still leave a budget deficit but it was felt this could be addressed by drawing on reserves.

The table below shows what the increase mean to the residents of the group of Parishes in financial terms.

Band	Projected 2018/19 Charge	Current Charge per Band	Increase
Band A	12.48	11.52	0.96
Band B	14.56	13.44	1.12
Band C	16.64	15.36	1.28
Band D	18.72	17.28	1.44
Band E	22.88	21.12	1.76
Band F	27.04	24.96	2.08
Band G	31.2	28.8	2.40
Band H	37.44	34.56	2.88

8. Communicating with the public

There is a feeling amongst some members that the Parish Council is not necessarily communicating with the public as effectively as it could especially the younger people. Following discussion it was agreed to 'experiment' with social media i.e. Facebook. Cllr's Watson, Day and Margetts will meet separately and progress the proposal.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence received by the Clerk from a member of the public ref the lack service provided by the mobile post office on 12/12/17.

Members were sympathetic, however there was acknowledgement that road conditions in East Cleveland on 12/12/ 17 were much poorer that in the Danby / Castleton area (the mobile unit is based in Marske). No further action deemed necessary – response to be sent accordingly.

10. Items reported by Parish Councillors

Highways issues raised / to be reported

- I. Easton Lane – extensive subsidence to the road is reported.
- II. Westerdale Side – general poor state of the road is of concern, the sides of the road is disintegrating in places.

Meeting Closed 8:30pm

Next meeting 7pm, Wednesday 14th February 2018