



The routine monthly meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 13th February** at Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: G Banner (Chair), E Watson, I Dodsworth, P Stonehouse, J Day, S Medd, R Rudsdale, I Margetts, together with J Preston (Clerk) and one member of the public

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr R Findlay.

2. **Declarations of Interest** None declared.

3. **Minutes** The Minutes routine meeting held on 9th January 2019 were accepted by resolution as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

- a) Railway bridge, Langburn's Bank – members who had been unable to attend were briefed regarding the public meeting which had been held on the 12th Feb in Castleton Village Hall. Four representatives from RailTrack and two from AmcoGiffen had been in attendance and had discussed the work and taken questions from members of the public who had dropped in during the course of the afternoon. It seemed as though the concerns raised by the public and Parish Councillors had been taken on board and it had been acknowledged that poor communication had been a major issue especially in respect of emergency access under the bridge.
- b) Large potholes between Hob Hole and West House – confirmed to be outside the Parish boundary, the Highways web site shows that the problem has been reported.
- c) Granite sets around the grass triangle near to Station Cottages on Langburn's Bank damaged / displaced. No update available at this time.
- d) Station Road between end terrace and Castle Hill – road surface breaking up where the highway joins the track (no kerb). Highways update states the issue reported has been examined but does not warrant intervention.
- e) Toilet cleaning – Mr Taylor has confirmed he is willing to carry on with toilet cleaning duties as per the terms agreed by members at last month's meeting.

5. **External Reports** - no reports presented on this occasion

6. Planning

6.1 Planning application **NYM/2018/0827/FL** in respect of Ainthorpe House, 1 Brook Lane, Ainthorpe i.e. an application for "change of use of land from agricultural to domestic garden together with erection of multi-purpose home office and tractor store (retrospective)".

There was a very lengthy debate in respect of this application. A previous application in respect of this address had been very similarly worded but had included reference to the land being used for an "occasional community events hub". In respect of that application members had resolved to object to the 'development' on the basis that the proposed so called 'community hub' use was deemed to be inappropriate / incompatible in this location and both unfair and an inconvenience to neighbours. The actual building proposed (which has already been erected (hence the retrospective nature of the application) was not the issue. Amended details in respect of this matter have now been submitted and reference to the community events hub has been omitted from the application. Members expressed certain reticence in respect of the manner in which planning applications in respect of this address were

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

being made, again the building subject of the application (which is already in use) is not the issue but queries were raised as to the reasons behind the change of use aspect of the application. Purely on a planning basis members resolved not to object to the application but the concerns raised were to be brought to the notice of the NYMNPA Planning Committee who are scheduled to meet on the 28th March.

6.2 Planning application **NYM/2018/0815/FL** i.e. an application for the conversion of an agricultural building to commercial kitchen at Danby Castle. Resolved no objections.

7. Accounts / Financial

The statement of accounts for the preceding month was approved by resolution and payments thereby authorised.

8. Correspondence

- a) **Hospital Patient transport issues.** This issue was debated at length and had been raised with the Parish Council by a member of the public who is a trustee of Whitby & District Community Transport. Members had been copied into an email from the Manager who had raised concerns with Mr Goodwill MP and various County Councillors etc. It seems the case that an extra burden is reportedly being placed on the Community Transport scheme because of an apparent change of process or application of eligibility criteria by the Ambulance Service in respect of non-emergency or routine transport of 'patients' either to or from hospital. People who had previously been transported by ambulance now reportedly had to make alternative arrangements because they were deemed ineligible to be transported by ambulance and the ambulance service were directing people to the community transport providers who were overburdened and losing volunteers as a result. Members were sympathetic but agreed they were unable to exert any influence in respect of this matter. A request for volunteers on behalf of Whitby & District Community Transport would go on the Parish Council Facebook page.
- b) **Model Code of Conduct.** The Clerk advised members that a review by the Committee on Standards in Public Life had recommended changes needed to be made to the Code of Conduct for Councillors. Noted NFA required.
- c) **Conservation Area photographic survey.** The Clerk advised members that volunteers acting on behalf of NYMNPA would be visiting Castleton at some point to take photographs of buildings architectural features within the Conservation Area. Date not known. Noted NFA required.
- d) **Toilet Cleaning Service Level Agreement.** The new SLA drawn up by SBC had been circulated in advance of the meeting and members resolved to accept the terms set out therein. On behalf of the DGPC the document was signed by the Chair.

9. Items reported by Parish Councillors

- a) Councillors reported various locations where it was felt necessary to replenish depleted road salt stocks – Clerk to action
- b) Concerns raised regarding the condition of Broadgate Road and Christy gate Road, Westerdale – general condition / potholes – clerk to action

Meeting Closed 8.20pm

Next meeting 7pm, Wednesday 6th March 2019