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The **Annual Meeting** of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 9th September 2020** at the NYMNP Centre, Danby. The annual Meeting was immediately followed by a routine meeting.

Present : Councillors: G Banner, P Stonehouse, J Day, E Watson, S Medd, R Rudsdale, I Dodsworth, R Findlay, CCLR C Pearson and J. Preston (Clerk).

Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr J Day accepted a nomination from the floor and was elected as Chairman by resolution; the Declaration of Office was signed accordingly.

2. Apologies for absence Cllr I Margetts

3. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr R Findlay accepted a nomination from the floor and was elected as Vice Chairman by resolution.

4. The following additional appointments were made:

- 4.1 The Castleton Village Hall Management Committee - Cllrs Rudsdale & Stonehouse
- 4.2 Castleton Play Area Committee – Cllr Day
- 4.3 The Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Cllr Banner and J Preston (Clerk)

Minutes of the Routine Monthly Meeting

1. Declarations of Interest None declared.

2. Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 29th July 2020 were accepted by resolution as being accurate and were signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported the following:

- Highways issues raised at the previous meeting had been reported to the County Council
- Road side gullies in Castleton – previously cleaned 16th July 2019, due to be routinely cleaned towards the end of September
- The abandoned motor vehicle had been removed.
- The external audit documentation had been submitted on time and the auditor had confirmed receipt.
- Grass cutting in Comondale – the Caretaker has advised he would cut verges etc in Comondale but this would mean less time being spent in Castleton & Danby. Members agreed the work in Comondale was essential. Mr Taylor to be re-contacted.

4. External Reports

CCLR Pearson reported there had been an increase in instances of fly tipping throughout the Borough so vigilance was important and reports should be made to SBC. Secondly, due a local campaign to have them re-opened there had been some press interest in regard to the public conveniences in Danby.

5. Planning

Members considered the following Planning Application.

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

- 5.1 **NYM/2020/0541/FLT** - Application for alterations and construction of single storey extension to dwelling, alterations to stable building, replacement oil tank and landscaping works at The Vicarage, Longlands Lane, Danby Dale. Resolved - **No objection**
- 5.2 **NYM/2020/0543/LB** - Application for Listed Building consent for external and internal alterations including removal of walls and construction of single storey extension to dwelling together with external and internal alterations including removal of wall and creation of mezzanine to stable building at The Vicarage, Longlands Lane, Danby Dale. Resolved - **No objection**
- 5.3 **NYM/2011/0389/FL** - Application for Conversion of garage store and vacant shop to provide three principal residence dwellings and shop (part retrospective) at Central Garage High Street Castleton. Resolved - **No objection**
- 5.4 **NYM/2020/0565/FL** - Application for use of land for the siting of 2 no. shepherds huts for holiday letting purposes with associated access path and landscaping works at Hollins Farm, Hollins Farm Road, Westerdale. Resolved – **Support**. The proposed development is in a non obtrusive location, access is already available as is a sewage digestion system. There is no loss of agricultural land and there is a potential employment opportunity.
- 5.5 **NYM/2020/0580/FL** - Application for conversion of and extension to barn to form 1 no. holiday letting cottage at Waites House Farm, Westerdale. Resolved - **No objection**
- 5.6 **NYM/2020/0520/FL** - Application for change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden and installation of septic tank at Stang End Farm, Danby. Resolved - **No objection**

6. Accounts / Financial

- 6.1 The statement of accounts for the preceding months was approved by resolution and payment of outstanding invoices was authorised.
- 6.2 National Salary Award. (The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed the new pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented from 1 April 2020.) By resolution members approved the new pay scales in respect of the Clerk's salary (gross increase of £15.12 / month or net £12.10 i.e. after tax). In line with the legislation / pay award the increase would be backdated to April 2020.

7. Parish Council Notice Boards

Cllr Stonehouse had priced what were deemed to be suitably sized replacement notice boards - £550. All five boards around the Parish were in need of replacement but it was agreed to fund just 2 this financial year which would be sited in Westerdale & Ainthorpe. Suitable posts would be an additional cost and the Caretaker was to be asked if he would undertake the work.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence received advising that BT would be undertaking work in Castleton regarding high speed broadband. The work would involve lifting some cobbles on Primrose Hill and digging a trench across the High Street, which in total would take 4 to 5 days. No start date provided. It was to be made clear to the contractor that the cobbles need to be relayed properly and a start date provided in advance of the work commencing.

9. Items reported / issues raised by Parish Councillors

9.1 The question was asked as to whether during the current Covid 19 pandemic if it would be possible / preferable to hold future meetings remotely as per Government / Yorkshire Local Councils Association guidelines / recommendations. The issue was debated and various members gave accounts of their personal experiences with remote meetings. Although not unanimous the majority of members did not wish to hold remote meetings. It was acknowledged however that the situation may alter if a second Covid 19 'lockdown' is imposed. Meetings would be held less frequently and subject of a risk assessment. The Clerk would continue to keep members up to date with relevant issues by e-mail and If an urgent matter arose a meeting could be called. There would be no meeting in October.

9.2 30mph speed limit Langburn's Bank, Castleton – request to be made to County Council Highways to re-designate ie move the 30mph limit on Langburn's Bank towards the top of the bank. There are

residential properties outside the limit but the main issue is road safety for those increasing numbers using the tennis court on the bank with entry and egress being an issue.

9.3 Dibble Bridge Bank / New Road cross-road. A water board installation is missing a lid and the equipment inside is exposed.

9.4 Approach to the road bridge over the River Esk, Station Road / New Road – wooden post a rail fence damaged.

9.5 Tib Hill almost opposite The Grange on the approach road to Danby – a large stone block has been dislodged from the verge retaining wall

9.6 The pavement path on Station road adjacent to and below Castle Hill is in a poor state of repair.

9.7 Post and rail fence on New Road near Carr House damaged

9.8 Complaint from Danby fire crew – Easton Lane, Ainthorpe – trees and hedges badly overhanging the road.

9.9 Road down into Hob Hole from Westerdale (near John Breckon Road) road side ditches need clearing, water on the road.

9.10 Road out of Hob Hole in the direction of Kildale – gorse bushes badly overhanging the narrow road.

9.11 The garth / allotment area on Dibble Bridge Bank near the junction with High Street (thought to be the responsibility of Danby Court Leet) is being used as a bit of a dumping ground for timber and rubble and for burning hedge trimmings etc. A trailer is on the verge.

9.12 Damaged concrete post a rail fence on the Blakey Road / junction with the road down to Stormy Hall House. CCLR Pearson reported that repairs to the barriers had been funded from his allocated Locality Budget which had been debited – enq to be made with Highways as to when the repairs would be undertaken.

9.13 Westerdale Side junction with Birkfield Bank – Give Way sign near post box missing (post still in place).

Date / venue of next meeting – to be determined