



The Annual Meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 26th May 2021** in Castleton Village Hall. This meeting was immediately followed by a routine monthly meeting

Present : Councillors: J Day (Chair), E Watson, R Findlay, P Stonehouse, S Medd, I Margetts, D Murrell, R Rudsdale and J Preston (Clerk).

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

1. Election of Chairman

By resolution Cllr Day was elected as Chairman and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

2. Apologies for absence Received from Cllr Dodsworth

3. Election of Vice Chairman

By resolution Cllr Findlay was elected as Vice Chairman.

4. To receive nominations and make appointments in respect of:

- 4.1 By resolution Cllrs Stonehouse & Rudsdale were elected as Parish Council representatives on the Castleton Village Hall Management Committee
- 4.2 By resolution Cllr Day was elected as the Parish Council representative on the Castleton Play Area Committee
- 4.3 By resolution Cllr Medd and the Clerk were elected as Parish Council representatives on the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

Routine Monthly Meeting

1. Apologies for absence Received from Cllr Dodsworth

2. Declarations of interest None

3. Minutes The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 10th March 2021 were accepted by resolution as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Commondale toilets – condition of woodwork etc. Following the previous meeting Cllr Stonehouse informed members that as offered he had conducted a survey of the toilet block to identify what work he believed was required to repair / refurbish the building. In brief this included work on the roof, repointing some brickwork, replacement of all doors and windows, ceiling repair, electrical work and repainting. Members acknowledged that the repairs / refurbishment as identified was required and resolved to seek a number of quotes from local builders to be considered at the next meeting. **Action for the Clerk.**

4.2 Station Bank pavement condition. The Clerk reported that further correspondence from the County Council's Highways dept had reiterated their previous stance and read as follows: "There is a section of this footpath which is private and is not maintainable at public expense, this is the section about half way along the frontage of the Old Chapel and then heading uphill to the area around the cottages in Primrose Hill.

The section below this point running north next to the highway down Station Road past Postgate House and towards the river is maintainable by the highways authority. We are aware of the condition of this

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

footpath and have asked for it to be looked at an assessed for a scheme to resurface it. In the meantime ant defects that meet our intervention levels as specified in the County Council's Highway Safety Inspection Manual will be repaired."

The Clerk reported he had subsequently initiated an on line enquiry with HM Land Registry but this had only revealed that the 'property' is unregistered and therefore it is not possible to establish ownership.

The Clerk was of the view that it may now only be possible to identify ownership of the land by reviewing Common Land definitive maps held by the County Council. **Action for the Clerk.**

It was also agreed to approach Highways and offer to pay for repairs to be carried out if Highways identified repairs were needed to the lower part of the pavement.

4.3 Condition of the Castleton toilet block and Danby public conveniences. The Clerk reported he had written to SBC Councillor Tony Randerson (the portfolio Holder for "Neighbourhoods", which includes issues re public conveniences) explaining / complaining about the dilapidated condition of the toilet block in Castleton and asking whether the Borough Council would consider re-opening the toilets in Danby. The following response was received:

"I can now confirm that the Public Convenience Block in Castleton will have refurbishment work carried out directly after the summer period probably October. I do understand that since the last survey of the Castleton Toilet Block there is extensive work to be undertaken regarding the roof which you kindly pointed there was a problem with in our earlier correspondence

With regard to the Block at Danby there are no plans to reopen these, which were closed due to limited usage some years ago. However if the Parish Council or any other organisation were minded to take these over I understand that SBC would be keen to explore this possibility. There are I understand also toilet facilities at the National Park around 0.7 miles from Danby.

4.4 Article 4 Directions The Clerk confirmed he had written to NYMNPA for a progress report regarding requests made to consider relaxing some of the Article 4 Planning Restriction imposed ref work undertaken in the conservation area. Mr France Director of Planning NYMNPA had responded stating a draft report had been compiled for Members to consider, Mr France will seek to put this on the next NPA agenda in June as Members will need to agree if and what changes to make to the existing Article 4 Direction.

4.5 Highways issues update

Commundale village and the open excavation near the entrance to the Scout Camp. Highways advised an issue had arisen with the 9" drainage pipe that takes highway water. Upon excavation it was found that the pipe had been built over and blocked by a sandstone embankment wall installed by persons unknown. This was causing major issues. The workforce should have returned to complete the works but were called away to other jobs and delivering the winter service. The local highways officer has raised another order for this work to be completed and to take down this sandstone embankment wall, repair and divert the pipework before reinstating this wall that was built over the pipe and blocked it. NYCC apologise for the delays in getting this work completed. (Work now completed)

Chevron sign near the top of Danby Bank. The replacement chevron sign has been ordered and will be installed as soon as it arrives from the sign suppliers.

Yall Flat Lane near Danby School, Ainthorpe - road closure at this location to replace a Cattle Grid. This closure was initially to carry out repairs to the cattle grid, however once the engineers got on site and started work, the condition of the grid became a real concern and it was immediately deemed unsafe to

allow vehicles across the grid. Work was undertaken to replace the whole cattle grid and an 'emergency closure' notice was required (Work now complete and road re-opened).

Seemingly abandoned temporary road signs / barriers around the Parish. One of the Highways Dept contractor has been asked to 'sweep' the area and collect abandoned signs. (Assistance sought with regards specific locations – info to be provided to Area 3 Highways via email.

Other issues reported at the last meeting – updates from NYCC Highways as follows:-

- a) Dibble Bridge Bank (Commondale side of the Esk bridge) – pot holes. Repairs to be undertaken.
- b) Dibble Bridge Bank, Crown End cattle grid – road surface breaking up exposing sharp metal edges of the cattle grid. Repairs to be undertaken.
- c) Approach road to Danby Beacon (Elm Ledge) – pot holes. Repairs to be undertaken.
- d) Easton Lane adjacent to Kadelands House large pot hole at the road edge. Repairs to be undertaken.
- e) Duck Bridge at the T junction Lawns Road, Castle Lane & Easton Lane blocked gully. Gully to be cleared.
- f) Wood End, Westerdale beyond Dale Side farm near Wood Dale House (ruin) – blocked gully. Gully to be cleared.
- g) Wood End, Westerdale between Riddings Farm and the gated entrance to Waites House Farm – large number of pot holes. Repairs to be undertaken.
- h) Westerdale Side between Brown Hill House and the junction with the Blakey Road – pot holes. Repairs to be undertaken.
- i) Station Road, Castleton access road near number 10 giving access to Castle Close – surface breaking up. Repairs to be undertaken.

5. External Reports None

6. Planning Applications

Members considered the following Planning Applications

- 6.1 **NYM/2021/0280/FL** Application to demolish an existing cattery buildings and construct a single dwelling with integral double garage, workshop together with landscaping works at Valley View Farm, Station Road, Castleton. **Resolved – Object.** Members are aware of objections already raised by local residents and the fact that an adjudication refusing planning permission has already been made by the Authority. Members accept the Authority's ruling and are of the opinion the building as proposed is not in keeping with the surroundings.
- 6.2 **NYM/2021/0297/FL** Application for alterations and extension to annexe at Low Coombs Farm, Easton Lane, Ainthorpe. **Resolved – No Objection.**
- 6.3 **NYM/2021/0336/RRC** Application for Prior notification for change of use from shop (Use Class E(A)) to cafe use with ancillary sales (Use Classes E(B)) under Part 3, Class C at Montage Studio Gallery, 12 Church Street, Castleton. **Resolved Support.** Economic benefit and resurrection of derelict a main street facing business. BUT concerns expressed regarding the lack of available parking.
- 6.4 **NYM/2021/0344/FL** Application for erection of livestock/general purpose agricultural building at Church House, Danby Head, Danby. **Resolved – No objection.**
- 6.5 **NYM/2021/0343/LB** Application for Listed Building consent to undertake internal alterations, installation of timber framed secondary glazing, refitting of bathrooms and WC together with re-servicing and decorative works at Low House, Westerdale Side. **Resolved – Support.** Much needed and long overdue repairs deemed essential to preserve an important building.
- 6.6 **NYM/2021/0371/FL** Application for alterations, construction of single storey rear extension and dormer window to front at 75 High Street, Castleton. **Resolved – Object.** The objection relates specifically to the proposed front facing dormer. The building stands in an elevated position and a dormer at the front would add significantly to the perceived height of the building. There are no other front facing dormers. The PC would have no objections to the application if the dormer was at the rear of the building.

7. Accounts / Financial

- 7.1 By resolution the monthly statement of accounts was approved and payment of outstanding invoices was thereby authorised.
- 7.2 Annual Governance & Accountability Return (External Audit process). By resolution members approved the Annual Governance Statement which was signed by the Chair.
- 7.3 Annual Governance & Accountability Return (External Audit process). By resolution members approved the Accounting Statements which was signed by the Chair
- 7.4 Policy of insurance. By resolution members approved renewal of the insurance as offered.

8. Annual Parish Assembly

Members were reminded there was a requirement each year to hold an Annual Assembly between the 1st March & 1st June. It was acknowledged however that due to the Corona virus pandemic and legal restriction imposed by the Government staging a meeting would have been difficult. It was accepted that simply cancelling the meeting would be difficult to justify but given the continuing dynamic situation with Covid it is justifiable for public health and safety reasons to postpone staging of the meeting until after 21st June when current restriction may be lifted (although given the emergence of different Covid variants that may not be the case). It was resolved to re-visit this issue at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

9. Correspondence

- 9.1 From SBC **"Covid-19 Welcome Back Funding Allocation"**. Grant offer of £2,500 available on application. Resolved – application to be made to SBC, money to be used towards the cost of refurbishing the public conveniences at Comondale.
- 9.2 E-mail from Whitby Station Manager Kevin Scorer North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. SM Scorer is offering to attend a meeting of the PC to "set out what we could offer to local residents" e.g. fire safety advice, road safety initiatives, engaging with local schools etc. Offer to attend to be accepted invite to be offered.

10. Items reported by Councillors

Highways issues to report:

- a) Danby Dale near Lumley House – damaged post and rail fence in need of repair.
- b) Station Road Castleton near play area / Postgate House continuing problem with blocked gully causing flooding across the width of the road.
- c) Whyett Bank about 150m beyond the cattle grid towards Westerdale – pot holes and cracking (possible subsidence) of the road surface.
- d) Birkfield Bank above the junction to Westerdale Side excessive water flowing on the road – seems to be emanating from below the road.
- e) Ashgrove Castleton – posts for the Ashgrove name board rotted through, sign laid on the ground.
- f) Out of Hob Hole in the direction of Kildale gorse bushes badly encroaching on the narrow road.

National Park Dark Skies Status – letter to be sent to the Authority expressing PC's support of the initiative. (Clerk assured members a letter had been delivered by hand previously.)

11. Next meeting

Members agree the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 14th July, 7pm in Castleton Village hall.

Meeting Closed 8:10pm