



A routine meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 13th July 2022** in Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: J Day (Chair), E Watson, R Rudsdale, P Stonehouse, I Dodsworth, G Thompson, D Murrell. CClr David Chance, BClr Clive Pearson and four members of the public.
The Clerk) could not attend in person but acted in his capacity remotely.

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** Received from R Findlay and S Medd

2. **Declarations of interest** None declared

8. **West Lane, Danby** (Item 8 on the published agenda taken out of order)

Four members of the public were in attendance, two of whom spoke initially about their concerns regarding the length of grass being left on the verges on West Lane, which effectively was 'pushing' pedestrians off the verge and onto the road, this being perceived as a health and safety issue, which is being compounded by the speed at which some motorists are driving up / down the road. Visibility on leaving driveways onto West Lane had also reportedly been compromised. It was further stated that people walking on the road had been struck by passing vehicles (although no incidents have been reported to the Police).

Two other members of the public raised their concerns about the state of grass verges and blocked gullies on Ainthorpe Lane particularly near the Brooke lane junction.

The Parish Council has no powers in respect of speed enforcement and unless incidents evidencing the problem are reported to the Police there is little if any prospect of any action being taken.

As far as verge cutting is concerned the Chair advised that he would discuss the issue with the Village Caretaker and hopefully thereby resolve the problem.

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 were accepted by resolution as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters Arising**

Castleton Toilet block. The Clerk reported that he had sent a letter of Complaint to Scarborough Council regarding the condition of the toilet block in Castleton a reply received from Mr Thompson Interim Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change was read out. Mr Thompson stated:
"Thank you for your letter regarding Castleton toilets. May I first offer my apologies for the delay in undertaking works to the toilets but also offer my full assurances that the Borough Council is still committed to the works and will commence on site as soon as we are able to overcome some significant supplier challenges.

As you mention in your letter, a key component of the refurbishment works is to repair the leaking roof. Until this is repaired, there is little point undertaking work to the interior of the building as the water ingress would cause further damage. Herein lies our problem; inspection of the roof has revealed that there a number of cracks in the concrete and unfortunately, due to cast concrete nature of the roof and the difficult location of the toilets, the work to repair the roof and "stitch" together the cracks is of a very specialist nature requiring contractors with specific expertise in this type of work. We have exactly the same problem at our Staithes Bank Bottom toilets. Across our region, until recently, there has only been one such contractor, VolkerLazer, and we have tried repeatedly to get them on site to undertake the repair.

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

Unfortunately, despite several assurances, they are still yet to attend site due to their current workload. This has created unavoidable delays to the refurbishment works.

However, on a more positive note, we have recently become aware of another contractor who we understand is now technically able to undertake the works. Our asset management team are hoping to meet with them on site over the next couple of weeks with a view to expediting the works and enabling us to commence the full refurbishment of the toilet block.

I fully understand and empathise with the Parish Council's frustration about the delays to this project, but I trust that the explanation above provides some further detail and gives an assurance that we are keen to proceed with the works as soon as we are able. I will ensure that you are kept up to date with progress over the coming weeks."

Highways issues reported

- (a) Pot holes on the approach road to Danby Beacon. CC Highways have advised that a works order has been issued for the road to be repaired.
- (b) Pot holes out of Castleton heading down to Dibble Bridge. CC Highways have advised that a works order has been issued for the road to be repaired.
- (c) Poor visibility Danby River Esk bridge heading out of Danby in the direction of Ainthorpe due to trees obscuring the view. CC Highways have advised that the Highways Officer visited the location but was unable to find the defect. The Clerk will attend and take photographs and report again.
- (d) A171 junction turning right onto the main road from the Grinkle Park road – visibility splay issue, dangerous right turn. The Clerk advised that had reported this to Redcar & Cleveland Council and received the following response from the Libraries & Customer Services Representative.
"I have reported the issue to the neighbourhood officer, your reference number is GRASS-429271930."
The verges have now been cut back.

5. External Reports

Borough Councillor Clive Pearson had no specific issues affecting the Parish to report. As also a member of the NYMNPAA Cllr Pearson reported that The North York Moors Management Plan has now been published and that the number of Planning Applications being received has dropped which could impact upon the Authority's revenue stream (the number of applications received during Covid lock down measures had significantly exceeded expectations.)

County Councillor David Chance also had no specific issues affecting the Parish to report. He briefly outlined how work was progressing towards the launch of the new unitary authority with there being a distinct emphasis on everything being customer focussed.

6. Planning Applications Members considered the following Planning Applications

6.1NYM/2022/458 Application under Regulation 3 (Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992) for the installation of an art sculpture and replacement information sign at Danby Lodge, Lodge Lane, Danby. Resolved – no objection

6.2NYM/2022/424 Application under Regulation 3 (Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992) for installation of ground source heat pump and widening of doorway to building at Danby Lodge National Park Centre, Danby. Resolved – no objection

6.3NYM/2022/465 Application for certificate of lawfulness for the siting of building more for use as a day nursery/playgroup in excess of ten years at Esklets Playgroup, Station Yard, Danby Station, Danby. Resolved – support on the basis that the nursey / playgroup is a vital community resource.

6.4NYM/2022/365 Listed Building consent for installation of replacement double glazed timber windows at Westlands, Main Street, Westerdale. Resolved – no objection

- 6.5NYM/2022/484 Application for variation of condition 2 of Listed Building consent for NYM/2021/0565/LB to allow relocation of internal staircase and reorganisation of internal layout to approved cart shed conversion at Forest Lodge Farm, Castleton. Resolved – no objection
- 6.6NYM/2022/451 Application for alterations, construction of sunroom extension to rear with basement studios below and raised terrace together with removal of existing dormer window and construction of two replacement dormer windows at Conn House, 5 Langburn Lane, Castleton. Resolved – no objection
- 6.7NYM/2022/468 Application for variation of condition 2 (material amendment) of planning approval NYM/2021/0562/FL to allow relocation of internal staircase and reorganisation of internal layout to approved cart shed conversion at Forest Lodge Farm, Castleton. Resolved – no objection
- 6.8NYM/2022/395 Application for conversion of and extensions to redundant barn to form function room with associated landscaping works at Danby Castle, Castle Lane, Danby. Resolved – no objection
- 6.9NYM/2022/505 Application for demolition of an existing single storey extension and construction of a replacement two-storey extension at Scalefoot Farm, Commondale. Resolved – no objection

7. Accounts / Financial

- 7.1 By resolution the monthly statement of accounts was approved and payment of outstanding invoices was thereby authorised.
- 7.2 Model Agreement budget heads. Members considered how money had been allocated under specific budget heads defined within the Model Agreement and resolved to grant the full allotted amount under the heading 'Burial Grounds and Church Yards' to the parochial Church Council to go towards costs incurred in the upkeep of church yards in Commondale, Westerdale, Castleton & Danby.

9. Correspondence

Invitation received to attend the Joint Parish Forum to be held on Thursday, 21 July at 5.15 for 5.30 with a visit to Helmsley Walled Garden with buffet and meeting following on in The Committee Room, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley. Noted, NFA

10. Items reported by Councillors

- The visibility splays A171 at Lockwood Beck and High Thorn (Danby road) are a concern despite the fact that verges have recently been cut – can the visibility splays be extended? To be raised with Redcar & Cleveland.
- Church Street, Castleton in the middle of the road near No 42 – water leak. To be reported to Yorkshire Water.
- Ashfield Road, Castleton – complaints received regarding the condition of verges. Chair to discuss with the Village Caretaker.
- Strait Lane, Ainthorpe The road surface is very slippery in wet conditions due to debris from excessively overgrown and overhanging vegetation. To be reported to CC Highways.
- Sandhill Bank, Commondale. Issue with ongoing / incomplete roadworks. Cllr Murrell to provide the Clerk with more details.
- Cllr Watson reported that Danby School are keen to be involved in the verges re-wilding project and will get involved by way of a School Community Project by planting wild flower seeds. Mrs Wilson who advised the Parish Council will help the school and Mr Grice will provide a bag of hay from his wild flower meadow for flower seed extraction

11. Next meeting Wednesday 14th September 2022 7pm Castleton Village Hall (no meeting in August)

Meeting Closed 8pm