



A routine meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 11th January 2023** in Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: J. Day, R Rudsdale, P Stonehouse, D Murrell, S Medd, E Watson, I Dodsworth, CClr Chance and J Preston (Clerk).

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** Received from Cllr's Findlay & Thompson

2. **Declarations of interest** None declared

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 14th November 2022 were accepted by resolution as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters Arising from the meeting held 14th November 2022**

Danby School request re traffic calming measures Ainthorpe Lane. The Clerk reminded members of the content of a letter received from a representative of the School's Board of Governors which in essence sought support of the Parish Council to approach the County Council Highways Department requesting some form of traffic calming on Ainthorpe Lane either side of the school. No specific request for signs or speed bumps had been made, but the apparent speed of vehicles on Ainthorpe Lane was the focus. In correspondence the Clerk had asked if the school / governors had made any approach to parents with regards parking near the school but no response had been forthcoming. It was also pointed out that there was no evidence to support the speeding claims. Members debated the issue and felt that signage was adequate, 30mph signs were in place as were 30mph repeater signs and advanced warning signs for the school were also in place although it was acknowledged the school signs did not incorporate the amber flashing beacons. Members agreed to make a request to Highways to review the situation and consider upgrading the advanced warning school signs.

Defibrillator cabinet, Comondale The Clerk reported that the new cabinet had arrived and had cost £490.74 inc Vat. The Clerk will fit the cabinet.

5. **External Reports**

No main issues specifically in relation to the parish were highlighted by County Cllr Chance with the main County focus at this stage being the transition to the new authority. CClr Chance mentioned a new Parish Charter will be circulated for consultation in the near future.

6. **Planning Applications** Members considered the following Planning Application.

NYM/2023/0004 ref Park Nook Farm, Langburns Bank, Castleton. The application being for demolition of a lean-to, then the construction of single storey extension to dwelling, conversion of outbuilding to provide additional living accommodation, construction of extension with bedroom above and change of the occupancy from agricultural workers dwelling to local occupancy dwelling together with demolition works and conversion of outbuilding to one holiday cottage. This is a revised scheme previously outlined in applications NYM2019/0615/FL and NYM/2021/0679/FL. Both these applications were considered by the Parish Council and there were no objections. **Resolved – no objection**

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

7. Accounts / Financial

By resolution the monthly statement of accounts was approved and following a lengthy debate ref water rates for Commondale toilets (item 9 below) payment of outstanding invoices was thereby authorised.

8. Notice Boards

Members had previously discussed purchase of a new notice board as part of an ongoing project to renew the 4 old notice boards around the Parish (the Ainthorpe board has already been replaced). County Cllr Chance kindly offered to support purchase of a board by way of a donation in the sum of around £800 from his allocated Locality Budget. Accordingly members resolved to go ahead with buying a notice board which following debate would be sited at Commondale. Clerk to progress.

9. Correspondence (to note receipt / respond)

Water rates, Commondale toilet block. The Clerk presented a detailed written report and explained to members that over the past weeks he had been in lengthy discussions with Business Stream by telephone and email in relation to a huge increase in water rates for Commondale toilets on top of a demand for almost £400 with regards an underpayment.

In the main the water meter readings have been estimated but Business Stream maintain two readings (March and September 2022) indicate a massive jump in water consumption and the new monthly direct debit charges have been calculated on the basis of these readings. For the year ending 31st March 2022 water rates for the year cost the Parish Council £157.50 (an average of £13.13 per month). **The new figures produced by Business Stream estimate the yearly cost will be £1,459.20 with a monthly direct debit of £155.36.** The Clerk reported that he had requested a comparison be made with Westerdale and Business Stream had responded indicating that water usage there was in line with what is expected. The Business Stream representative the Clerk had been dealing with has acknowledged there may be a problem with the meter or there may be a leak – the Clerk has asked for these matters to be investigated. It was resolved that the demand for the reported underpayment should be paid to negate the threat of legal action. The increase however will be questioned and a resolution sought. Clerk to progress.

11. Items reported by Councillors

- a) Progress report requested ref signage for Commondale between Ness Tce and the community farm
- b) Ash Grove – there is a storm water drain discharge which has previously been barriered off the barriers however have been thrown in to the hedge back and there has been no activity at the site for many weeks – may be an issue for Yorkshire Water.
- c) Westerdale Main Street some of the granite pavement edging blocks have been displaced.
- d) Wood End about 200m beyond Dale Side Farm a drain under the road is blocked causing flooding over the road.
- e) Cattle grid at Lockwood Beck flooding – to report to Redcar & Cleveland.
- f) Ashfield Road / Wandels Lane recent hedge cutting has been extremely harsh and the ‘mess’ which has been left has caused complaint. The road was left strewn with branches and trimmings and not cleaned.
- g) Defib pads to order for Castleton.
- h) Castle Lane near Duck Bridge – blocked gully (reported previously, may or may not have been actioned)

12. Next meeting Wednesday 8th Feb 2023, 7pm in Castleton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 7:50pm