



A routine meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 12th April 2023** in Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: J. Day Chairman, D Murrell, S Medd, I Dodsworth, R Findlay, R Rudsdale, G Thompson, P Stonehouse, one member of the public throughout the meeting and J Preston (Clerk).

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** Received from C/Cllr Chance and Cllr Watson.

2. **Declarations of interest** None declared

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 8th March 2023 were accepted by resolution as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters Arising from the meeting held 8th March 2023** No issues raised

5. **External Reports** None presented

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

6.1 NYM/2023/0106 Application for Listed Building consent for the erection of replacement cast metal signs to the north and west elevations at Danby CE Primary School, Ainthorpe Lane, Danby. Resolved – no objection.

6.2 NYM/2023/0183 Application for Listed Building consent for phased underpinning of the dwelling together with rebuilding of the southern gable wall at Brookside Farm, Fryup. Resolved – no objection.

6.3 NYM/2023/0146 Application for certificate of lawfulness for subdivision of one dwelling house into two dwelling houses in excess of ten years at Broadgate Farm, Westerdale. Resolved – no objection.

6.4 NYM/2023/0097 Application for Listed Building consent for removal of garage door and replacement with French doors with sidelight together with internal alterations to garage comprising of but not limited to the lowering of ceiling, fitting of timber studs and plasterboard together with plastering works to the garage and room above at Fryup Hall, Whitby. Resolved – no objection.

7. **Accounts / Financial**

7.1 Members considered the statement of accounts for the preceding month and by resolution authorised payment of outstanding invoices.

7.2 The Clerk presented detailed financial reports including an overview of the statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 and a projection of income and expenditure for the financial year 2023-24. The year-end accounts showed a deficit (i.e. an excess of expenditure over income) of £4,082. The overspend was as a result of unexpected but necessary expenditure including but not limited to repairs to the path at the rear of Primrose Hill and a new defibrillator cabinet. The yearend closing balance being £15,845.17. The projected income for this financial year was estimated fairly accurately to be in the region of £31,744. Expenditure was a little more difficult to estimate but based on the previous year it was expected to be in the region of £30,173. (The figure takes into account the quote provided for painting the toilet floors at Commondale (see below) but not the grants the Parish Council had agreed to make with regards Castleton and Danby village halls (approved but level of the grant to be determined – see below)

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

- 7.2.1 External Audit procedures. Following consideration of the financial reports submitted by the Clerk, by resolution members approved the Annual Governance Statement, which was thereafter signed by the Chair and the Clerk.
- 7.2.2 External Audit procedures. Following consideration of the financial reports submitted by the Clerk, by resolution members approved the Accounting Statements for 2022/23, which was thereafter signed by the Chair and the Clerk.
- 7.3 Previously approved grants ref Castleton & Danby Village Halls. Members by resolution had previously approved to support grant applications made on behalf of Castleton & Danby village halls, but the level of the grants to be provided had not been determined at that time. In light of the yearend financial report and projections for the current financial year members debated at length the level of grants, which the Parish Council felt were affordable. By resolution grants of £250 would be made to both village halls.
- 7.4 Water Rates Commondale toilets. The Clerk reported that he had been informed by 'Business Stream' that based on two recent water meter readings, water rates would be increasing from just over £10 per month to £43 per month (paid by Direct Debit). The water meter was reportedly working correctly therefore an increase in water usage could only be explained by an increase in the use of the toilets which was possibly a result of an increased use in Commondale Village Hall, which does not have its own toilet facilities. In addition however Mr Taylor has reported there had been a need for him to repair a burst pipe in the toilet block – Mr Taylor states also that in cold weather he turns off the water at the stop tap but this had been turned back on causing the burst pipe. The water supply to the gent's urinal had also been turned up from a drip to be fully open. The increase in the monthly direct debit was noted and the Clerk tasked to write to Commondale Hall with regards the toilets.
- 7.5 Commondale toilets floor painting. A request to paint the concrete floors in the Commondale toilet block was previously made on behalf of Commondale Village Hall – painted floors would make cleaning easier and consequently make the facility more hygienic. By resolution members had approved the request subject of provision of a quote for the work. A quote to clean, dry out and apply two coats of floor paint has now been received i.e. for £570. By resolution this expenditure was approved with the stipulation the paint should be non-slip. (This quote had been considered by the Clerk as part of the projected expenditure for this financial year).
- 7.6 Yorkshire Local Councils Associations. By resolution members approved renewal of membership for 2023-24 at a cost of £458. (This expenditure had been considered by the Clerk as part of the projected expenditure for this financial year).

8. Correspondence (to note receipt / respond)

- a) A Grant of £400 has been received from the Danby Court Leet towards the upkeep of open spaces. Members expressed their gratitude for the continued year on year support of the Court Leet.
- b) NYMNPA notification of proposed felling of 11.3ha of trees on Baysdale estate. Noted, no objections / no action required.
- c) A request has been received from the Commondale village hall committee to trim back the trees/hedge between the hall and the toilets, to develop an area to encourage bees and butterflies and also put some 'stones' in to create a path to the toilets from the hall. By resolution members approved the request with the stipulation that the path must be maintained by the village hall and that the Parish Council would in no way be held responsible should anyone trip, slip, fall or in any way injure themselves while using the path.
- d) Notification has been received from Commondale village hall committee that celebrations in the village are planned to commemorate the King's Coronation. No formal grant request has been made but the

notification states a “financial contribution (if possible) would be appreciated”. Following discussions members felt that regrettably the financial situation precluded the Parish Council from supporting this initiative. Members were reminded that a substantial amount of public money has gone to Comondale in recent times, e.g. refurbishment / decorating of the public conveniences, a new defibrillator cabinet, a grant towards the Late Queen’s Jubilee celebrations, a new notice board and an undertaking to pay for the toilet floors to be painted. Clerk to write.

9. Items reported by Councillors

The following issues / concerns were reported:

- a) Broadgate Farm approach road (Broad Gate Road) – poor condition / potholes
- b) Dibble Bridge Bank (Castleton end almost opposite the garth) – blocked roadside ditch / gully causing road to flood.
- c) Birk Field Bank j/w Castleton Rigg Low Rd (aka Post Box Corner) – blocked roadside ditch / gully causing road to flood
- d) Birk Field Bank j/w New Road – blocked roadside ditch / gully causing extensive run off of water onto Whyett Bank.
- e) Lead Lane j/w Main Street, Westerdale – blocked roadside ditch / gully causing extensive run off of water onto Main Street
- f) Sugar Loaf bank from the reservoir access – blocked roadside ditch / gully causing extensive run off of water on to the road.
- g) Wood End just south (downhill from Riddings Farm) gully under the road (Hole Gate beck) blocked causing the road to flood.
- h) Wood End in general from Riddings farm up to the access to Waites House Farm – potholes / poor road condition.
- i) Comondale between Fowl Green Farm and Ness Terrace – road surface breaking up (possibly due to recent heavy construction traffic).
- j) Ainthorpe, issues with Toad Beck near the junction of Brook Lane and Ainthorpe Lane – the beck is clogged and not flowing properly causing flooding (previously reported to Dawney Estate)
- k) Dog fouling – complainants to be advised to contact the County Dog Warden service (this can be done on line.)
- l) Easton Lane from Kadelands House to Duck Bridge – potholes / road in poor condition.
- m) Oakley Walls road from Lodge Lane towards Lealholm – potholes / road in poor condition.
- n) Road to Botton (Gateway) between Church House and Lumley House – roadside wooden post and rail fence demolished.
- o) New Road between Dibble Bank crossroads and Carr House – potholes / road in poor condition
- p) Station Road, Castleton, road bridge over the River Esk – wooden post and rail fence on the left (looking towards the Esk PH) badly damaged.
- q) Castleton – steps / wall on the footpath approach to Castle Close, the steps are in a poor state of repair and the wall appears to be bulging due to growth behind. Unsure where responsibility lies – Chair to contact Beyond Housing (issue with steps previously reported to Beyond Housing but no response received).
- r) Kings Corronation – Danby Beacon Trust will be lighting the Beacon at 9pm on the 6th May – all welcome.

10. Next meeting

May meeting, the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for Wednesday 17th (a week later than normal)