



A routine meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 13th Nov 2024** in Castleton Village Hall.

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

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** C/Cllr Chance

2. **Declarations of interest** None

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 9th October 2024 were accepted by resolution as true records and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters Arising from the meeting held 12th July 2024**

- a) Station Road, Castleton. The drain near the play area is still blocked and cars going through the flood are causing the wake of water to wash away / damage the pavement. Discussed in person with Highways and opinion expressed that this is not simply a blocked gully but possibly a collapsed drain with the flooding being exasperated because of debris in the gutter / road side.
- b) Water still running / blocked drain Lead Lane junction. Lead Lane to Young Ralph Cross, Westerdale, Highway drainage maintenance work to be undertaken with road restrictions possibly in place – work likely to be undertaken between 18th 22nd November.
- c) Castleton Toilet block – doors have been painted.
- d) Area around the War Memorial on the Howe has been attended to by the Village Caretaker who has been thanked for his work here and for repairing the seat (below).
- e) Seat below the War Memorial – repaired.
- f) Pavement near the old Central Garage in Castleton – tripping hazard – repaired.
- g) Road from Hob Hole heading towards West House (Kildale direction) poor condition / multiple pot holes. No update yet.
- h) Cobbles adjacent to 4 & 6 High Street, Castleton. Yorkshire Water recently dug up the cobbles to facilitate necessary underground work at 4 / 6 High Street. The cobbles are set with tar and have not been replaced correctly. Reported to Yorkshire Water and as requested by them photographs of the problem area provided. The Clerk reported that he has also been in contact with the County's Commons Registration officer who confirmed Yorkshire Water should have sought permission before digging up the cobbles and could be subject of legal action, if the necessary repairs are not done.
- i) The fence New Road at Carr House collapsed completely some time ago, the old rails and posts have been taken away but a replacement fence has not been erected. No update yet.
- j) Road between Ralphs Cross and Castleton – a Highways order has been raised to clean out all the offsets / grips.
- k) Grass on Brier Hill near the bakery has been cut.
- l) On-line banking / corporate Debit Card – advice obtained from NatWest – application form requires signing by two authorised signatories.
- m) Gov.uk email address / web site. The Clerk reported that he had taken part in an on-line meeting / briefing on the subject and now needs to obtain quotes so the financial implication can be considered.

5. **External Reports** None

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

6. Planning Applications

Members considered the following Planning Applications.

- 6.1 NYM/2024/0747, Regarding 73 Ainthorpe Lane, Ainthorpe. Application for the construction of four dormer windows and installation of nine rooflights together with removal of window and insertion of Juliet balcony. Resolved – no objection
- 6.2 NYM/2024/0698 Regarding the former Central Garage, High Street, Castleton. Application for the demolition of steel frame and existing buildings and construction of petrol filling station and convenience store with solar panels and associated underground fuel tanks, fuel pumps, access and car park. Resolved – support. The site is currently a huge eyesore on the edge of the Conservation Area and needs development along the lines of the previously approved development, which was discontinued. If successful the current application will bring much needed employment. The addition of a filling station / electric vehicle charging points is most welcome as currently the nearest garage is either at Scaling or Guisborough. The store area is larger than currently provided by the Coop and an external ATM is much needed in the village. Support was not without reservation however with concerns being expressed with regards the loss of parking spaces and the choice of certain building materials mentioned in the application eg the choice of artificial rather than natural stone, the choice of concrete roof tiles rather than slate or pantiles. The north facing (front elevation solar panels) were also a concern.
- 6.3 Proposed Woodland Creation scheme in your parish area – 202410 Smithy Farm, Westerdale. Resolved - support
- 6.4 Proposed Woodland Creation scheme in your parish area – 202426 Woodend Farm, Westerdale. Resolved – support.

7. Accounts / Financial

- 7.1 Members considered the statement of accounts for the preceding month and subsequently authorised payment of outstanding invoices.
- 7.2 Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25. Members noted an increase in the Clerks salary as per the terms of his Contract of Employment.
- 7.2 Budget for the financial year 2025 / 26. Having considered the budget planning report prepared by the Clerk, which was circulated in advance of the meeting and debating the issue members resolved to increase the precept requirement by £1k i.e. up to £18,000.

8. Correspondence (to note receipt / respond) None

9. Items reported by Councillors

- a) Westerdale side of Hob Hole – road surface in poor condition / multiple potholes.
- b) Below Ralphs Cross about 100m down on the Westerdale road an HGV has seemingly gone off the road damaging the verge and crating a large deep ditch.
- c) From Hollin Top Lane (near The Grange, Danby) back in the direction of Castleton towards Stang End – gorse bushes etc encroaching on the highway.
- d) New Road – concerns expressed regarding the amount of water on New Road near Esk House, a spring seems to be flowing over the road.
- e) From Hob Hole towards West House (in the direction of Kildale) – blocked gullies.

10. Next meeting

Next routine meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7pm Castleton Village Hall.