



A routine meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 12th March 2025** in Castleton Village Hall.

Present : Councillors: J Day (Chair), E Watson, R Rudsdale, S Medd, P Stonehouse, D Murrell, R Findlay, G Thompson, C/Cllr D Chance, J Preston (Clerk) and one member of the public for part of the meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr I Dodsworth

2. **Declarations of interest** None

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 12th February 2025 were accepted by resolution as true records and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters Arising from the meeting held 12th Feb 2025**

- Red Way, Houlseyke. Most of the work has been completed and the resident on whose behalf the report was made has expressed her thanks for the Parish Council's support / intervention.
- Westerdale Side & Christy Gate – work to be undertaken by Highways imminently
- Long Causeway Road (near Fryup cricket field) repairs complete.
- Issue re water running onto / damaging the pavement on Ainthorpe Lane – yet to be actioned by Highways.
- Cobbles, High Street, Castleton long letter of complaint sent on 18 Feb to Yorkshire Water – no reply to date.
- Low Road, Castleton to Danby – roadside vegetation has been cutback.

5. **External Reports** County Councillor Chance gave a comprehensive verbal report in relation to ongoing issues at County level.

- Adult Social Care and Children with special needs are increasingly demanding in terms of budget.
- Home to school transport costs have vastly increased from around £20 million pre covid to a staggering £50 million currently. The county's policy regarding provision of funding for transport to the nearest school will be reviewed after a year.
- Housing - plans are in place to build 500 new Council Houses and to put a premium on second homes.
- The Whitby Harbour Review is ongoing.
- The County, as a result of a decision from central government has lost the £14 million Rural Services Grant.
- Increases to National Insurance have cost the County an additional £8 million
- The Locality Budget grant system will be maintained but has been cut from £10K to £5K

6. **Planning Applications**

Members considered the following Planning Application.

NYM/2025/0068 Application for Listed Building consent for installation of light fitting above front door at April Cottage, High Street, Castleton. Resolved – no objection

7. **Accounts / Financial**

- 7.1 Members consider the statement of accounts for the preceding months and resolved to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.

Signed as a true record:(Chair) Date:

- 7.2 Consideration of the terms of the Service Level Agreement between the Parish Council and the former Scarborough Borough Council regarding toilet cleaning. – To be addressed at the April meeting of the Parish Council.

8. Village Caretaker / Toilet Cleaning

Prior to discussing the job applications which had been received, members agreed that it was an opportune time to recognise Mr Taylor's many years of loyal and dedicated service to the Parish Council and community as a whole. It was resolved that it would be appropriate to mark Mr Taylor's retirement with a gift by way of a 'thank you'. Clerk to explore.

Job applications The Clerk reported that he'd received around 50 expressions of interest and had provided additional information as appropriate. Subsequently 7 formal applications had been received. Members considered and discussed the merits of each application and resolved to 'shortlist' 2 applicants who would be invited for interview by the full Council (depending up on availability).

9. Correspondence (to note receipt / respond

- a. Northern Area parish Forum NYMNPA Daby Lodge 7pm 1st April. - Noted
- b. Letter from an elderly member of the public requesting the Parish Council 'adopt' a bench seat sited in memory of her late husband. Members considered the request. The bench in question is situated on a small 'island' on the banks of the River Esk near the road bridge over the river (Ainthorpe side of the road bridge on the road into Danby). The bench itself is not an issue but access is considered dangerous. A small footbridge which allowed access to the 'island' has gone (possibly washed away) making access practically impossible. For safe access reasons members reluctantly resolved not to adopt the bench.

10. Items reported by Parish Councillors

- a) Hob Hole river ford – a number of the granite sets in the ford itself have been dislodged.
- b) Dibble Bridge x roads – visibility splay issue, gorse bushes in need of cutting back
- c) Langburn's Bank (downhill left hand bend near Firbank House – visibility issue, gorse bushes in need of cutting back.
- d) High Street, Castleton near the entrance to Moorlands Park – iron works in the road need attention.
- e) New Road near Carr House – fence down, reported previously, update requested.
- f) Whyett Bank near the junction of New Road – verge issue, road works signage has been in place from almost 2 years, update requested.
- g) Easton Lane on the approach to Kadelands House – field drainage issue excessive amounts of water causing damage to the road surface.
- h) Road surface beyond Danby Castle (Castle Lane) in poor condition.
- i) Internal door, gent's toilet Comondale damaged deliberately.

11. Annual Parish Assembly Wed 9th April

Meeting to open at 7pm and be advertised a week in advance. No guest speaker, members of the electorate to be invited to raise issues / address the Council on issues relevant to the parish.

12. Next meeting

Next routine meeting of the Parish Council will take place **on Wednesday 9th April 2025** immediately following the Annual Parish Assembly.