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The monthly meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017** at Castleton Village Hall.

**Present :** Councillors: P Reeves presiding at her last meeting in the Chair prior to retirement, J Day, R Findlay, P Stonehouse, R Rudsdale, B/Cllr C Pearson and J. Preston (Clerk)

1. **Guest Speaker** Prior to the meeting formally opening, members heard from Ms Sarah Lally-Marley, Funding & Community Development Worker for Ryedale Carers Support, Scarborough Support for Carers and Caring Together Whitby. A copy of the leaflet explaining the work of "Caring Together Whitby & District" is appended to these minutes.
2. **Declarations of Interest** None declared.
3. **Apologies for absence** - Received from P Caffry, G Banner & I Dodsworth.
4. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were accepted by resolution as a true record and signed by the Chair.
5. **Matters Arising**
  - A. Duck Bridge – The NYMNPA (Mr Lee, Archaeological Officer) has responded to the email requesting they consider erecting and funding a suitable sign at Duck Bridge – no funding available at the moment.
  - B. Dibble Bank – drainage work was currently underway which would hopefully alleviate water run off at the crossroads.
  - C. Howe Wath – poor state of the road surface at Howe Wath has been reported to Area 3 Highways.
  - D. Stream erosion behind Danby Chapel has been reported to the Environment Agency via 'Flood Line'.
  - E. Dog fouling – notices have been posted and the Dog Warden has been in the village.
  - F. Cllr Rudsdale reported that she had hand delivered the parking letters as appropriate.
  - G. Cllr Findlay reported negotiations were on going with Highways ref payment for a replacement gate on the road passing Quarry Farm.
  - H. Defib unit – the equipment has now been installed on the wall of Castleton Village Hall. The Clerk advised that he had agreed with Yorkshire Ambulance Service to undertake the routine weekly checks on the equipment, Cllr Stonehouse kindly offered to act as the Clerks deputy to cover holiday periods etc.
6. **External reports** B/Cllr Pearson informed members that SBC budgetary discussions had been postponed by one week as the necessary reports had not been prepared on time. He also reminded members that the County Council election was on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
7. **Accounts** The Clerk presented the monthly balance sheet and members resolved to settle outstanding issues - cheques signed accordingly.
8. **Planning** Discussions regarding the redevelopment of the old NatWest Bank, Castleton. Resolved to revisit this matter as and when plans are submitted for consideration, the concern being the intended future use of the building.
9. **Council Vacancy** Clerk instructed to post the necessary notices around the Parish inviting anyone interested in sitting on the Parish Council to make an application to that effect.

Signed as a true record: .....(Chair) Date: .....

**10. Caretaking & Toilet Cleaning agreements** The Clerk informed the meeting that Mr Taylor had confirmed in writing that he was content with the terms and wording of the existing agreements in respect of the caretaking and toilet cleaning duties he was undertaking. Members therefore resolved to extend the agreements without the need for amendment. There were however concerns raised about Mr Taylor being adequately covered by way of insurance, this issue is addressed in the agreements but the Clerk was instructed to confirm with Mr Taylor that he had the necessary insurance in place.

**11. Correspondence**

**(a) Esk Valley Railway Development Company**

The EVRDC are lobbying Northern Rail to improve facilities at Comondale Station (disabled access, lighting, fencing, footpath etc). Members resolved to support (non-financial) the EVRDC.

**(b) Castleton Post Office**

The change to opening hours at Castleton Post Office is currently subject of public consultation. Resolved the clerk to respond to the survey on behalf of the Council expressing disappointment at the reduction in opening hours BUT at the same time a relief that the vitally important service should not be lost to the community entirely.

**(c) Northern Area Parish Forum meeting at Egton Village Hall, Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

Members felt it would be useful to discuss / seek answers as to where financial responsibility lies in respect of gates and cattle grids on public roads. Clerk to submit the necessary request.

**(d) Abbeyfield Society, Esk Moors Lodge – invitation to visit 22/3/17.**

No members were available for a day time visit – clerk to respond accordingly and suggest an evening visit would perhaps be more helpful.

**12. Items reported by Parish Councillors**

**Cllr Day** Informed the meeting that Cleveland Potash is currently seeking planning permission to secure the future of the mine. They are planning to give a talk at Danby village Hall sometime in April to explain their plans and answer any questions the public may have. They have asked if they could give a 20 minute presentation to the Parish Council preferably at April's meeting. Resolved to agree attendance and do a public presentation at the Annual Parish Forum meeting 12<sup>th</sup> April. (Clerk to liaise accordingly)

**Cllr Reeves** Reported a long length of fencing was damaged / missing on the low road out of Castleton towards Danby near Six Arches Bridge. Clerk to investigate and report accordingly.

**Clerk** Urgent e-mail received 8/3/17 from Sanctuary Housing Service, Hull ref a potential 'non local' tenant listed to occupy social housing in Ash Grove. The Council are asked to "review the following [named individual] as a potential tenant ....."

After a lengthy debate members agreed it was impossible to conduct any meaningful review as to the suitability (or not) of anyone on the basis of the extremely limited information made available.

Members also expressed their concern and dismay as to the manner in which such vacancies are advertised observing there would in their opinion certainly be local people in need of social housing. Clerk to respond accordingly.

Yorkshire Coast & Moors County Area Committee – the Clerk advised that he had received an e-mail (8/3/17) ref a meeting of the afore mentioned Committee to be held on 15/3/17. The agenda included an item "Referral to Scrutiny Committee re Botton Village". No correspondence has been received about this and no member had any real knowledge as to what this matter related to. Clerk to enquire.

**The meeting closed at 9.10pm.**

**Date of next meeting of the Parish Council – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
immediately following the Annual Parish Assembly which will open at 6:30pm**