



The monthly meeting of the Danby Group Parish Council took place on **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016** at Castleton Village Hall.

**Present**

Councillors: P Reeves, P Caffry, J Day, P Stonehouse, I Dodsworth, R Rudsdale, R Findlay. J. Preston (Clerk) and Mr & Mrs Robinson.

Prior to the meeting formally opening Mr & Mrs Robinson were given the opportunity / time to speak about their planning application – see below item 7a.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Received from Cllr Hudspeth.

Not present / no apologies - Cllr Banner.

**3. Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held 13th June 2016 were accepted by resolution as a true record and signed by the Chair. (Amended to show apologies received from Cllr Rudsdale)

**4. Matters Arising** – from the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> July (for information / update on outstanding actions). The Clerk advised all but one outstanding action had been dealt with and the highways issues raised had been reported.

**Ref Item 7.2** It had not been possible to complete the nomination for North York Moors National Park Design Awards 2016 as all the necessary information was not available prior to the expiration of the nomination deadline.

**Ref item 10** Defibrillator Unit – Champion’s Garage, Castleton. The Clerk advised that as directed he had written to HEN advising that the Parish Council had resolved that if there was a need to move the Defib unit the cost would be borne by the Parish Council. By way of response it was indicated that the cost of moving the equipment would be in the region of £100 / £125. However it was also reported that Mrs Champion was happy for the unit to remain on the garage forecourt. This matter was discussed further and it was agreed the plastic chain did present a physical barrier irrespective of the fact it was easily removable. The fact that the garage is closed may also give the impression the Defib unit is unavailable. All felt it appropriate to move the unit with the favoured option being the outside wall of the Village Hall – a more central location in the village and closer to the public telephone. **Resolved** – Clerk to write to the Village Hall committee seeking their approval to the proposed move and subject to that approval write to Mrs Champion / HEN.

**5. External reports** – none received (Police Report published on the web page)

**6. Accounts**

Council resolved to settle all outstanding invoices.

**7. Planning**

a) NYM/2016/0405/FL - Application in respect of ‘Piper Cottage’, 56 Church Street, Castleton regarding the construction of an oak and glass single storey rear extension / sunroom. **Resolved to support** – the applicants (Mr & Mrs Robinson) were present at the meeting and briefed Council with regards their proposal, they have consulted NYMNPA and had made recommended amendments to their original plans.

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

b) NYM/2016/0548/FL – Application regarding ‘Esk View’ Sandhill Bank, Comondale. Alterations to the property, construction of an extension, addition of dormer windows together with a detached garage.

**Resolved no objections**

c) NYM/2016/0550/FL – Application relating to 3 Brick Row, Potters Side Lane, Comondale in respect of a replacement timber workshop and replacement chimney stack. **Resolved no objections**

## **8. Village caretaker**

**8.1** The Caretaker’s Monthly Report was discussed – Noted, no issues.

**8.2** The review of Parish Seats by Councillors. Cllr Day presented his findings from which it was apparent that some of the seats within the Parish boundary were privately owned and therefore not the responsibility of the DGPC, Cllr Day’s list of seats was annotated accordingly. It was also apparent that a number of seats were in need of repair / restoration. Clerk to progress. The Chair thanked Cllr Day for his work in respect of this matter.

## **9. Castleton Village Hall – involvement of the DGPC as Trustees**

The Chair briefed members as to the historic situation with regards the Village Hall refurbishment in 1991 which resulted in the hall gaining charitable status and the DGPC being named as sole trustees as a mean or reclaiming VAT which had been paid as part of the refurbishment costs. The current situation is however unclear, which is of concern to Councillors. Resolved that the Clerk write to the Secretary of the Village hall Committee requesting the VH Management Committee meet to discuss the situation and report back in writing to the Council as a matter of some urgency.

## **10. DGPC Policies & Procedures**

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had drafted and circulated to all members the following documents:

- a) Code of Conduct
- b) Data Protection Policy
- c) Complaints Procedure
- d) Recording of Meetings
- e) Disciplinary Policy
- f) Grievance Policy
- g) Equality Policy

It was resolved that these documents be adopted with immediate effect and published on the Parish Council’s web site. (The Chair and members expressed their gratitude for the work undertaken by the Clerk – to be minuted as directed by the Chair)

## **11. Correspondence**

11.1 The Queen’s Awards for Voluntary Service (qavs)

YLCA has circulated information on the Awards and nominations are sought, this is the equivalent of the MBE and the highest award available for voluntary groups in the UK. To be eligible, groups must have been running for at least 3 years and consist of a minimum of 2 people, the majority of whom must be volunteers. Following discussion 2 worthy nominees were identified – Cllr Stonehouse agreed to furnish the Clerk with detail of the outstanding work undertaken by the two individuals over a considerable number of years. Clerk to progress one the report received from Cllr Stonehouse.

11.2 Diary date – for information Northern Area Parish Forum meeting 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at the Moors Centre, Danby.

## **12. Items reported by Parish Councillors**

The following highways issues were raised:

- Concern re parked vehicles on West Lane verge (Danby bank) which were seemingly obstructing the view of motorists entering the highway from Castleton. Clerk to report to North Yks Police & Area 3 Highways.
- Road side gullies on Strait Lane, Ainthorpe are blocked. Clerk to report to Area 3

- Roadside gullies in Castleton village and adjacent to the Church are blocked. Clerk to report to Area 3.

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Water tap in the gents toilet Commondale seemingly running continually (water turned off) Clerk to check and action repair if necessary.

Cllr Day reported that a grant had been obtained to enable repairs to be made to the drystone wall around the playground / football field.

The Chair advised that she had seen concerning reports regarding the future of rural post offices although no specific mention had been made of the Post Office counter in the Old Chapel Tea Room, Castleton – all to monitor press reports.

The Chair also spoke about ‘Choice Based Letting’ raising concerns with regards the allocation of social housing in the parish by way of a points based scheme. Members agreed Cllr Reeve in her capacity as Chair of the DGPC should write as appropriate to voice concerns.

**The meeting closed at 8.55pm.**

**Date of next meeting - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016.**