

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held Thursday 12 September 2024 at DARRINGTON READING ROOMS, PHILIP'S LANE, DARRINGTON, PONTEFRAC, WF8 3BH

Present Cllr L. Thompson (LT), Cllr J. Cox (JC), Cllr T. Hirst (TH), Cllr F. Gray (FG), Cllr K. Whalley (KW), Cllr D. Burns (DB), Cllr L. Dale (LD), Cllr P. Batty (PB) and Ms J. Jones (JJ)

In Attendance

1 resident in attendance.

Action

1. Apologies

To note apologies and approve reasons for absence

NOTED apologies received from Cllr V. Stones, and approved reasons thereto.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 To note any declarations of interests not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr L. Thompson declared an interest in the matter discussed under item 11.5 and recused herself from any voting thereto.

2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation

None received.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darrington Parish Council held on 11 July 2024

RESOLVED to approve said minutes as a true and accurate record of the ordinary meeting held on 11 July 2024.

4. To receive information on the following ongoing issues

4.1 To provide an update on the installation of the benches

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

PB

4.2 To engage with Steve Townsend in respect of the Valo Smart City Application

NOTED feedback in respect of the average cost to install this capability in the village.

RESOLVED to discuss this item further under item 4.3 below.

- 4.3 To continue to engage with Wakefield Council through the working party and to provide an update at the next meeting

RESOLVED to arrange a further meeting with Wakefield Council to discuss speed camera options for the village and determine the extent (if any) of Wakefield Council's support of this initiative. **JC/DB/PB**

- 4.4 To investigate how to place a TPO (Tree Preservation Order) on a tree in the village

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting. **JC**

- 4.5 To implement the recommendations in the Audit Report

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

- 4.6 To expand on the number of website replacement quotations

NOTED additional quotations and proposals presented, with associated costs and pros/cons of each quotation.

RESOLVED to approve the cost and implementation of the website and gov.uk hosting proposal presented by Active Council as follows:

- Once-off website and domain cost of £734.00 (excl. VAT)
- Ongoing website maintenance cost of £304.00 (excl. VAT).

JJ

RESOLVED further to establish a working group to support the provision of website content including Cllr L. Dale, Cllr F. Gray, Cllr T. Hirst and Cllr D. Burns. **JJ/LD/FG/TH/DB**

- 4.7 To investigate further email and document management options

RESOLVED to approve the cost and implementation of the basic email solution presented by Active Council, including Office365 for the clerk as follows:

- Once-off email cost of up to £250.00 (excl. VAT)
- Ongoing email cost of up to £200.00 (excl. VAT)

JJ

- 4.8 To purchase a Parish Council-owned laptop

RESOLVED that as the email and document management system will be hosted in the cloud, a Council laptop is no longer needed, and no further action is required.

- 4.9 To consider and decide upon the annual review of the Council's service providers

RESOLVED that an informal review is to be scheduled to take place during April each year and findings to be presented to the Council during the Annual Meeting of the Council in May each year. **JJ**

4.10 To request Energy Fund pamphlets and include them in the next newsletter

NOTED feedback and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

4.11 To investigate if one of the residents is still in possession of the original Post Office sign

NOTED that it was likely that the sign had been returned to the Post Office and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

4.12 To share the Community Land Schemes link with the Council

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

4.13 To obtain the Service Level Agreement between the Council and First Impressions

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

JJ

4.14 To engage with the previous year's Christmas tree plaque sponsors to determine if they will be willing to sponsor the tree accompanying their plaque again for 2024

NOTED feedback from Cllr F. Gray in respect of the cost of £2,240 to finance 40 Christmas trees (not including the cost of the proposed 21 additional brackets to increase the number of trees from 19 to 40) on the lamp posts for 2024.

NOTED that Wilson Farm will sponsor £500 toward the trees each year for 10 years.

RESOLVED that the number of Christmas trees will remain limited to 19 trees for 2024.

4.15 To calculate the cost of the Christmas trees relative to the cost of the winter planters

RESOLVED that this matter was resolved under 4.14 above and that no further action is required.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Resident query in respect of the tidying of the property for sale on the Hillcroft/Stone Barns site

NOTED resident query and **RESOLVED** that as this request is outside of the Council's remit, the resident be directed to Wakefield Council.

JJ

5.2 Feedback from Cllr B. Mayhew regarding Darrington trees obscuring streetlights

NOTED update received in this respect and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

5.3 Invitation to order Christmas trees from First Impressions

RESOLVED to engage with Wakefield Council in respect of the testing and licences for the lamp posts

JC

5.4 Feedback from Cllr B. Mayhew regarding Estcourt Road trees

NOTED update received in this respect and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

5.5 Meeting request from Darrington Quarry and notice of public consultation

NOTED notification of virtual exhibition to be held and **RESOLVED** that all future correspondence will be shared with the Council.

JJ

5.6 Resident query regarding village field hedges

NOTED resident query in respect of the height of the beech hedge running along the village field.

NOTED further that the Village Field Committee has arranged for regular trimming of the hedge and **RESOLVED** to request that the Village Field Chair engages with the resident in this respect.

TH

5.7 Correspondence from Open Country Charity – opportunities to work together

NOTED a request received from Open Country Charity and **RESOLVED** that as there are no Green spaces owned by the Council, there is little opportunity to engage with the Charity in this respect.

RESOLVED to advise the Charity accordingly.

JJ

6. Financial Matters

6.1 **NOTED** payments to be approved for September 2024

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
15.08.24	29-2425	TRF	PontyVA 925	Social Media, Website, Residents - Aug	£330.00	£0.00
15.08.24	30-2425	TRF	N. Dias	Gardening maintenance Aug 11hrs @ £16 p/h	£176.00	£0.00
15.08.24	31-2425	TRF	JRB Enterprises	Dog Waste Bags 5 x 800	£330.00	£55.00
TOTAL					£836.00	£55.00

6.2 **NOTED** payments to be retrospectively approved for August 2024

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
15.08.24	26-2425	TRF	N. Dias	Gardening maintenance Jul 18hrs @ £16 p/h	£288.00	£0.00

15.08.24	27-2425	TRF	PontyVA 925	Social Media, Website, Residents - Jul	£330.00	£0.00
15.08.24	28-2425	TRF	JRB Enterprises	Dog Waste Bags 5 x 800	£160.44	£26.74
TOTAL					£778.44	£26.74

6.3 **NOTED** payments made for July 2024

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
11.07.24	19-2425	TRF	WMDC	Grounds Maintenance Contract 2024/25	£1,238.11	£206.35
11.07.24	20-2425	D/D	PWLB	Loan repayment Street Lights	£1,104.17	£0.00
11.07.24	21-2425	TRF	N. Dias	Gardening maintenance Jun @ £16 p/h	£192.00	£0.00
11.07.24	22-2425	TRF	PontyVA 925	Social Media, Website, Residents - Jun	£330.00	£0.00
11.07.24	23-2425	Chq0985	St. Luke's Church	Maintenance of church clock	£104.00	£0.00
11.07.24	24-2425	Chq0986	St. Luke's Church	Hire of Reading Rooms	£176.00	£0.00
11.07.24	25-2425	TRF	Richard Hirst	Replacement glass for Estcourt Rd Notice Board	£16.10	£2.68
TOTAL					£3,160.38	£209.03

NOTED no income received during July or August 2024.

NOTED the bank balance at 31 July 2024 as £27,056.32 and at 31 August 2024 as £26,277.18.

RESOLVED to settle all July accounts with immediate effect.

6.4 To receive and approve the bank reconciliation and review spend against the budget to 31 March 2025

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation to 31 March 2025.

7. **To consider planning applications received**

7.1	CYC Reference	Address/Description	Council Decision
	24/01213/FUL	16 Hillcroft Close Darrington Pontefract WF8 3BD - Proposed single storey rear extension, proposed roof extension above existing and proposed rear extensions	No objection
	24/01360/TPO	4 Ash Grove, Darrington, Pontefract WF8 3AA – Fell 1 Elm Tree	No objection
	24/01462/TPO	24 Beech Crescent Darrington Pontefract WF8 3AE - Fell 1 Ash and 1 Sycamore (T24 and T26 of TPO-ORDC1/1969)	No objection
	22/01983/S730	Delph House Estcourt Road Darrington Pontefract WF8 3AL - Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) of planning application 22/01983/FUL dated 27/10/2023	To object on the basis of inconsistency in the plans and site inspection

JC

8. To receive information on finalised planning applications

8.1	CYC Reference	Address/Description	Wakefield Council Decision
	22/02588/FUL	Cedar Hurt Estcourt Road - Raising of roof height, first floor extensions to front and rear, addition of openings to side elevations and rendering of walls	Approved
	24/00309/FUL	27 Beech Crescent, Darrington, Pontefract, WF8 3AE - Single storey extension to side, conversion of existing garage to habitable room with new roof, creation of balcony to rear and widening existing drive	Approved
	24/01051/CPL	2 Denby Crest Darrington WF8 3SB - Part conversion of existing garage	Approved

9. **Reports – School, Police, Gardening Club, Village Field, Newsletter**

9.1 To consider school report

NOTED no update as presented by Cllr L. Dale.

9.2 To consider police report

NOTED no police report presented for the meeting

9.3 To consider Gardening Club report

NOTED the Gardening Club report as presented by Cllr L. Thompson.

9.4 To consider Village Field report

NOTED the Village Field report as presented by Cllr K. Whalley.

9.5 To consider newsletter report

NOTED no newsletter report presented for the meeting.

9.6 To consider Church report

NOTED no update as presented by Cllr L. Thompson.

9.7 To consider YLCA branch meeting report

NOTED the YLCA branch meeting report as presented by Cllr L. Thompson.

9.8 To note Newsletter-worthy items

NOTED to add the Farm's sponsorship of the Christmas trees in the next newsletter.

10. Governance matters

No matters tabled for the meeting.

11. Matters requested by Councillors

- 11.1 To consider and decide upon resident correspondence requesting permanent closure of Westfield Lane

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

- 11.2 To consider and decide upon the dog waste bins on Back Lane

NOTED ongoing challenges with obtaining dog waste bags from Wakefield Council.

RESOLVED to request assistance in obtaining these bags from Wakefield Councillors Mayhew, Ayre and Craig.

JJ

- 11.3 To consider and decide upon whether to request that a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) is raised for the footpath running from North Lodge Lane to Stapleton

NOTED comments raised by Cllr D. Burns in this respect.

RESOLVED to explore this further and provide feedback at the next meeting.

DB

- 11.4 To consider and decide whether there is any interest in identifying opportunities to create/develop additional footpaths within Darrington

RESOLVED to explore this further and provide feedback at the next meeting.

DB

- 11.5 To consider and decide upon quote for routine maintenance of church clock

NOTED the cost of £1,000 for routine maintenance of the church clock.

RESOLVED to approve a contribution of £500 towards the cost of maintenance of the church clock.

LT

- 11.6 To consider and decide upon a thank you gift voucher for the internal auditor

RESOLVED to approve the purchase of a £100 gift voucher to thank the internal auditor for his service during the audit.

FG

- 11.7 To consider and decide upon the lamp post Christmas tree costs

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

11.8 To consider and decide upon a response required from the Council for Darrington alert regarding ITV programme about the A1

RESOLVED to provide a response in respect of the impact of the A1 roadworks on the village.

KW/JJ

12. Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting

12.1 No matters raised.

14. Date of Next Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of Darrington Parish Council will be held on Thursday 10 October 2024 at 7pm at Darrington Reading Rooms.

Meeting closed at 21h05.