

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

held on Thursday 23rd January 2025 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor	Simon Peers (Chair)		
Councillors	Julie Barber	Helen Dawson	Mark Walker
	Jason Boakes	David Wiseman	

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Knight and the Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES. Cllr. Smith.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** Cllrs. Boakes and Wiseman as they were next door neighbours of one of the planning applications being considered.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 28th NOVEMBER 2024.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 28th November 2024 (177-180) be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

- i. 24/02062/TCA - The Willows, 155 Main Street - Fell 1no Beech - tree in a conservation area.
It was noted that this work had already been carried out.
- ii. 24/02194/TCA - Cherry Tree House, 68 Main Street - Fell 1no. Conifer - tree in a conservation area.
It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this application.
- iii. 24/02219/TCA – Alligin, 97 Main Street - 3m crown reduction of 2no. Beech - trees in a conservation area. Withdrawn – see below.
This application had been withdrawn - see 5b(v) below.
- iv. 24/02252/TCA - 4 The Court, Main Street - Fell 1no. Holly (T1), crown lift 1no. Sycamore (T2) and 1no. Horse Chestnut (T3) to 3m over path and 5.2m over road and remedial trimming of 2no. hedges (HG1, HG2) - trees in a conservation area
It was felt that this was largely maintenance work and as such, it was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this application.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

Five planning decisions were noted as follows;

- i. 24/01696/TCA - 107 Main Street - Fell 1no. Silver Birch (T3) and crown reduce to previous pollard points 2no. Silver Birch (T1 and T2) - trees in a conservation area.
No objection from the Local Planning Authority.
- ii. 24/01760/TCA - The Willows, 155 Main Street - Fell 1no. Ash - tree in a conservation area.
No objection from the Local Planning Authority.
- iii. 24/01698/FUL - Tigh Beag, 9 Main Street - Single storey side and rear extension and alterations to fenestration including bifold doors to front elevation.
Approved subject to conditions.
- iv. 24/02012/TCA - West View, 21 Askham Fields Lane - Fell 1no. Cedar (T9), 1m crown reduction of 1no. Holly (T7) and 1no. Apple (T8) and remedial pruning of 6no. Apple (T1-T6) - trees in a conservation area.
No objection from the Local Planning Authority.

- v. 24/02219/TCA – Alligin, 97 Main Street - 3m crown reduction of 2no. Beech - trees in a conservation area.

This application had been withdrawn.

6. CRIME REPORT

There were no reported crimes in December.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR KNIGHT

Ward Cllr. Knight reported that a meeting of City of York Council (CYC) to finalise the budget was coming up and it was expected that CYC would increase rates by the maximum amount allowed. She was pushing for improved bus services as the rural villages were disproportionately affected having a greater reliance on such services. As a member of the scrutiny panel, she was trying to establish what the budget for buses would be specifically used for. She was also keen to establish circular bus services connecting communities without the need to go into York and then come back out again. She also felt that proposed parking charges in the city centre disproportionately affected rural communities due to their greater reliance on these facilities. She also felt that the prohibition of overnight parking at the park and ride was having an adverse effect on those wanting somewhere to park whilst away on business (or other needs). The early closure of the park and ride car park was also detrimental and it was noted that taxi fares had increased. There were issues with contactless payment methods, users with multiple cards in their wallet could find payment being taken from each card, this had been a big issue with Transport for London. There would be a ward committee meeting soon and Ward Cllr. Knight had got some proposed dates, the PC would be advised in due course. There was discussion about the location of a thirty miles an hour side on Westwood Lane, Ward Cllr. Knight noted this. There were also concerns about fly tipping in the village, a sofa had been dumped in a field belonging to the College with willow trees growing in it. Ward Cllr. Knight agreed to take a look. She advised the PC to keep reporting such incidents, to keep it clean, and she would press for appropriate action to be taken. On a personal note it was noted that she had recently moved house but was still living in the Rural West ward.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Precept for 2025/26 and finalise the budget

There had been discussion about the budget for 2025/26. It was felt that there was no need to make further changes. There was a query about whether the City of York Council Support Grant was £250 or £260. A 2% increase would mean a precept of £11,088.42. It was **resolved** not to increase the precept and that the precept for 2025/26 would therefore be £11,073.50.

8.2 Rules of use of the play area and appropriate signage.

The “No dogs” sign was no longer there. There was discussion about the Glebe land and the tenant who rented it, Cllr. Wiseman would make appropriate enquiries. A sign could be put up on the first gate and include the what3words location. In case of emergency, it could point to the location of the nearest telephone box. It was suggested having two signs with one at each entrance. They would be A3 size and made of aluminium or dibond. Such a sign would cost £25.11 and it was agreed that a budget of £30 be set, Cllr. Peers would order the signs. It was **resolved** to set a budget of £30 for two signs which displayed a message that no dogs (other than assistance dogs) be allowed, no unauthorised fires, no smoking and no littering. The sign would also display the name of the operator of the site. Account would be taken of Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) safety advice.

8.3 Review of Christmas 2024.

The overall view was that the 2024 event should serve as a template for similar events in future years with little need to do things differently (although one Councillor felt that mince pies should have been included). There were lots of people enjoying the arts and crafts, the mulled wine and the hot chocolate and milling around for fifteen to twenty minutes. Cllr. Wiseman had spoken to the landlord and landlady of the Nag’s Head public house and

they had been happy with how their part of the Christmas event had gone. The twelve days of Christmas had been popular. The event got through two-hundred and fifty bags of duck food. The motion sensor at the “four calling birds” display was considered a nice touch. The PC was still looking for a location for a shed to store the materials used. There had been one volunteer but other options were being explored. There would be an appeal in the minutes and Cllr. Dawson had access to the Village WhatsApp. The shed would need to be about eight feet by eight feet. The bus park was considered but this was Charity land and not within the gift of the PC to make such a decision.

8.4 **Removal of the faded twenties plenty signs.**

There was discussion about the “twenties plenty” signs. The legal speed limit was thirty miles an hour and these signs therefore caused confusion. They were in poor condition, the colour had faded and they were unsightly. It was **resolved** that the signs be taken down and not replaced (there was one abstention to this vote). Cllr. Walker agreed that he would be the one to remove the signs and in the meantime, this will be added to the Action Tracker.

9. **FINANCE**

9.1 **Report of invoices to be paid.**

It was **resolved** that payment of the following invoices to be approved, all in favour (noting that the first two items listed would be paid under contractual obligation without waiting for further formal approval).

- Clerk’s Salary 01/12/2024 to 31/12/2025 plus deductions payable to HMRC.
- Licence agreement with York Diocesan Board of Finance Limited regarding access to the Recreational area (ten year agreement). Charges In Advance 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 - £100
- £30 fee to HM Land Registry for first registration of the Village Green.

In addition, further invoices had been received since the agenda papers were circulated as follows;

- Various invoices from Bookers Cash and Carry, Lidl and Amazon relating to the cost of the 2024, Christmas event, total £171.02 of which £25.90 was VAT.
- Dean's Garden Centre, York – Various bedding plants, Primrose and Polyanthus – 14 x £3.99 = £55.86 including VAT.
- Boston Bulbs – Snowdrops, Narcissus’ and Fritillaria – total £102.49 including VAT. All for the Village Green.

The Natural Environment Committee were seeking extra funding to cover the cost of skip hire as they were organising the clearance of the land on the corner of Saint Nicholas’s Croft and Main Street on 1st March. This would be an agenda item for the February meeting. It was noted that the adjoining property was no longer unoccupied.

10 **CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. The items of note were a letter from a resident concerned that someone was using Mill Lane to park vehicles with visible “For Sale” signs. (item 777) and an email from a resident regarding a forty miles per hour road sign on Askham Fields Lane facing the wrong direction (item 783). The Clerk had replied to these communications and it was suggested that residents raising such issues be guided to the appropriate section of the CYC website in order to report such matters directly. Ward Cllr. Hook had also reported some signage issues.

11 **ACTION TRACKER**

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. All items relating to the Christmas event 2024 were now completed, there was no progress to report on any of the other items listed.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for forthcoming meetings in 2025 are;

27th February, 27th March, 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November.

All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:38pm.

Signed

27 February 2025