

**MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 11 March 2026 IN THE PARISH ROOM.**

**Present**

Mr Richard Wells	Chair
Mr Alan Fullerton	Councillor
Mrs Christine Dent	Councillor
Mrs Andrea Cooper	Councillor
Mr Tony Whitbread	Councillor
Ms Sarah Sayer	Clerk to the Parish Council
Mr John Cooper	Resident of East Witton

**Item 1      Introduction and Apologies**

Cllr Sedgwick and 2 residents (Mags Cran & Sue Ebbadge)

**Item 2      To note any Declarations of Interest**

None

**Item 3      Item 3 – Public Participation**

None

**Item 4      Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26 November 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

**Item 5      Matters arising**

- **Potholes**

The road on the church side of the A6108, has quite a long stretch where the drop off the Highway along the verge edge was considered to be dangerous.  
**Clerk to report the issue to Highways.**

- **Flooding on Braithwaite Lane.**

Work completed by Paul (on behalf of East Witton Estate), and the drainage is working effectively. **Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Peter Casey at Strutt & Parker.**

- **Streetlights**

Allow a further 3 months for the Council to review what NYC do as a result of their survey.

Our preference would be:

Turn on at Dawn and off at Daylight every morning (approx. 5.30am -8am)

Turn on at Dusk and off at 10pm every night (approx. 4.30pm to 10pm)

- **Village Sign & Chevrons**

Both reported and Highways will action repairs. **If no progress Clerk to ask Cllr Sedgwick for assistance.**

- **Items stored outside houses and edging stones/timber blocks adjacent to Highway**

In the hands of East Witton Estate. No requirement to chase it up.

- **Requirement to have a new email address**

The Clerks now has an email address matching the web domain:  
[clerk@eastwittonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastwittonparishcouncil.co.uk)

NYC notified of the change, but Clerk still accepting emails via the old email address, so these now run in tandem, but the Auditor will be provided with the new one.

Item 6

Extending the reach of the Parish Council Within the Community.

The Chair is keen for a more joined up approach to be taken so that all groups are working together to keep villagers informed of events, news, dates and things of interest to everyone in the Parish. At the moment there were quite a few small WhatsApp groups set up, but a village/Parish wide approach would be good.

It was noted that the Parish Room Meeting was upcoming and the matter could be discussed there to see what options would work best.

If a new village WhatsApp group is needed, flyers could be hand delivered to every property on the electoral roll, and those who wished to join would provide their contact details to a central contact for the initial set-up.

There was also the suggestion that the Noticeboard was used more, but it is difficult to use as it is locked, meaning Notices have to be delivered to Richard or Alan, and then they would put them in. Not everyone would know that in the wider Community, so it may put people off trying. The possibility of making it more accessible/unlocked was raised but not taken forward, nor was the option of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Noticeboard.

Item 7

Yorkshire Water Pipes

The Chair explained that there have recently been 3 incidents of leaks/breaks to the sewage pipe network below the tennis court and in the field down towards the river. This has resulted in Yorkshire Water shutting down the system and taking sewage to the treatment centre at Middleham, causing a lot of mud on the highway.

It was resolved that the **Clerk would contact YWS to express concerns about the sub-standard sewage pipes, find out the criteria which needs to be met for an overhaul and to ask Peter Casey (Strutt & Parker) if a pipework survey had been done last year**, as there was some recollection among Councillors present that this had been undertaken.

Item 8

Planning

a. Noted planning applications received (Appendix 1)

**Planning Consultations**

Reference No.	Proposal	Comments
ZD25/00746/FULL	Dog Kennels at Angram Cote Farm, Stark Bank Road, Ellingstring, Ripon	No Objections
ZD26/00056/FULL	Slurry lagoon at Land At E415487 N485303 Low Thorpe East Witton	No Objections

**Planning Decisions**

Reference No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
ZD25/00411/FULL	East Witton Mill, A6108, Jervaulx Hall, East Witton	Granted	18/11/25
ZD25/00557/FULL	Access track at Angram Cote Farm, Stark Bank Road, Ellingstring, Ripon	Granted	01/12/25

b) To consider any other planning related issue – None raised

Item 9 Accounts

- a) To approve payments as detailed in Appendix 2  
**Resolved to Approve.**

Appendix 2		Sum
Payments since last papers	<b>Payments 2025/26</b>	
30/11/25	GCH Garden Maintenance	£160.00
07/12/25	Adam Curtis web design	£15.80
18/12/25	S Sayer 3rd Quarter	£376.98
18/12/25	HMRC	£94.40
19/01/26	Microsoft Renewal	£104.99
	TOTAL	<b>£752.17</b>
2025/26	<b><u>Receipts</u></b>	
	None	

- b) To note budget situation as detailed in Appendix 3 – Noted

Queried grass-cutting contract – will GCH Garden Maintenance continue in 2026/27? Will the cost per cut increase?

**Resolved: Clerk will contact Gareth Hastie to thank him for the work over the past year and to confirm his continuing contract and to query any price increase.**

Appendix 3 - <b>On-going 2025/26</b>	Budget Situation
Income to date (£4250.00) plus balance b/f from 2024/25 of £963.39	£5,412.13
Expenditure to date 2025/26	£3,974.68
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£1,437.45</b>
Anticipated approximate expenditure to end of year	£720.00

- c) Requirement to appoint the internal auditor.  
**Resolved: Appoint Andrew Mills**

Item 10 Correspondence

- a) To note correspondence received – Noted
  
- b) Rotary Club invitation to enter the Best Kept Village Competition 2026  
Resolved not to enter this year.

**Correspondence received from 16/11/25 to 03/03/26**

<b>From</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
Strutt & Parker	Braithwaite Lane – culverts unblocked	Circulated
Rotary Club	Invitation to enter the 2026 Best Kept Village Competition	On Agenda
Sarah Sayer	Circulated 2017 tree reports	Circulated
Richard Wells	Action plan for trees	Noted
Richard Wells	Issues with East Witton sewage pipe	On Agenda
Mags Cran	Water Burst – Lime Tree House	Exchange of emails between Councillors and Mags Cran
HarBus	Notice of Public Meetings	Circulated
Camera Campaign	Updates to the campaign	Circulated
Gillian Taylor	Speed Cameras to be introduced in North Yorkshire	Circulated
Community First	Rural News	Circulated
A Foot in 2 Dales Event	52 mile walk on 18/19 July – passes through village am.	Noted as in previous years
YDNPA	Trees & Woodlands weekly updates	Circulated
YDNPA	Spring Parish Forum invitation	R Wells to attend.
YDNPA	Parish Council Training 18 March 6.30pm -8pm	R Wells to attend
YDNPA	Parish Newsletter	Circulated
Leyburn Police	Monthly crime reports	Circulated
NYC Highways	Road closures	Circulated when relevant
NYC Area 1	Parish workshops	Circulated
NYC Democratic Services	Richmondshire Area Committee Meeting 15 Sept 2025	Papers circulated
NYC	Latest News	Circulated
NYC	Mayors precept survey	Circulated
NYC/Cllr Sedgwick	Info on Highways schedule/budget	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Enforcement Plan	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Future Ready Fuel Campaign	Circulated
NYC	Civic Service & Networking event	Circulated
NYC	Boundary Review, Final Recommendations	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Parish Updates	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – cost of living campaign	Circulated
YLCA	Joint Annual Meeting papers	Circulated
YLCA	Richmondshire Branch Meeting dates	Circulated
YLCA	Training Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	Civility & Respect Newsletters	Circulated
YLCA	Chief Executives Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	White Rose Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	Law & Governance Bulletin	Circulated

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Pension Regulator	Re-enrolment	Declaration made
Highways	Reported chevron damage and chased village sign	Sign materials ordered Feb 2026. 6 week lead in time.
Adam Curtis	Request for a new email address	Now set up and Democratic Services informed.

Item 11                    To note matters for information and items for next meeting agenda

- Trees on the village green
- White lines – Lowthorpe
- Dog mess on the village green
- Speed of slurry tankers up the village
- Grass outside the bus shelter
- Other issues as ‘matters arising from the minutes’

Item 12                    To confirm date and time of next meeting

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 May 2026 at 7.30pm. This will also include the Annual Meeting.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY PUBLIC QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE CLERK AT LEAST 3 WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING.

Signature.....

Date.....