MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 September 2026 IN THE PARISH ROOM.

Present

Mr Richard Wells	Chair (arrived at 8pm due to prior meeting)
Mrs Christine Dent	Councillor
Mrs Andrea Cooper	Councillor
Mr Anthony Whitbread	Councillor
Ms Sarah Sayer	Clerk to the Parish Council

Item 1 **Introduction and Apologies**

Cllr Dent opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies were received from NYC Cllr Karin Sedgwick and Cllr Alan Fullerton. The Chair was to arrive slightly late, as pre-arranged with Councillors and Clerk. Reasons were due to other commitments and illness and were accepted.

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

None

Item 3 **Public Participation**

None

Item 4 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20 May 2026 were approved and will be signed by the Chair.

Item 5 **Matters arising**

Yorkshire Water pipes

YWS have been out on site to assess any current leaks. None at present. There were no plans in place to replace failing infrastructure, but YWS will respond to leaks as quickly as possible. Clerk confirmed that Peter Casey (Strutt & Parker) had advised that they had never had an independent survey done despite the recollections of Councillors to the contrary.

Communication lines for PC and Community

Cllr Wells to create a flyer for distribution. Clerk has obtained the up-to-date Electoral Roll for list of names and addresses, so the flyers can be distributed to each house when they are ready. Joining the WhatsApp group will be entirely voluntary.

Highways issues

The clerk opened a ticket with Highways in respect potholes on the road near to the church. Highways closed the ticket, but no works have been carried out. Presume they are not deep enough.

Trees on the village green

Some work has been undertaken to reduce canopies where possible, with more which can still be done. John Cooper has offered to do this, and the Parish Council agree to him doing so. It was also felt that a Tree Survey was not required at the present time.

Electronic Banking

The clerk has tried unsuccessfully to log into the account with the details and keypad provided originally by Barclays. It was agreed to carry on with the cheque book for now, but **Clerk to seek advice from YLCA.**

increase in 2026/27 which is good news given the cost of fuel.

Item 6 **Clerks Salary – National Pay Award**

Proposed to accept by the Chair. Seconded by Cllr Cooper and Cllr Dent. **Clerk to advise accountant.**

Item 7 **Planning**

a. Noted planning applications received and determined (Appendix 1)

Planning Consultations

Reference No.	Proposal	Comments
R/89/103N	Full planning permission for proposed extension to an existing agricultural building for additional calf accommodation at Lowthorpe Farm, Lowthorpe, East Witton, Leyburn, DL8 4SW	No objections/no comments
R/89/102E	Householder planning permission for demolition of rear conservatory, to be replaced with new sunroom / kitchen, as well as alterations to the existing ancillary outbuilding at 8, Lowthorpe, East Witton, Leyburn, DL8 4SW	No objections/no comments
ZD26/00513/FULL	Full planning permission for conversion of single storey agricultural buildings to 2 dwellings at High Jervaulx Farm Jervaulx Ripon North Yorkshire HG4 4PG	No objections/no comments
ZD26/00400/LBC	Listed building consent for alterations and refurbishment to a Grade II listed public house including internal alterations, installation of new oak wall panelling, formation of a widened rear opening with timber French doors, construction of a rear timber patio with steps, alterations to an internal opening, installation of external seating boundary features and associated works at The Blue Lion Inn East Witton Leyburn North Yorkshire DL8 4SN	No objections/no comments
ZD26/00399/FULL	Full planning permission for alterations and refurbishment to a Grade II listed public house including internal alterations, installation of new oak wall panelling, formation of a widened rear opening with timber French doors, construction of a rear timber patio with steps, alterations to an internal opening, installation of external seating boundary features and associated works at The Blue Lion Inn East Witton Leyburn North Yorkshire DL8 4SN	No objections/no comments
ZD26/00361/FULL	Full planning permission for the change of	No objections/no

	use of Park House to holiday accommodation, together with the change of use, alteration and extension of the former tearoom building to provide 2 no. two-bedroom cottages and 1 no. one-bedroom holiday cottage, including associated parking, access and landscaping works (existing and proposed plans attached to the case file on the 28.8.26) at Jervaulx Abbey Tearooms Jervaulx Ripon North Yorkshire HG4 4PH	comments
ZD26/00311/FULL	Full planning permission for construction of a new slurry lagoon to allow for on-going regulatory compliance of the existing dairy farming business at site located to the East of Waterloo Farm, East Witton, North Yorkshire, DL8 4ST	No objections/no comments

Planning Decisions

Reference No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
R/89/103N	Full planning permission for proposed extension to an existing agricultural building for additional calf accommodation at Lowthorpe Farm, Lowthorpe, East Witton, Leyburn, DL8 4SW	Conditional Approval	03/09/26

b) To consider any other planning related issue

None

Item 8 <u>Accounts</u>

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

Payments since last papers		
03/06/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£320.00
19/06/26	S L Sayer (Clerks Salary)	£351.60
20/06/26	HMRC	£87.80
07/07/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£320.00
07/08/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£320.00
08/08/26	Yorkshire Air Ambulance	£50.00
05/09/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£320.00
		<u>£1769.40</u>
2026/27	**<u>Receipts</u>**	
22/06/26	NYC Grass	£205.50
10/07/26	VAT Claim	£634.19
		<u>£839.69</u>

To note budget situation as detailed in Appendix 3
Noted

Appendix 3 - **On-going 2026/27**	Budget Situation
Income to date (£5289.69) plus balance b/f from 2025/26 of £988.46	£ 6,278.15
Expenditure to date 2026/27	£ 3,003.92
Balance	**£ 3274.23**

Item 9 Correspondence

a) To note correspondence received and sent – **Noted**

Correspondence received from 06/05/26 to 19/09/2026

From	Description	Action
Gareth Hastie	Updated prices letter	Sent reply and he agreed to no increase this year.
Evolve Tree Management	Introduction of Consultancy and arboricultural services.	Circulated.
Leyburn Medical Practice	Monthly Newsletter	Circulated
HarBus	Public Meeting Agenda	Circulated
Gilly's	Gillian Stevenson Trust – open for applications for community-based charities.	Circulated
Gillian Taylor	Speed Camera Campaign – NYC launched judicial review.	Circulated, but PC not signed up to this campaign, so no more emails circulated
YDNPA	Spring & Summer Newsletters	Circulated
YDNPA	Autumn Parish Forum 17 Nov 2026	Circulated
Leyburn Police	Monthly crime reports	Circulated
Cllr Sedgwick	Don't Spark Disaster Campaign	Sent for Noticeboard.
Area 1	Middleham Bridge – damage and closure	Circulated
Area 1	Road works/closures	Circulated when relevant
NYC	Installation of new parking payment machines NPR	Circulated
NYC	Local Transport Plan	Circulated
NYC	Tour of Britain Information.	Circulated
NYC	Home to School Travel – Middleham & Spennithorne Primary Schools – Discretionary approach agreed.	Circulated
NYC Definitive Map	Order for the Stark Bank Bridleway is sealed.	Circulated
NYC	Call for sites – reopened.	Circulated

NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Highways Workshops list of dates & venues.	Circulated
NYC	On Your Patch Newsletters	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Monthly Parish updates	Circulated
YLCA	Richmondshire Branch Meeting Topics for Aug/Sept	Circulated
YLCA	Training Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	White Rose Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	Law & Governance Bulletin	Circulated
YLCA	2026/27 Pay Scales	Circulated

Recipient	**Description**	**Comments**
Harriet Corner	Request to site banner on VG	PC Approved request
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	Cheque sent for £50	Donation from PC
YDNPA Ranger	Thank you for prompt repair	
Peter Casey	Email asking if the Estate had a YWS network plan	No was the response
Area 1 Highways	Reported potholes near church	Notification to say case closed.
Yorkshire Water	Telephone conversation to ask about infrastructure upgrades.	None scheduled at present.
Gareth Hastie	Letter regarding price increase and our views	Replied to say price will be held.

Item 10 **<u>To note matters for information and items for next meeting agenda</u>**

- WhatsApp Group
- Precept Setting
- Grass Contract – **Clerk to write for a quote**
- Lease of the Village Green – expires May 2027 – **Clerk to contact Estate**
- Donation to St Johns for upkeep of the churchyard

Noted also that:

- Cllr Cooper advised that no letter had been received by residents (from the Estate) about the placing of items outside houses which obstruct the village green or footpath. It was advised that Cllr Cooper should contact the Estate directly to ask permission to place pots/items in front of her property.

Item 11 <u>To confirm date and time of next meeting</u>

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th November 2026 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room.

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

Signature…… Date…….