MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 May 2026 IN THE PARISH ROOM.

Present

Mr Richard Wells	Chair
Mr Alan Fullerton	Councillor
Mrs Christine Dent	Councillor
Mrs Andrea Cooper	Councillor
Ms Sarah Sayer	Clerk to the Parish Council

Item 1 **Introduction and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies were received from NYC Cllr Karin Sedgwick, Cllr Tony Whitbread, Julia Brown and Catherine Whitbread. The reasons were due to other commitments and illness and were accepted.

Item 2 **Re-election of Councillors**

Cllr Richard Wells was proposed as Chair by Councillors present and Richard accepted the position.

The Chair asked the rest of the Parish Council if they would remain, and all accepted as follows:

Councillor – Christine Dent
Councillor – Alan Fullerton
Councillor – Andrea Cooper
Councillor – Tony Whitbread (although not in attendance had spoken to Chair prior to this meeting).

The 'acceptance of office' papers were completed by the Chair and by Councillors at the meeting and signed by persons present. Clerk to retain on file will be sent to NYC as soon as possible.

Item 2a **Elect the YLCA Parish Representative.**

Cllr Dent to continue in this role.

Item 3 **To note any Declarations of Interest**

None

Item 4 **Public Participation**

None

Item 3 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 11 March 2026 were approved and will be signed by the Chair.

Item 6 **Matters arising**

Trees on the village green

Some work has been undertaken at the top of the village green. Thanks to all who helped. Another issue is the Cherry Tree at Town Head Farm, which is overhanding the village green and this means the grass underneath cannot be cut. R Wells to lop the tree and liaise with the owner to cut the grass.

Communication lines for PC and Community

Set up a WhatsApp group and invite all residents of EW Paris to join. R Wells to create a flyer for distribution. **Clerk to obtain the up to date Electoral Roll for list of names and addresses.**

White lines – Low Thorpe
Need refreshing. Also rest of the white lines in the village could do with a refresh as very faded. **Clerk to contact Highways Area 1.**
Also worth mentioning that Fell Lane potholes have been patched so why not the main road near the church? **Clerk to request Highways Area 1 to look at the drop off at the edge of the road near the church and to do some remedial works.**

Dog mess on the village green
No more reports of this being an issue. Monitor.

Speed of slurry tankers up the village
Noted and drivers will be advised by Dents regarding reducing the speed up the village and not cutting across the corner of the village green.

Grass outside the bus shelter
The seeded are is starting to grow and hopefully will give good coverage by the end of the growing season.

Yorkshire Water pipes
No reply to Clerks letter. **Clerk to chase via an email contact obtained from Peter Casey.**

Item 7 Grass Cutting Contract
Happy with the current contractors who have been doing a good job. Noted that the fee per cut will not increase in 2026/27 which is good news given the cost of fuel.

Item 8 Planning

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

Planning Consultations

Reference No.	Proposal	Comments
ZD25/00746/FULL	Revised details to proposed dog kennels at Angram Cote Farm Stark Bank Road Ellingstring HG4 4PN	No comments

Planning Decisions

Reference No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
None			

b) To consider any other planning related issue – Clerk updated the PC on the new Order relating to the footpath/bridleway at the top of Stark Bank Road to Sowden Beck Road.

Item 9 Accounts

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

Appendix 2		Sum
Payments since last papers	**Payments 2025/26**	

02/03/26	S Sayer - Domain Renewal	£9.59
21/03/26	S Sayer final quarter	£351.60
21/03/26	HMRC	£87.80
		£448.99
	Payments 2026/27	
06/04/26	East Witton Parish Room	£40.00
06/04/26	TP Jones & Co LLP	£80.52
06/04/26	YLCA Subscription	£147.00
14/04/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£160.00
04/05/26	Adam Curtis Web Design	£210.00
04/05/26	Zurich Municipal	£277.00
04/05/26	GCH Garden Maintenance	£320.00
2026/27	**Receipts**	
20/04/26	Parish Precept	**£4,450.00**

To note budget situation as detailed in Appendix 3

Appendix 3 - **On-going 2026/27**	Budget Situation
Income to date (£4450.00) plus balance b/f from 2025/26 of £988.46	£ 5,438.46
Expenditure to date 2026/27	£ 1,234.52
Balance	**£ 4203.94**

Item 10 Correspondence

a)To note correspondence received and sent – Noted

Correspondence received from 03/03/26 to 05/05/2026

From	Description	Action
Community First	Rural News	Circulated
YDMT	Wild Little Spaces – call for sites	Circulated and R Wells forwarded it to the Parish Room Committee.
Gillian Taylor	Road Safety Budget and fixed speed cameras campaign.	Budget approved.
YDNPA	Northern Spring Parish Forum invitation	R Wells to attend.
YDNPA	Design Guide Consultation	Circulated
YDNPA	Local Plan Modifications Consultation	Circulated
Leyburn Police	Monthly crime reports	Circulated
NYC Highways	Road works/closures	Circulated when relevant
NYC	Latest News	Circulated
NYC/Cllr Sedgwick	Local Transport Plan – Stakeholder Survey	Circulated

NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Charity Reception invitation	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Allerton Park Recovery Centre Open Day	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Updated Parish Charter	Circulated
NYC	NY Parish Liaison – Monthly Parish updates	Circulated
YLCA	Joint Annual Meeting papers	Circulated
YLCA	Richmondshire Branch Meeting Topics for June/July	Circulated
YLCA	Training Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	White Rose Bulletins	Circulated
YLCA	Law & Governance Bulletin	Circulated

Recipient	**Description**	**Comments**
Strutt & Parker	Braithwaite Lane – culverts unblocked	Letter of thanks
YDNPA Ranger	Reported footpath gates	Will be added to list of jobs for the Area Ranger
NYC	Urban Grass cutting	Confirmed we will do this again in 2026/27
Gareth Hastie GCH Garden Maintenance	Query regarding grass cutting for 2026/27 and a thank you for work undertaken in 2025/26	No increase in cost per cut.
Rotary Club	Letter to say we are not entering the competition this year.	Letter sent via email

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

- Trees on the village green
- Electronic Banking
- Communication Lines
- Other issues as 'matters arising from the minutes'

Noted also that:

- Yorkshire Day will be celebrated as per 2025, with Yorkshire puddings and sausages on 1st August 2026. Village Hall Committee is organising this event.
- The Village Hall roof and floor repairs are due to commence shortly.
- Concerns raised by Andrea Cooper that the tractor test candidates were practicing around the village green before their test date – for at least 3 consecutive days prior to the test. So far this has only been seen to happen once, but it could become an issue if it happens more frequently. PC to observe.

Item 12 To confirm date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23 September 2026 at 7.30pm. Updated by agreement of Councillors to 30th September 2026.

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

Signature…… Date…….