

Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 27th May 2025

Present:

Parish Cllrs: Jill McMullon (Chair); Yurek Waluda; Sheila Alderson; Peter Metcalfe; David Cockett, Ruth Lindsey, David Stephenson, Emma Blades.

Cllr. Metcalfe had to leave after Item 14 on the Agenda due to another commitment.

NYCllr. Yvonne Peacock

Parish Clerk: Mrs Kate Kelly, also Responsible Financial Officer.

Two Members of the Public including Nichola Hillary.

Apologies: None

Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council

1	Chairman reminded everyone present of the right to record the meeting although the Council would not be doing so.
2	<p><u>Election of Parish Council Chairman & Vice Chairman</u></p> <p>The Clerk sought nominations for the role of Chairman of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr. Blades nominated Cllr. Jill McMullon and this was seconded by Cllr. Metcalfe. Everyone was in agreement and Cllr McMullon accepted the position for a further period.</p> <p>Cllr. McMullon then sought nominations for the role of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Metcalfe had already indicated that he wished to stand down as Vice-Chair but was happy to continue as a Councillor. Cllr McMullon proposed Cllr. Emma Blades and this was seconded by Cllr Alderson. Everyone was in agreement and Cllr Blades accepted the position.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to both Councillors for undertaking these roles for the past year and congratulations expressed to Jill & Emma.</p> <p>Cllr McMullon thanked all councillors for their support of the Parish Council.</p>
3	<p><u>Acceptance of Office</u></p> <p>Cllr. McMullon signed the Acceptance of Office form for Chairman of the Parish Council.</p>
4	<p><u>Consideration of Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>None Cllr Wilcox is unable to attend meetings.</p>
5	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.</p> <p>No changes since last year.</p> <p>No declarations of interest.</p>

6	<p><u>Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2025 had been circulated to all Councillors and posted on the website. It was agreed that they were an accurate record of the proceedings. The minutes were signed by the Chair.</p>
7	<p><u>Councillor Vacancy</u></p> <p>No one had responded to our Advertisements for a new Councillor meaning that we can now co-opt someone. Nichola Hillary had expressed an interest and had come along to the Meeting. Ms Hillary addressed the meeting stating that she'd lived in the area for many years and would like an opportunity to give back to the community.</p> <p>Cllr McMullon proposed that Ms Hillary be co-opted to the Council and this was seconded by Cllr. Alderson. A vote was taken and the Council were unanimous.</p> <p>Cllr. McMullon welcomed Nichola and she joined the Council for the remainder of the meeting. A Declaration of Office form was completed and signed.</p> <p>The Clerk gave her a Welcome Pack and the other appropriate forms to be completed, signed and returned.</p>
8	<p><u>Ongoing Matters</u></p>
8.1	<p>Gayle Bus Stop</p> <p>The Clerk had received a reply from her mail to NYCllr. Keane Duncan stating that he was keen to help resolve the issues. An email was then received from Kerry Metcalfe at NYC stating that NYC had removed the moss from the roof and that the interior had been repainted. The Parish Council were surprised to hear this as Cllr. Dave Stephenson & Neil had actually removed the moss and cleaned up the roof. Local residents had also cleaned out the inside of the shelter.</p> <p>It was resolved that the Clerk would reply to NYC advising them of this in case they have been inadvertently charged for work carried out by the Parish Council.</p> <p>This matter will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>
8.2	<p>George's Garden</p> <p>The Council were very disappointed to note that plants had been stolen from George's Garden. Initially a couple that were lying awaiting planting were stolen, then the thief returned and actually dug up new plants that had been put in. This is someone stealing from their own community. As the Parish Council had donated towards the cost of the original plants Cllr. McMullon indicated that we may be prepared to cover the cost of the stolen plants.</p> <p>It was resolved that we would do so.</p>
8.3	<p>Red Squirrels</p> <p>Posters requesting vehicles to slow down had been made by the pupils in the local school and these are now up along the lane. They are very good and it is hoped motorists will take note.</p> <p>This matter is now resolved.</p>

8.4	<p>A684 Funding to Improve Road Safety</p> <p>Cllr. Peacock confirmed that the funds referred to in the email previously received had been used up. It was resolved that the Clerk should contact Ian Beighton at NYC regarding replacing the warning signs. As there are a few Highways related matters outstanding it was resolved to ask him or a representative to come to Hawes and walk round with Cllr. McMullon. NYCllr. Peacock would join them.</p>
8.5	<p>Pavement kerbstones</p> <p>No date given yet for fixing these. Cllr. Peacock will push to get one.</p>
8.6	<p>VE Day Celebrations</p> <p>150 Small flags were ordered and Cllr. McMullon distributed these to the local shops to place in their windows. The flag pole was also erected outside the war memorial.</p> <p>The decision was taken not to light the beacon as due to the recent very dry weather the gamekeepers were concerned of a potential wildfire risk. However Richard ??? who has a lighting company based in Hawes offered to provide a light show instead. This was very good and the Parish Council would like to thank him for his generous offer.</p> <p>A tea was held in the Village Hall and was well attended by both locals and visitors. The Council had previously agreed to donate towards the costs but had not heard back from the committee.</p>
9	<p><u>Planning applications</u></p> <p>To consider planning applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 73 application to vary conditions 2, 9 and 11 of R/56/10G (full planning permission for use of land for 10 camping pods, campsite for 30 informal tent pitches and 10 formal tent pitches, extension of site to accommodate and retain a longer style static caravan adjacent to the site entrance (part retrospective)) in respect of a variation to the pod site layout and pod types at Bainbridge Ings Caravan Site, Old Gayle Lane, Gayle, DL8 3NU - R/56/10N Full planning permission for siting of a cabin/pod for use as site laundry at Bainbridge Ings Caravan Site, Old Gayle Lane, Gayle, DL8 3NU - R/56/10P <p>Cllr. McMullon had written to the planners regarding these applications stating that we were very aware of the effect on local businesses and the benefits that tourism brings and that the Council would be minded to support an application if it was not an area with an existing enforcement.</p>
10	<p><u>Planning Decisions</u></p> <p>To receive decisions/information relating to recent planning applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R/56/139E - Full planning permission for conversion of redundant agricultural building to local occupancy house/holiday let, together with installation of package sewage treatment plant at West Shaw Farm, Beggarmans Road, Gayle, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3SF. This application went to the planning committee meeting on 25/5/25 and is showing as awaiting legal agreement. No details of the decision had yet been posted to the YDNPA website. Full planning permission for change of use of bar to 1no. dwelling and Manager's residence/office space to licensed tea room, plus retention of three letting rooms (retrospective) at The Moorcock Inn, Garsdale, LA10 5PU - R/56/154F – This application had been refused and a breach of planning notice issued. The decision was appealed. The Appeal was dismissed April 25. Householder planning permission for removal of conservatory and erection of a single storey

	<p>extension to east gable at 6, Brandymires, Hawes, DL8 3PR - R/56/179B</p> <p>This application has been Approved Conditional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full planning permission for change of use from mixed use B&B and dwellinghouse to C3 dwelling house at Fair View, Burtersett Road, Hawes, DL8 3NP - R/56/198B <p>This application has been Approved Conditional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Householder planning permission for the retention of a lean-to canopy attached to existing dwelling and to replace existing sheeted roof covering with traditional materials at Stags Fell Barn, Back Lane, Sedbusk (GR:388367, 491150) - R/48/156B <p>This application has been Approved Conditional</p> <p>Full planning permission for conversion of barn to a two-bedroom dwelling with single storey extension; creation of access, parking and domestic curtilage, and installation of sewage package treatment plant at Barn, High Lane, Burtersett, Hawes (GR:389658, 489114) - R/56/552</p> <p>This application has been Application withdrawn.</p>
11	<p><u>Protected Tree Applications</u></p> <p>Applications: Ivelet, Burtersett Road, Hawes – Prune 2 sycamores</p> <p>Decisions: None No objections raised.</p>
12	<p><u>Highways matters</u></p> <p>To receive updates to the following issues raised at previous meetings:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area of the road cordoned off awaiting repair between Snaizeholme Road End & Lanaker Lane. <p>The traffic lights are still in place. Cllr. Peacock advised that the work has been assessed and is due to be carried out. As it is a major undertaking the road will require to be closed completely for some time. As this is the main road between Hawes & Ingleton this is a concern. Cllr. Peacock has advised NYC that later in the year after the lamb sales would be the preferred time. It was resolved to carry this forward to the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update regarding the road at The Holme which is in poor condition. <p>David Kennedy from NYC has advised Cllr. Peacock that NYC will carry out patching around the edges. It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wall in top carpark <p>The wall in the top carpark on the righthand side near the steps is starting to collapse. Cllr. Peacock has been speaking to the appropriate Director regarding repairs.</p>

	<p>It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bottom of Chapel Street has some raised points and holes and cars are catching on it. This has now been repaired and this matter is now resolved. • Bridge adjoining Hawes club. <p>Cllr. Peacock advises that NYC will revisit and inspectors will don wetsuits to get into the river to investigate the cracks. It is unfortunate that this could not have been undertaken during the recent dry spell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The white keep clear sign at the entrance to Dyers Garth is faded and needs repainting. <p>NYC have requested that we provide a map showing the Area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concreted Drive on The Gaits, Gayle <p>Technically the resident hasn't infringed any rules with the driveway. YDNPA have suggested that we request a definitive map of the area in question from NYC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yorkshire Water Traffic Chaos <p>Yorkshire Water have once again caused chaos in Hawes whilst dealing with repairs. It's the same problem as before with traffic lights not set right and traffic coming both ways at the same time. These lights are supposed to be manned but weren't.</p> <p>It was resolved that Cllr. McMullon & The Clerk will draft a letter of complaint to Yorkshire Water.</p> <p>These items will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>
13	<u>Financial Matters</u>
13.1	<p>The following accounts were approved for payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs K Kelly- New Printer- £19.25 • Mrs K Kelly- Clerks Salary – March £199.31 • Mrs K Kelly-Clerks Salary – April £199.31 • HMRC -P30- Qtr 4 - £101.00 • E-ON Next – Electricity April DD - £16.33pd • M Hirst - Defibrillator- Replacement pads £91.14 • M Hirst – Defibrillator- Replacement Battery £346.80 • E-ON Next – Electricity May DD - £22.61pd • Unity Trust Bank – Service Charge- March £6.00 • NYC – Repair Bin at Brunt Acres - £60.00 • Mr F Kelly – Ve Day Flags - £22.56 • Mr F Kelly – Ve Day Flags - £28.69 • Mr F Kelly – Ve Day Flags - £23.75 • Mr J Banks – Grasscutting - £318.00 • PWLB – DD -Loan repayment - £845.74

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yorkshire Dales Accountancy – Fees 24/25 - £186.00
13.2	<p>The following receipts were acknowledged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Yorkshire Council – Precept £10000.00
13.3	<p>To receive the latest bank balances and sign statements</p> <p>Copies of bank statements to 30th April 2025 were presented and signed. Current balance in Unity Trust Current Account was £32082.44 Current balance in Unity Trust Deposit Account was £10134.17</p>
13.4	<p>PWLB Loan</p> <p>The balance outstanding as at 31st March 2025 is £9999.84</p>
13.5	<p>Year End Accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Accounts for the year end 31st March 2025 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk has completed the Year End Accounts and the Internal Audit has been completed by Paul Miller. The Clerk read out the Notes to the Accounts and The Explanation of Variances. The AGAR (Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024/25 was completed and signed by the Chair. It was resolved to send the Certificate of Exemption to PKF Littlejohn, the external auditors, as t/o under £25k. The Clerk will ensure these documents are sent and that everything is posted on the website per the laid down procedures. VAT return – The Clerk will complete this prior to the next meeting.
14	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>To consider the following correspondence received and decide action where necessary:-</p>
14.1	<p>Yorkshire Dales Rally 2026</p> <p>An Email has been received from Northallerton Auto Club advising the route of the above and the proposed road closures on 29/3/26. The Rally committee have advised that residents who will be affected by these closures will have plenty of warning and access can be arranged if necessary. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to then requesting that the proposed closures be detailed in the local newsletter.</p>
14.2	<p>Proposed Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles in Excess of 18 Tonnes MGW – New Bridge, Appersett.</p> <p>An email was received from NYC with a short survey regarding the above. The survey was completed and it was resolved that the Comments should include our concerns that if the weight limit is as proposed heavy vehicles couldn't use it. This is especially concerning given that the Ingleton road will require to be closed for the repairs to the ground slippage and the other alternative route via Haylands Bridge is regularly closed due to flooding. The school bus will also not be able to use the direct route. We propose that it may be better to have an increased weight limit but restrict traffic to single file. NYC have previously said that it's not possible to do traffic lights because landowners won't allow for electricity cable to be routed over the fields. Cllr. Metcalfe asked why with solar panels couldn't be used.</p>
14.3	<p>Burtersett Village Green</p> <p>An email had been received from Mr Harrison, Secretary of Burtersett Institute advising that whilst carrying out the normal grass cutting our contractor had unwittingly strimmed an area of Burtersett</p>

	<p>village green which had been planted with snowdrops. These should have been allowed to dieback to allow them to grow again next year. The Council recognised the upset that this might cause and spoke to the Contractor. It may be an idea going forward that if any areas of village green have areas of planting that residents don't want cut until later in the year to advise the Council or perhaps put up a small notice to that effect.</p>
14.4	<p>YDNPA Spring Forum</p> <p>Cllr. Blades attended this on behalf of the Parish Council and highlighted a few points. Grant funding of £1.5m is currently available to farmers to assist with benefiting nature & climate particularly black grouse and red squirrels. The Current Government has cut grants substantially. There are few suitable sites in our area for new housing. Pennine Way celebrates its 60th birthday. The Coast to Coast is now a National route and a lot of the paths have been repaired. Plans for the Hawes to Garsdale route for accessible walking and cyclists are ongoing with a lot of landowners said to be in agreement. Although the Council felt that when speaking to local landowners many were saying that they weren't keen to go ahead. The notes provided from YDNPA have been circulated to Councillors. Cllr. McMullon thanked Cllr. Blades for attending especially as she had another engagement that evening.</p>
14.5	<p>Hawes in Bloom</p> <p>Cllr. McMullon had received a request from Hawes in Bloom for a donation of £500 towards this years plants. This was proposed by Cllr. McMullon & seconded by Cllr. Alderson. All were in favour and the Parish Council noted their appreciation for all the work that the Hawes in Bloom team undertake.</p>
15	<p><u>Children's Play Areas</u></p> <p>Mark Murphy was unable to attend due to work commitments but had kindly sent in his report.</p> <p>Gayle Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update re shelter roof. The work will be carried out over the summer. <p>Town Foot Playpark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update re blocked culvert in the PlayPark. The work is ongoing. • Update re slide Rob Ward will remove the slide for repair. • Update re removing old mats Mark has separated the mat into two bundles and the clerk is in touch with NYC re removing the worn mats. • The local Fire Brigade very kindly came and did a great job of cleaning the play equipment. The Council thanked them very much and it was resolved that the Clerk should write a thank you letter and that a box of cakes and pastries should be ordered and delivered to them as a thank you. • Mark noted that the climbing structure is getting tired and some of the ropes look a little worn. It is still sound and safe for the children to walk on and Mark will monitor the situation going forward.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bealah Bank Play Area • Update re boundary wall Cllr. Blades will ask a local waller what would be involved in undertaking this repair. <p>The Clerk had received an email from Ousewem who were wondering what had happened to their banner which was on the railings near Town Head park. The Parish Council were unaware that this had been removed. We will make enquiries locally.</p>
16	<p><u>Cemetery</u></p> <p>Cllr. Blades gave a Year end Report. Fortunately there had not been a lot of need for burials this year. Income for the year was £560 with expenditure for £588.00. The expenditure is for grass and tree cutting and is included under this general heading in the Council's accounts.</p> <p>An enquiry had been made asking if reservation fees were refundable. As noted in Cllr. Blackie's original correspondence in 2015 reservation fees are non-refundable. The Clerk will put a note on the fees page to that effect.</p> <p>Cllr. McMullon thanked Cllr. Blades for her work with the cemetery.</p>
17	<p><u>Upper Dales Health Watch</u></p> <p>Cllr. Waluda had attended the latest meeting and the Minutes were circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>One point highlighted was that a meeting for carers was to be held.</p>
18	<p><u>Parish Clerk</u></p> <p>The website provider has notified us that there has been a lot of attempts to break into our website. None have been successful and he uses extremely strong passwords. All attempts have been blocked. He advised that we could buy additional security at a cost of £100 however the risks are felt to be fairly small as there are no financial details on the website and all the information on there is in the public domain. It may be that we will require in the future to move to gov.uk. website. It was resolved that our provider will keep us updated and we will continue as we currently are. The Clerk is discussing amending the website to make it more accessible with him.</p>
19	<p><u>Monthly Police Report</u></p> <p>The latest report was discussed.</p>
20	<p><u>Yorkshire Water</u></p> <p>Yorkshire Water have now been and the water pressures were low. A leak near the garage was found and repaired. However it was noted the Little Ings area still had low pressure.</p> <p>It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.</p>
21	<p><u>Added to Agenda</u></p> <p>It was noted that another litter pick had been carried out in Hawes. The Council thanked Laura Dunn and the team for undertaking this task which is much appreciated by everyone. It was resolved that the Clerk will write thanking Laura and the team.</p>
22	<p><u>Agenda Items</u></p> <p>Items for inclusion on the next Agenda:-</p>

	Litter bin outside club in Hawes. Steps at Herriotts. Amendment to Internet Banking signatories.
23	<u>Date of next meeting.</u> The next meeting will be held in Gayle Village Institute on Tuesday 29th July.

Signed as a true record.

Dated.