Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27th January 2026

Present:

Parish Cllrs: Jill McMullon (Chair); Emma Blades; David Stephenson; David Cockett; Nichola Hillary; Yurek Waluda; Ruth Lindsey.

NYC Cllr. Yvonne Peacock.

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

Fourteen members of the public.

Apologies : Cllrs. Peter Metcalfe; Sheila Alderson

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1	Chairman reminded everyone present of the right to record the meeting although the Council would not be doing so.
2	**Consideration of Apologies for Absence** Cllrs Peter Metcalfe due to work arrangements & Sheila Alderson due to prior engagement.
3	**Declarations of Interest** To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. None received.
4	**Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 18th November 2025** The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2025 had been circulated to all Councillors and posted on the website. Cllr. Stephenson proposed that they be adopted as an accurate record of proceedings and this was seconded by Cllr. Blades. The minutes were signed by the Chair.
5	**Councillor Vacancy** No applicants as yet
6	**Hawes Town Investment Plan** Lisa Wilson & Virginia Arrowsmith from NYC joined us to discuss the above. The Mayor's aspiration is that each of the 32 towns in the Region will have a Town Investment Plan. As we are a small rural town we are on Tier 4. Lisa gave us an update regarding the outcome of the public meeting held in Hawes in September and the online survey. This has resulted in a Draft Plan being drawn up, copies of which were circulated and discussed. A copy of this plan is attached to the Minutes. The Strengths & Challenges of the Area were acknowledged although it is disappointing that two of the main issues that we have, namely Transport & Housing are outside the scope of the Town Investment Plan. Some ideas were then put forward such as painting all the shop fronts in the same pallet, more civic spaces, improved signage, better parking, particularly for motorbikes, more green spaces. The Parish Council felt that there were some good ideas to take forward, however they felt that if the cobbles

	and pavements were sorted this would improve the overall look of the Town more than painting the shop fronts. It was felt that whilst some premises may benefit from repainting it may be better to offer the owners funding to chose their own colours to help maintain the individuality of the shops. It was noted that specific areas for parking motorbikes had been tried in the past but the bikers didn't use it. With regard to communal and green areas there are seating areas available and Hawes in Bloom do a tremendous job with planters , tubs etc. The next public meeting of the Town Investment Plan will be held in the Market House on 24th March between 2&5pm and it is hoped that as many people as possible, particularly local business people will attend to put forward their views.
7	**<u>Ongoing Matters</u>**
7.1	**Communications with NYC** The Clerk had replied to Richard Flinton listing the outstanding Highways issues. He has replied and seems to think that the current issues have all been dealt with. He has also offered to set up a meeting with Deborah Flowers to discuss the issues and the portal. In the interim Deborah has also sent out a generic email to Parish Councils in the Area regarding Parish workshops which are due to be held in March. It was resolved that the we will take up the offer of a meeting and also attend the Parish workshop if possible.
7.2	**Hawes Methodist Cemetery** We are awaiting the Bank details so that the agreed sum of £200 towards wall repairs can be donated.
7.3	**Gayle Bank Lane** On NYC portal. – Service request is shown as completed on 17/12/25 This will be added to Highways section of next Agenda.
7.4	**Gayle Telephone Box** We are awaiting to hear further from BT.
7.5	**Litter Bin at Club in Hawes** We are awaiting NYC fitting the bin with a tray for cigarette ends.
7.6	**Steps at Herriots** NYC have advised that the weeds have been cleared and the cracks pointed up. This item is now resolved.
7.7	**Large vehicles on Kit lane, the Gaits Gayle** This has been reported to NYC, no response as yet.
7.8	**Parking on a Highway** The Clerk had written to NYC for advice re residents putting No Parking signs in their windows although it is a public highway. NYC have confirmed that they have no legal powers over this matter. It was resolved that the Parish Council would write to all homes in the Area asking them to remove signs and confirming that all road users are entitled to park there. This item is now resolved.
8	**<u>Planning applications</u>** To consider planning applications. • Full planning permission for internal refurbishment of existing farmhouse, and for change of use of the adjoining stone barn to create additional residential accommodation at Yore House, Lunds, Sedbergh, LA10 5PX - R/48/174 • Full planning permission for siting of 1no hut for short-term, self-catering visitor

	accommodation within the southwest corner of the woodland at Thorneymire Barn, Appersett Gill, Appersett, DL8 3LU - R/56/185K No comments were received.
9	**<u>Planning Decisions</u>** To receive decisions/information relating to recent planning applications. • Full planning permission for retention of 6 extra static caravans (retrospective) at Bainbridge Ings Caravan Site, Old Gayle Lane, Gayle, DL8 3NU - R/56/10Q • Full planning permission for siting of showers' pod and laundry storage pod on hardstanding with drainage to existing system at Bainbridge Ings Caravan Site, Old Gayle Lane, Gayle, DL8 3NU - R/56/10R These are shown as under consideration. • Full planning permission for hard and soft landscaping works; creation of access/tracks; construction of 4 No. bridges across Widdale Beck; 1 No. waterfall and pond; construction of external viewing areas with low level walling and for planting of shrubs and trees (part retrospective) at Gaudy House Farm, Gayle, Hawes, DL8 3NA - R/56/30H (App. Dated 2021)- Application Withdrawn. • Householder planning permission for erection of summer house at Rigg House, Hawes, DL8 3LR - R/48/68N – approved conditional • Full planning permission for formation of new access and closure of existing access (retrospective) at Land at Burtersett Road, Burtersett, Hawes, North Yorkshire (GR:388695, 489696) - R/56/557 • Full planning permission for replacement of existing unauthorised kitchen extract ventilation flue to rear of existing public house (part retrospective) at Board Hotel, Market Place, Hawes, DL8 3RD - R/56/172C • Full planning permission for erection of a two storey side extension to the west elevation of the dwelling and for conversion and extension of the existing outbuilding to provide a self-contained annexe for use ancillary to the main house at Wyngate, Burtersett, Hawes, DL8 3PB - R/56/100B These applications are currently shown as under consideration.
10	**<u>Protected Tree Applications</u>** None
11	**<u>Highways matters</u>** To receive updates to the following issues raised at previous meetings:- • Update regarding the road at The Holme – NYC advise that all areas maintained by NYC are maintained to a safe condition. – This item is now resolved. • Bridge adjoining Hawes club.- Cllr. Peacock has a meeting with Highways on Thursday and will bring this matter up. • Keep Clear Sign at Dyers Garth – this has been repainted and is resolved. • Proposed Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles in Excess of 18 Tonnes MGW – New Bridge, Appersett - Cllr. Peacock advises that the current weight limit will remain in place

	and this item is now resolved. • Pavement kerbstones require to be redone – Some work has been done and this item is now resolved. • A684 road safety – double yellow lines will be put in outside florists. No updates re the above. The Clerk will chase NYC. • Yorkshire Water Traffic Chaos The Clerk wrote to Yorkshire Water but there has been no further response. This matter is now closed.
12	**<u>Financial Matters</u>**
12.1	To approve the following accounts for payment: • Mrs K Kelly – Clerks Salary & Back Pay November 25 -£250.07 • Mrs K Kelly – Clerks Salary December 25-£205.68 • HMRC – P30- Quarter3 - £316.24 • E-ON Next – Electricity – November £18.89pd • Mrs K Kelly- Stationery- Printer Ink- November £6.49 • Upper Dales Bonfire- Donation- £250.00 • Mr J Ogbourne- Website- Domain Name - £33.00 • E-ON Next – Electricity – December- £19.05pd • Market House Hawes – Room Hire- £15.75 • NYC- Grit Bins- £90.00 • Burtersett Village Institute- Replacement Pads for defib.- £76.19 • Gayle Institute- Hall Hire- £40.00 • Unity Trust Bank- Bank Charges- November- £6.00pd • Unity Trust Bank- Bank Charges- December- £6.00pd • Hawes Christmas Lights- Donation- £300.00.
12.2	To acknowledge receipt of the following income: None
12.3	To receive the latest bank balances and sign statements Copies of bank statements to 31st December 2025 were presented and initialled by the Chair. Current balance in Unity Trust Current Account is £32917.22 Current balance in Unity Trust Deposit Account is £10307.75 It was resolved to transfer an additional £10,000 to the savings account.
12.4	**Unity Trust Bank** The Bank has notified us that the Monthly Fee will increase from £6 to £7.
13	**<u>Correspondence</u>** To consider the following correspondence received and decide action where necessary:-
13.1	**The Hub** Emails had been received from The Vicar and a member of the public re the closure of The Hub. The Parish Council agreed that this was a good service for the community. It is closing as the grant monies that were received are finished. Cllr. Peacock advised that it is hopeful that further grants may be available for the service to continue in some form.
13.2	**Yorkshire Rally** The Organisers have placed a notification re the road closures due to the rally in the summer has been placed in the Wensleydale newsletter and posters have been placed at relevant sites.

	This item is now resolved.
13.3	**Tree at Hawes Primary School** The Parish Council had been advised that a large Sycamore tree overhanging the primary school grounds was in poor condition and required replacing. The Clerk notified NYC who have agreed to remove the tree. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.
13.4	**Parish Workshop** An email was received from NYC regarding Parish workshops which are scheduled to be held in May. As this will include Highways it was resolved that the Clerk & Cllr. Waluda would attend if the dates suit.
14	**<u>Children's Play Areas</u>** **Town Foot Playpark** • Climbing structure Quotes had been obtained for repairs and also for new equipment. Repairs would be £5899.02 plus VAT and to replace £27494.82. It was resolved that the equipment should be repaired. The Council thanked Cllr. Peacock for the grant of £500 towards the repairs. • Fence at Top of Park • Rocket • Culvert • Slide The repairs are ongoing and it is hoped that Mark Murphy will be available to attend the next meeting and give an update. **Gayle Park** • Update re shelter roof. This is ongoing. • **Bealah Bank Play Area** • Update re boundary wall The wall repairs are currently being carried out.
15	**<u>Cemetery</u>** Cllr. Blades has approved a memorial stone. The Clerk will send out the Invoice.
16	**<u>Upper Dales Health Watch</u>** No updates at this time
17	**<u>Parish Clerk</u>** Website- YLCA had advised that they are not able to host websites, but they have since advised that their website provider would do so. However they are not able to offer to host emails and it was felt that it would be easier going forward if one provider hosted both. The Clerk had obtained quotes from a couple of the website providers on the list of approved suppliers and also had a meeting with Karen Lynch, Clerk at Askrigg as she also had quotes from a couple of providers. It was resolved that Cllr. Lindsey would take a look at what was being offered by the providers and report back to the Clerk.
18	**<u>Monthly Police Report</u>**. The latest reports were discussed.
19	**<u>Archiving Records</u>** All available records were provided to the Clerk when she took over in 2023. These are all available on the laptop. All records since then are on the laptop and in the case of Agendas & Minutes also kept in printed form and on the Website.

	This matter is now resolved.
20	**<u>Emergency Plan</u>** Cllr. Peacock advised that NYC should be able to provide a template for an emergency plan. The Clerk will obtain this and forward it to Cllrs. It will then either be discussed at the next meeting or if required a separate meeting may be called.
21	**<u>Pennine Way Path</u>** Cllr. McMullan had noted a sink hole at the top of the Path near the Church. She notified Yorkshire Water who eventually agreed to pay for the repair and this has been done. This matter is now resolved.
22	**<u>Agenda Items</u>** None at this time.
23	**<u>Date of next meeting</u>**. The next meeting will be held in The Gayle Institute on 24th March 2026.

Signed as a true record. Dated.