

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)
held on Thursday 22nd May 2025 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Simon Dawson (Chair)
Councillors Julie Barber Kathryn Smith Mark Walker

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Hook and the Clerk.

1. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr. Peers announced that he did not wish to seek re-election as the Chair and wished to resign from the PC with immediate effect. In the absence of anyone else wishing to take on this role, he kindly agreed to delay his resignation until the conclusion of the meeting and agreed to chair the meeting to its conclusion. Cllr. Peers was thanked for his contribution to the PC over many years.

2. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Following the announcement in item 1 above, the election of both the Chair and the Vice Chair was deferred to the next meeting.

3 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: It was noted that the membership of the Natural Environment Committee be the same as reported in the minutes of the May 2024 meeting with the following changes. Lisa Marriott was no longer a member of that Committee and Laura Hardie had joined it. There would be an agenda item next time to consider a representative on the Village Hall Committee and voting representatives for the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations.

4. APOLOGIES. Cllrs. Boakes, Dawson and Wiseman.

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 24th APRIL 2025.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 24th April 2025 (191-194) be approved and that as the Chair was not at that meeting, that Cllr. Smith be authorised to sign.

8. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

- i. 25/00768/TCA - 20 Askham Fields Lane - Fell 1no. Ash tree; crown lift 1no. Lime tree to 3 metres and thin by 20%; remove dead wood from 1no. Oak - tree works in a Conservation Area.
It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this application.
- ii. 25/00945/FUL - 93 Main Street - Removal of front canopy and replacement windows/doors throughout in timber and uPVC.
It was noted that this property used to be a shop and that the removal of the front canopy would mean that it wouldn't look like a shop anymore (there was a picture of what it used to look like in one of the documents supporting the application). Nevertheless, it was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this application.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

There were two planning decisions to report since the last meeting.

- a. 25/00299/TCA - Greystones, 90 Main Street - Fell 1no. Yew and 1no. Hawthorn; Crown reduce 1no. Yew by 2.5 to 3 metres - tree works in a Conservation Area – No Objection for the Local Planning Authority.

- b. 25/00424/TCA - 98 Main Street - Fell 1no. Ash tree; Reduce height of 1no. Holm Oak tree by approximately 4 metres, Reduce over-extended lower limb by approximately 4 metres - tree works in a Conservation Area - No Objection for the Local Planning Authority.

9. CRIME REPORT

There were no reported crimes in April.

10. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR.

The Ward Councillor had an item of good news regarding the neighbouring parish of Askham Richard. Approval of the footpath connecting the two villages running from Buttacre Lane had moved another stage forward. Objections had been considered and this had now been referred to the Secretary of State for formal approval. She also reported on car parking charges feeling that these discriminated against rural communities who were more car dependent due to the lack of public transport and access to cycle lanes. She also reported on a £1,200 road closure in Poppleton. Residential car parking had been extended to everywhere in the city with no one being able to park on the roads. However, overnight parking at the park and ride was now allowed. The new mayor had been enthroned that day.

11. OTHER MATTERS.

11.1 Consultation by City of York Council (CYC) on proposals to extend smoke control areas (SCA).

The PC considered the CYC consultation on proposals to extend the SCA which already covered the majority of residential areas within York's outer ring road (plus a couple of rural communities). The extended area would cover the whole of York. The consultation deadline was 3rd June 2025. There was a particular concern by CYC about burning wood in wood burners or in open hearth fires. The proposals, if approved, would oblige home owners to only burn authorised fuel, unless the home owner used an appliance approved by Defra (the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs). Bonfires would still be permitted subject to the existing rules on the lighting of bonfires. The consultation was aimed at residents and it was agreed to post a link to the consultation on the PC Facebook page. The Ward Councillor suggested that the PC write to Public Protection Team to express its views. Councillors were against extending the SCA as they felt that air pollution was not an issue in rural areas such as Askham Bryan. The view was that the extension was not appropriate and in any case, not enforceable.

11.2 Updates on plans for Christmas.

The Christmas Tree lighting event would be on 7th December and since the last meeting, the Village Hall had been booked. The event in the public house would be on 11th December 2025.

12. FINANCE

12.1 Report of invoices to be paid.

It was **resolved** that payment of the following invoices to be approved, all in favour.

- a) Monthly bank charges - £4.25.
- b) Internal Auditor – Brian Hopper - £80.

12.2 Internal Auditor's Report.

The Internal Auditor's Report had been circulated to all and the contents noted, in particular the recommendations. The report recommended that a quarterly report of budgeted income/expenditure vs actual is produced. In fact this is reported at every meeting but it can't have been apparent to the Internal Auditor that this happens. A extra tab was suggested.

12.3 Formal approval of the 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement (AGAR 2024/25 Part 2).

It was **resolved** that the Annual Governance Statement (AGAR 2024/25 Part 2) be approved, all in favour.

12.4 Formal approval of Accounting Statements 2024/25.

It was **resolved** that the Accounting Statements 2024/25 be approved, all in favour.

13 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. Item 805 was from Askham Bryan college regarding the Annual Spring Ball which took place on 30th April 2025. Their notification about this had gone to the Clerk and to the previous Chair of the PC. The college would ensure that the noise level would be minimised and the volume turned down from 10:30pm. It was suggested that the Village might not have been aware of this and that a post on the WhatsApp group would help to get the message out and that in future, there would be a post on Facebook.

With the resignation of Cllr. Peers, a new person would be needed to administer the Facebook page. This would be an agenda item next time.

14 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. Cllr. Smith had looked at the “twenty’s plenty” signs. A member of the Village Hall Committee had been approached.

15 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed to stay with the fourth Monday of the month pattern for the immediate future and therefore the next meeting would be 26th June. The date would be published accordingly including a post on WhatsApp.

Therefore, the dates for forthcoming meetings in 2025 were;

26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November.

All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:48pm.

Signed

26 June 2025