

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

held on Thursday 24th April 2025 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:	Councillor	Helen Dawson (Chair)		
	Councillors	Julie Barber	Kathryn Smith	David Wiseman
		Jason Boakes	Mark Walker	

In attendance: The Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES. Cllr. Peers. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair chaired the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public in attendance who wanted to discuss planning application 25/00561/FUL (The Little House 133 Main Street). Therefore the Chair agreed to advance this item on the agenda to be considered first. She therefore contributed to the discussions in item 5a(i) below.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 27th MARCH 2025.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 27th March 2025 (188-190) be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

- i. 25/00561/FUL - The Little House 133 Main Street - Two storey and single storey rear extension, solar panels to east and west roofslopes, pitched roof to outbuilding, replacement cladded carport, reinstate door to side, new driveway entrance from Chapel Lane, replacement portico to front, replacement stairs and railings to front.

Councillors appreciated that this property needed renovation but had concerns about some aspects of the design such as the four different roof heights, the steps leading to the front door (with new portico above it) and the use of timber cladding for the extension giving it a very different visual appearance to the Georgian brickwork of the rest of the property. There was no overall agreement on the proposal for the inclusion of a living roof in the design proposals. The property was listed in Appendix Two of the Parish Plan (incorporating the Village Design Statement) as making a positive contribution to the street scene. The PC was keen to preserve consistency on architectural styles in the village and not to set precedents for alternatives. The inclusion of solar panels was seen as unsympathetic to the visual amenity but Councillors accepted the need for these.

Councillors also wanted clarification about a willow tree. Application 25/00307/TCA had been to fell this tree yet this application suggested that it was being retained along with other trees (there was concern about an oak tree on the adjacent property which was not shown on any of the plans)

The biggest concern was the proposal for a new driveway which would be addition to the existing entrance. It was noted that Chapel Lane was a single-track lane with only one official passing place. It was used by running clubs, cyclists travelling in groups, a bee keeper and college related traffic in addition to regular vehicular traffic. A local farmer often parked in the gateway at a field entrance almost directly opposite in order to feed livestock. The new entrance would be less than thirty meters from a concealed entrance to a garage belonging to the property opposite. An extra drive would have an adverse effect on safety and the design as shown would create a

blind opening and Councillors questioned the need for this extra entrance as the proposals for the rest of the property did not result in the loss of driveway space. It could also damage the root network of two mature trees.

It was therefore **resolved** to **Object** to this proposal on the grounds that the proposals had an adverse effect on the street scene which was contrary to the Village Design Statement and on the grounds that the extra driveway was not needed and did not have adequate sightlines for safe egress from the property onto Chapel Lane.

- ii. 25/00619/FUL - The Willows 155 Main Street - Pitched roof to existing conservatory.
It was noted that this property was one of those listed in Appendix Two of the Parish Plan (incorporating the Village Design Statement) as making a positive contribution to the street scene. The proposed pitched roof was far less attractive than what was already there and the materials used for the new build were in keeping with the local street scene. It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal subject to planner's satisfaction that the proposals were in keeping with the Village Design Statement.
- iii. 25/00645/FUL - West View, 21 Askham Fields Lane - Two storey side and single storey front/side extensions.
It was felt that the brickwork was in keeping with the local street scene and as such, it was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal.
- iv. AOD/25/00099 - Field House 2 Main Street - Condition 3 of 22/00113/FUL.
The conditions of the granting of planning permission for 22/00113/FUL was that samples of the external materials (including windows) to be used be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to their use. The applicant had submitted an application to use mocha-coloured powder-coated aluminium for bi-fold doors. There was opposition to this but it was felt that more information about the original application was needed in order to make an informed decision. There had been an outage on the Local Planning Authority planning portal for the two previous days and it was **resolved** that the Clerk contacts them to request a short delay to allow this to be discussed at the next meeting.

The Clerk had pursued City of York Council Planning Enforcement regarding a gate put up to give access to the field without waiting for planning permission and was still waiting for a reply.

There was also discussion about a garage which had been built with four outlets.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

There were no planning decisions to report since the last meeting.

6. CRIME REPORT

There was one reported crime in March, this was on the 30th and was a report of motorcross bikes causing a nuisance in fields and posing a risk to a pony. In addition, a member of the Natural Environment Committee had witnessed two women picking bunches of daffodils from the grass verges by the Recreational Area on the evening of the 14th April. They were travelling in a grey Fiat 500. Although unlawful, a formal report to the Police had not been made.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR.

In the absence of the Ward Councillor, there was no report given.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Plans for the 2025 Christmas Event.

It was agreed to follow the same pattern as followed for Christmas 2024. The event at the Village Hall would be on 6th December 2025. Cllr. Wiseman agreed to see the landlord of the Nag's Head public house to see if the suggested date of 11th December 2025 was suitable.

8.2 To note the concerns of the Village Hall regarding the Christmas Tree.

As the PC representative, Cllr. Boakes had attended a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee. They had expressed concerns about the Christmas tree, in particular, the fact that the supporting tube had been concreted into the ground and put in the wrong place. A bit of the tree trunk had been left in the ground creating a trip hazard. Cllr. Boakes had noted upon his arrival at the meeting that this trip hazard had now been removed and replaced by piece of turf and therefore the immediate issue had been resolved. It was agreed that the PC would be prepared to revisit and discuss the location in 2025. The response to the Village Hall would be to express sympathy with their concerns, to note that the problem had been dealt with and to say that their wishes would be taken into account next time.

9. FINANCE

9.1 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) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations - annual subscription - £232

9.2 Certificate of Exemption

It was **resolved** to accept a recommendation that the Chair and the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) sign the Certificate of Exemption noting that information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 be published on the authority website before 1 July 2025 as the higher of gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2025, all in favour.

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

9.4 Formal approval of Accounting Statements 2024/25.

Items 9.3 and 9.4 were deferred to the May meeting pending the Internal Auditor's report – see item 9.5 below.

9.5 Internal Auditor's Report.

The Internal Auditor's Report was still awaited and therefore this item was deferred to the May meeting.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. There was one item which had been received too late for formal consideration at the meeting, this being a consultation by City of York Council on proposals for smoke control areas. There was a view that this might be appropriate for built-up areas but this was unfair on rural communities. The deadline for submissions was 3rd June 2025 and as such, there was time to consider this at the May 2025 meeting and to get clarification in the meantime.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. The Clerk had written to the resident whose barking dog had triggered complaints from their neighbours and had hand-delivered the letter on his way to the meeting. There was discussion about progress with the removal of the "twenty's plenty" signs.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for forthcoming meetings in 2025 (subject to review at the annual meeting) are;

22nd May (Annual Meeting), 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 8:42pm.

Signed

22 May 2025