ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)
held on Thursday 17th September 2026 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:	Councillor	Helen Dawson (Chair)		
	Councillors	Julie Barber	Jason Boakes	Kathryn Smith

In attendance: Five members public (including a member of the Village Hall Management Committee) and the Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies from Cllrs. Walker and Wiseman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Several of the residents were present to raise concerns about the planning application by the College for a 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) with perimeter fencing, hardstanding areas, storage container, floodlights, an access footpath, and a huddle.

On 27th August, following the previous month's PC meeting, Cllr. Wiseman had had a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Askham Bryan College to discuss the issues raised by concerned residents in the August PC meeting public participation. He had been unable to attend the PC meeting but had sent a verbal report. Cllr. Boakes articulated a comprehensive summary of Cllr. Wiseman's report as follows;

1. Lighting concerns. The CEO advised that light-emitting diode (LED) lights would be used (being low energy) and that the direction of the light beam was very focused.
2. He said that the area was already floodlit and had been for a couple of years without any complaints to date.
3. The College were hoping to start work in the spring of 2027 and expected the work to take about twelve to sixteen weeks (all access will be from York Road).
4. He stated that the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch was replacing grass which was already there.
5. He advised that the facilities were already used by external clubs and did not feel that there would be a significant uplift in numbers.
6. The desire for an Artificial Grass Pitch was driven by a national football grant scheme and felt that the Parish would benefit from this.
7. The grant funder had designated suppliers recommended by the Football Foundation to avoid unnecessary microplastics.
8. Their website already contained traffic guidance to encourage drivers to avoid going through the Village.
9. An ecological survey had been carried out.
10. The Portacabins had been there for some time and were not associated with the proposals.
11. He felt that the increase in water usage due to toilets and showers would have a de minimis effect. The College also felt that run off from the pitch could be handled by existing infrastructure.

The residents had opportunity to respond to the above.

1. The claim that the Portacabins had been there for some time (bullet point 10 above) was disputed. The residents had photographic evidence of new Portacabins being delivered on 3rd August 2026.
2. One resident recalled playing football on this site in about 2004 but the pitch had not been used for many years since then and disputed the claim that facilities were already there (bullet point 5 above).
3. Concerns were expressed regarding safeguarding.

Residents were advised that the PC had done all it could and couldn't do more unless new previously unavailable information came to light in which case, the residents should in the first instance, raise this directly with the Local Planning Authority.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 20th AUGUST 2026.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 20th August 2026 (236-239) be approved and that either Cllrs. Barber or Smith be authorised to sign (as the two present at the August meeting) subject to an amendment to the notes about the public participation (item 3) paragraph 5c (page 236) which implied that registration for the tip at Towthorpe was necessary. Registration was not necessary at Towthorpe but the nearer tip at James Street was congested and required registration. An appropriate rewording would be done and the revised minutes be signed next time.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

i. 26/01568/TCMAS - Mill Lane To Sewage Works Askham Bryan - Installation of 22.5m high telecommunications monopole supporting 3no. antennas and 2no. dishes, equipment cabinet, meter cabinet and associated ancillary development. It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal

ii. 26/01575/FUL - Field House, 2 Main Street - Variation of condition 2 of permitted application 22/00113/FUL to alter the approved plans and elevations. It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal subject to the wall at the front being restored. This had been removed (presumably whilst the work was being carried out).

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

i. 26/01246/FUL – Westwood Farm, Westwood Lane - Section 73 Application for variation of conditions 2 and 4 of permitted application 26/00397/FUL for changes to the approved drainage strategy. This had been **approved** by the Local Planning Authority.

6. CRIME REPORT

There was one reported crime in August 2026 being youths causing a nuisance in the fields off Askham Lane, and letting off fireworks on 7th August.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR.

There was no Ward Councillor presence at this meeting due to a clash with a full Council meeting of City of York Council.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Projects discussed at the July and August meetings;

a. **Having a Festival**.
This idea was still under consideration for possible adoption.

b. **Having an "adopt a tree" scheme.**
This had been considered at the earlier meeting of the Natural Environment Committee (NEC). They were in favour of the scheme but felt that there needed to be discussion about how it would be managed and supervision of those adopting a tree. A summary of their discussions are recorded in the minutes of their meeting of 17th September, item 11a, page 70 refers.

c. **Running a monthly event to which speakers are invited.**
The earlier meeting of the NEC had considered inviting a villager who releases rescued hedgehogs to do a speaking engagement on 3rd December 2026 in the Village Hall. A summary of their discussions are recorded in the minutes of their meeting of 17th September, item 11b, pages 70-71 refers.

d. **Interpretation Display Boards.**
This had been considered at the earlier meeting of the NEC. They felt that a once a display board is in place, the content is locked in and does not keep pace with changes. They suggested a notice board would be better. A summary of their discussions are recorded in the minutes of their meeting of 17th September, item 6, page 70 refers.

e. **Publication of a booklet detailing the history of the Parish.**
This idea was still under consideration for possible adoption.

f. **Organising a fun run.**
This idea was still under consideration for possible adoption.

8.2 Annual Review of Standing Orders
The Standing Orders were reviewed in accordance with Section 11.1 and it was **resolved** that no changes were necessary.

8.3 Annual Review of Asset Register
The Asset Register was reviewed in accordance with Section 3.22 of the Standing Orders. It was **resolved** that the list of assets was complete and that no changes were necessary.

8.4 Annual Risk Assessment.
The Annual Risk Assessment was done in accordance with Section 5.1 of the Standing Orders. The defibrillator was being checked monthly, the playground equipment was being checked annually by a professional playground inspector and two people were required to authorise any bank transactions. As such, it was felt that risks were being suitably managed.

8.5 To consider a tree inspection (last carried out in 2022).
It was **resolved** that an approach be made to City of York Council to ask them to carry out a full inspection of all trees on PC land. Identification of the trees in the previous report had proved difficult and a request would be made for greater clarity this time.

8.6 Village Hall matters.
The representative of the Village Hall advised that there were no issues to be raised this time.

8.7 Matters for referral to the CYC Community Caretaker Team.
Concerns raised at a previous meeting regarding the grass verges on the pavements (which needed to be tidied and weed growth addressed) and the need for streets to be swept had been forwarded to the CYC officer who liaises with the Community Caretaker Team. She had replied to say that she had passed this on to the team and that if it was not actioned this month (September), it would be actioned next month.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Report of invoices to be paid.

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

a. Monthly bank charges; £4.25.
b. Viking Stationary order (Raja Group) - clip files for filing signed copies of the minutes, £36.59 + Protection (95p). 25 files, five each of white, green, blue, red and yellow covers. A4. Clerk.

Cllr. Wiseman would claim for expenses for his speaking engagement expenses.

9.2 Report of budgeted income and expenditure to date versus actual.

The monthly report of budgeted income and expenditure to date versus actual had been circulated and the contents noted.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. Item 948 was an email from Ward Cllr. Hook with comments about Global Positioning System (GPS) navigation and about the process for Chapel Lane becoming a one-way street. Cllr. Boakes agreed to write regarding traffic restrictions. Such restrictions would go onto the GPS system done through the local council.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. The action for Cllr. Wiseman to arrange a meeting with the CEO of the College could now be considered as completed. The Village Hall had been booked for the Christmas event.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting would be held at 7:30pm on 15th October.

Meetings for the rest of 2026 after that would be;

19th November.

Both to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:25pm.

Signed

15 October 2026