ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)
held on Thursday 20th August 2026 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:	Councillor	David Wiseman (Chair)		
	Councillors	Julie Barber	Kathryn Smith	Mark Walker

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

1. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies from Cllrs. Boakes and Dawson. In the absence of the Chair, Cllr. Wiseman, as Vice Chair, chaired the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.

Cllr. Walker regarding item 5a.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was a query about recycling tips such as the one at Tadcaster. The nearest was James Street but that was congested and registration was necessary beforehand. The one at Towthorpe didn't require registration but was not as convenient as it was further away. The resident had written to the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council. Another resident had similar concerns. An appointment has to be booked. It was agreed that the PC would write on behalf of Askham Bryan residents. The school could be used. There was congestion in York. The Village was part of North Yorkshire prior to government reorganisation of boundaries. Ward Cllr. Hook would also raise this and suggested Ian Hoult as the person to contact.

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. Issues raised included

1. The operating hours (9am to 10pm).
2. A suggestion that the Natural Environment Committee should submit a response separate to that of the PC.
3. Three temporary structures constructed without planning permission.
4. Lack of engagement by the College with those living nearby and not being sent a proper notice.
5. Use of microplastics and rubber infill (the sale of which would be banned from 17th October 2031 by the European Union).
6. The proposal to connect the outfall pipe to the existing surface water sewer. The existing sixty metre 1930s drainage system (which was originally designed to serve half a dozen houses) was at capacity already and during periods of heavy rain, there has been sewage overflow and Yorkshire Water Authority (YWA) have had to attend to carry out temporary repairs. The water pressure which was not good in this area. There was already a brick building in that area and there were concerns about grease. It was suggested that YWA had powers to veto the proposals.
7. Concerns about traffic flow through the Village after 10pm. There were references to the transport statement. There were concerns that Satellite Navigation would send traffic through the Village and comments about the Cricket Club and Gardening Club.
8. Concerns about the effect on the Village of the floodlighting.

9. Concerns about pedestrian movement. It was not clear whether coaches would use a coach car park or the existing car park and whether College transport staff would be around to direct pedestrians and where people would go.
10. Comments about the booking system with comparisons to that used by Harrogate Town Football Club and York University Panthers Football Club and the facilities of York College.
11. Concerns about caravans and a dog compound.

The Chair encouraged those present to comment as individuals if they had not already done so. He would speak to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the College to establish whether this was replacing existing facilities, how many people can attend at one time, the proposed entrance, if the facilities were available for hire by residents of Askham Bryan and whether there would be priority for local people. He would see if there was room for negotiation.

It was **Resolved** that the PC upgrades its previous response and **Objects** to the proposal with particular emphasis on planning permission for the temporary structures which had appeared, on signage and Global Positioning System (GPS) technology and the drainage issues raised and whether YWA were aware.

The Chair would arrange a meeting with the CEO for a walk round and seek a public meeting.

There were other questions about plans for the mound in the Recreational Area (the Clerk would look back at historical minutes to see what was agreed) and regarding the Village pond.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 16th JULY 2026.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 16th July 2026 (232-235) be approved and that Cllr. Wiseman be authorised to sign subject to an amendment to paragraph 5c (page 233) being changed from "*Felling* of trees down Westwood Lane" to "*Pruning* of trees down Westwood Lane"

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications 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.

It was **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal (Cllr. Walker was unable to vote due to his pecuniary interest).

ii. 26/01478/TCA - 5 Saint Nicholas Croft - Fell 1no. Cherry tree in a Conservation Area.

It was noted that about 20% of the tree canopy was dead and it was therefore **resolved** to raise **No Objection** to this proposal but there would nevertheless be a request that the applicant is encouraged to plant a replacement tree as soon as possible (though not necessarily on the same site) as the tree which they wish to fell.

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 July 2026 being the theft of about 500 litres of fuel taken from Westwood Farm on 16th July. The fuel tank had been emptied and side panel damaged on a combine harvester left in a field overnight.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR.

Ward Cllr. Hook spoke about York Business Forum, our bit had not been contacted. She would meet with them.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Projects discussed at the July meeting;

a. Having a Festival.
   The Village Hall Management Committee would be interested in being involved and would be willing to allow the Hall to be used for free (including any planning meetings) if the event was raising money for a charitable cause.
b. Having an "adopt a tree" scheme.
   Cllr. Barber was the lead on this. This would be taken back to the Natural Environment Committee (NEC). The item would be put on hold until they had had chance to consider this.
c. Running a monthly event to which speakers are invited.
   Cllr. Wiseman reported that he had three speakers lined up and that there was interest in these talks. These would be diarised and Cllr. Wiseman would do the bookings. Subjects included angling, bee keeping, high altitude mountaineering and a musical performance.
d. Interpretation Display Boards.
   The Natural Environment Committee would be supportive of this, in particular of having a board by the pond. A budget of up to £1,000 was agreed for this project.
e. Publication of a booklet detailing the history of the Parish.
   There had been no progress on this since the July meeting.
f. Organising a fun run.
   There had been no progress on this since the July meeting.

8.2 Insurance renewal.

It was **resolved** to accept the insurance renewal quotation of £500 from Zurich. This was unchanged from the previous years' premium which was competitive compared to the other two quotations obtained at the time.

8.3 Annual Review of Standing Orders

Section 11.1 of the Standing Orders required an annual review of them. It was agreed to defer this to the October meeting.

8.4 Annual Review of Asset Register

Section 3.22 of the Standing Orders required an annual review of the Asset Register. It was agreed to defer this to the October meeting.

8.5 Annual Risk Assessment.

Section 5.1 of the Standing Orders required an annual risk assessment to be carried out. It was agreed to defer this to the October meeting.

8.6 To note the death of the previous Clerk.

It was noted with sadness that the previous Clerk, Diane Greenwell had passed away suddenly. A condolences card had been sent from the PC. At the time of her passing, she was Clerk of Askham Richard and of Copmanthorpe Parish Councils and the former had contacted the Clerk to seek help whilst they sought a replacement.

8.7 Village Hall matters.

The representative of the Village Hall enquired whether the PC would consider having a representative on their Committee or whether the PC preferred to keep the current arrangement of having a standing agenda item on the PC agenda for the Village Hall to bring any matters for discussion to the meeting. It was agreed to continue with the latter arrangement.

8.8 Matters for referral to the CYC Community Caretaker Team.
There was a concern about flooding and drain capacity during periods of heavy rain, in particular the junction of Askham Fields Lane and York Road and blocking up near Church Farm. Dirt was over the drain. The need for another tree inspection was noted.

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 plus 42p for a cheque paid in on 17th June 2026.
b. Information Commissioner's Office - annual registration - £47.00
c. Annual Inspection of the Playground equipment, £86 + VAT.
d. Norton Anti-Virus Protection – renewal date 13th September 2026 - £29.16 + VAT.
e. Microsoft Office 365 Annual Renewal - £84.99 including VAT. – renewal date 1st September 2026.

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 930 was an email to say that the previous Clerk had died (see item 8.6 above) and item 931 was regarding the planning application by the college for a 3G artificial pitch (see public participation above).

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting would be held at 7:30pm on 17th September.

Meetings for the rest of 2026 after that would be;

15th October and 19th November.

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

The meeting closed at 8:47pm.

Signed

17 September 2026