



Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th February
2026 at 7.00pm.

Venue: Church Cottage, Main Street, Wheldrake

Present: Cllr Nelson (Chairman), Cllr Southern, Cllr Surtees, Cllr Wood, Cllr Sneesby, Cllr Elsey-Jeffree, Cllr Reed, Cllr Brown, Cllr Batchelor, Cllr Cranfield, Cllr Atkinson, Cllr McCaie and the Clerk.

No members of the public.

Ward Councillor Vassie

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

MINUTES

26/17. Welcome

Cllr Nelson welcomed everyone to the meeting

26/18. Apologies

To receive apologies and consider accepting the reasons for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Myers,

Resolution: To approve the reasons for absence

26/19. Declarations of interest

a. To receive and consider any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's code of conduct or member's register of disclosable pecuniary interests.

Cllr Nelson declared a personal interest in item 24a 26/00237/TCA

b. To receive and consider upon any applications for dispensations.

None

26/20. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 28th January 2026 as a true and accurate record.

Resolution: To approve the minutes as a true and accurate record

26/21. Public participation

Any resident may speak for up to 3 minutes on any matter on the agenda with the session lasting no longer than 20 minutes.

None in attendance

26/22. Reports

To receive reports from the following:

a. Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported on ongoing matters including VAS installation and S106 bus funding, and has requested additional dog fouling signage from City of York Council.

Resolution: The Council agreed that North Lane, Braithegayte and the school area should be the first locations for dog fouling stencilling.

b. Ward Councillor

Cllr Vassie reported on planning condition complaints at the Bramblewood development, hedgehog signage, bin requirements and support for local businesses, and the solar farm consultation open until late March.

- c. Community Police Officer, including monthly crime statistics report
No Community Police Officer was present. The January police report showed 1 incident.

26/23. Groups and Committees

To receive and consider for decision, reports and recommendations from:

- a. Playpark
Resolution: The Playpark Group and the Clerk will arrange a meeting to confirm the asset check details.
- b. Village Maintenance
A discussion took place regarding fencing in the wildflower area, improving the existing rope barrier or installing fencing were considered. It was noted that grass cutting may be difficult around a fence.
Resolution: The Clerk will seek advice from contractors and volunteer organisations and revisit the matter at a future meeting.
- c. Defibrillators
The training session will be held on 18th June 2026 at 7:00 pm.
Resolution: The Clerk will prepare and circulate posters and provide a copy to Cllr Batchelor for inclusion in the parish magazine.
- d. Community speed watch
Four sessions have taken place since the last meeting, monitoring 357 vehicles; 12 drivers will receive letters. Two further sessions are planned, with new dates arranged up to the end of May at which point the project will have been running for two years. Cllr Vassie noted that Deighton PC installed small 30mph repeater signs, which give the police greater enforcement powers.
Resolution: The Clerk will speak to Highways regarding 30mph repeater signs
- e. WRA representative
The WRA has advised that no date for the AGM has been set but will inform the Council once arranged.
Resolution: The Clerk will formally notify the WRA that Cllr Reed is the Parish Council representative in line with the constitution.

26/24. Planning

- a. To consider and decide upon the following planning applications:

Status	Reference	Location	Description
NEW	26/00206/TCA	83 Back Lane South Wheldrake York YO19 6DT	Crown lift 3no. Silver Birch trees to 3 metres , tree works in a Conservation Area
NEW	26/00237/TCA	6 Kitty Garth Wheldrake York YO19 6DX	Reduce 1no. branch from 1no. Maple tree in a Conservation Area.
NEW	26/00242/TCA	The Homestead 49 Main Street Wheldrake York YO19 6AB	Remove 2no. small branches from 1no. Silver Birch tree in a Conservation Area
RECONSULTATION FOLLOWING PLAN REVISION	25/02437/FUL	Doctors Surgery 54A Main Street Wheldrake York YO19 6AB	Revised Plans for the conversion of the Water Tower to illustrate the following changes: A reduction to the height of the ground floor extension Changes to the windows to illustrate a mix of obscure and clear glazing and one additional window Redesign of the tower roof area to illustrate window changes Revised site plan to include sight lines.

Cllr Nelson left the meeting for the discussions on 26/00237/TCA. Cllr Batchelor chaired the meeting for that item.

Resolution:

- To submit no comments on applications 26/00206/TCA, 26/00237/TCA, and 26/00242/TCA.
- To object to application 25/02437/FUL on the grounds that it does not adequately address drainage, highways safety, Village Design Statement compliance, residential amenity, or access issues.

b. To note the following planning decisions:

Status	Reference	Location	Description
APPROVED	25/02516/TCA	Station Farm 14 Main Street Wheldrake York YO19	6AF Crown reduce 1no. Silver Birch (T1) up to 2m; Crown reduce 1no. Hawthorn up to 1m - trees in a conservation area

Resolution: The Council noted the planning decisions

c. To consider the following planning enforcement matters:

Status	Reference	Location	Description
APPROVED	21/02283/FUL	Land To The East Of Millfield Industrial Estate Main Street	Erection of 139no. dwellings – Construction traffic management plan

No matters were discussed

d. To consider the West House Energy Park consultation

Resolved: To request that the solar farm applicant holds a consultation event in Wheldrake, as events are currently being held in Elvington only.

26/25. Resident Survey

a. To receive an update on actions completed following the resident survey and discuss remaining actions and next steps

Cllr Atkinson provided an update on his discussions with the football club. The club has concerns about the condition of the pitch and the use of their £3,000 annual contribution. Adult teams would consider returning but are not currently participating under the existing arrangements. The club are willing to attend a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter.

The Council considered two documents prepared by the Clerk: a summary of the survey results and a working document for ongoing actions. The Clerk confirmed that the survey results were sent to David Skaith, Mayor of York and North Yorkshire, and Luke Charters MP for York Outer, with no response. The Clerk is continuing to chase City of York Council regarding the £80,000 ring-fenced for bus services in the Bramblewood Section 106 agreement.

A discussion also took place regarding survey comments relating to the WRA.

Resolution:

- Cllr Atkinson will provide bullet points summarising his discussions with the football club to the Council.
- To print 20 copies of the survey summary and also publish it on the website, social media, and noticeboards, and ask the school to email it to parents. The working document will be maintained over the coming months with a view to publishing later in the year.

b. To note the Ward Councillor's response to the resident survey results.

Cllr Vassie provided a written response following receipt of the resident survey results, noting residents' concerns regarding bus services and the cycle path. He continues to press for improvements, has met with the Mayor and MP to discuss these matters, and is seeking a meeting with the Combined Authority and relevant officers. A meeting with the Combined Authority is scheduled for April regarding the cycle path. He is also pursuing issues with non-functioning real-time bus displays.

26/26. Annual Financial Matters

- a. To consider the approval of the updated asset register for 2025/26
Following the annual asset check, the following amendments were noted:
- **Addition of the Cherry tree (to be listed as magnolia), Jubilee plaque, and salt bin outside Costcutter.**
 - **Playpark blackboard to be confirmed.**
 - **Addition of benches outside the Wenlock Arms and White Rose House.**
 - **Disposal of Christmas lights pending check with Cllr Nelson.**
 - **Cancellation of mobile phone disposal (held by Cllr Nelson).**
 - **Amendment of industrial estate planter from one to two.**

An asset issue was noted: the Main Street gateway has loose bricks.

Resolution: Approval of the updated register 2025/26 was deferred to the next meeting.

26/27. Council Matters

- a. To confirm a date for whole council training
Resolution: The Clerk will seek councillors' availability to confirm a date for the whole council training session and will also seek their views on the content.
- b. To consider the proposed purchase of new Christmas lights and agree the funding source (budget or reserves)
A discussion took place regarding the potential installation of Council Christmas lights for 2026 and a switch-on fundraising event. It was noted that expenditure would fall under Section 137, Local Government Act 1972.
Resolution: The Clerk will investigate the procedures and costs for lamppost installation and power sources with City of York Council.
A Christmas Working Group was established, comprising Cllrs Atkinson, Surtees, Myers, Cranfield, and McCaie.
- c. To consider the purchase and location of a memorial bench.
Resolution: To install a memorial bench to replace the metal one at North Lane/Broad Highway corner. The Clerk will obtain quotes for the next meeting and liaise with Cllr Southern regarding memorial wording.
- d. To review the current lengthsman contract and consider options for renewal or retendering
The Clerk reported on the review of the current schedule and contract, noting it has not been reassessed for several years, and provided examples from other councils. The Clerk explained that, under legislation including the Local Government Act 1972, Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015, and NALC guidance, contracts must be clear, transparent, fair, periodically reassessed, and provide value for money, with proper audit records, risk management, insurance, and safety standards.
Resolution: The Clerk will complete a draft schedule and contract for consideration by the Village Maintenance Group, who will recommend to Council. Following Council approval, a meeting will be arranged with the Village Maintenance Group and the current contractor.
- e. To consider YLCA advice on the Council's Custodian Trustee role and determine next steps, including legal advice quotations, Land Registry registration, and the PC trustee role within the WRA constitution
The Clerk provided advice from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.
Resolution:
- **To register the land known as Wheldrake Recreation Association with the Land Registry.**
 - **To employ Wilkin Chapman Rollits solicitors to review and prepare all lawfully required paperwork, including Land Registry registration under the Council's role as custodian trustee, at a cost of £850 (Local Government Act 1972, Section 111).**
 - **To invite a WRA representative to a Parish Council extraordinary meeting, with questions prepared in advance; the Clerk will liaise on the date.**

26/28. Highways Matters

- a. To receive an update on VAS and gateway installations
The Clerk reported that City of York Council has agreed in principle to fund the VAS signs, pending approval from senior management. No updates have been received regarding the gateways; the Clerk will follow up.
- b. To consider potential actions to tackle speeding and traffic concerns on Broad Highway
Concerns were raised regarding vehicle speeds on Broad Highway, aggressive driving, insufficient signage, inconsistent use of passing places, and the increasing size of the layby near the woods. It was noted that the current speed limits may not be appropriate. Resolution: The Clerk will submit a formal request to City of York Council for a 30 mph speed limit along the road up to the woods and will also raise the other concerns identified. Cllr Vassie will be informed.
- c. To consider issues relating to posters displayed on City of York Council lampposts and determine whether any action is required.
The Clerk reported that advice had been requested from City of York Council regarding posters displayed on lampposts. CYC have logged the enquiry as an official report rather than providing direct guidance. It was noted that it is illegal to display posters on lampposts without permission. Resolution: The Council will highlight the rules on poster displays in future communications

26/29. Finance

- a. To receive and note the bank reconciliation for January 2026 and current bank balances.
Resolution: The Council noted the bank reconciliation for January 2026 and the net position of £46,611.01 as at 31 January 2026.
- b. To receive and consider the budget monitoring report as at 31 January 2026.
Resolution: The Council considered the report.
- c. To note the completion of internal control checks covering the period 1 April 2025 to 31 December 2025.
Resolution: The Council noted the completion of the internal control checks from 1st April 2025 to 31st December 2025.
- d. To approve the payments presented for authorisation up to the 19th February 2026 and any other invoices that come in prior to the meeting:

Description	Expenditure
Salaries	773.60
HMRC – PAYE	103.19
Playpark sign design	45.00
Playpark sign manufacturer and installation	165.00
Amazon – Dog Stencil and paint	22.15
Total	1108.94

Resolution: The Council approved the payments presented for authorisation

26/30. Correspondence

To consider any correspondence received and decide upon any necessary action
The Council noted correspondence received in relation to the removed bin outside Costcutter, WRA and anti-social behaviour at the park.

26/31. To note any agenda items for the next meeting

Streetlights on Valley View/Low Well – The Clerk advised that any faults can be reported with the column number. Cllr Cranfield to forward numbers to the Clerk.

26/32. Date of the next meeting: 25th March 2026 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.27pm

Signed

Cllr S Nelson, Chairman
25th March 2026