

**Minutes of the Meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council held on 21st July 2025 at 7pm in
Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

Present: R Downes, K Hetherington, M Rowland, N Carter, J Mason, S Taylor, A Milner, T Thomson,
F Shellard (Chair), J House (Clerk)

Apologies: O Burdett

There were two members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies and the reason for absence were accepted as above.
2. **Co-option of new Councillor:** Keri Leigh Hetherington applied to become a Councillor on 17th March 2025, which just missed the March meeting. She was invited to attend the May meeting and was still keen to become a Councillor. The Council agreed at the May meeting that she would be a welcome addition to the Council, NYC have no objections, so Keri was duly co-opted to the Council from today. Proposed J Mason. Seconded M Rowland.
3. **Matters to be raised by members of the public:** There is concern about some of the hedging, along the northern footpath between the Village Hall and the War Memorial, that is partially blocking the footway making it difficult for those with push or wheel chairs to get by, without going onto the highway. This is a matter for Highways and those affected should contact either NYC Highways or the landowner.
4. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12th May 2025:** The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the Meeting.
5. **Matters arising from the last meeting:** Following a discussion on horse riders with no hi viz waistcoats at the last meeting, the Clerk ascertained that there is no legal requirement for hi viz to be worn by horse riders. The Clerk then contacted NYC Highways, who informed us that they had no plans to deal with any signage on the Sherburn Road because there was no need for it.
6. **Finance and Governance:**

The VAT return for 2024 to 2025 was not produced for the Internal Audit as normal because we were about to pay £4000 on the £20,000 the cost of the Play equipment. The Clerk produced the VAT return on 1st June and submitted to HMRC for the refund. £4366.44 was received into the bank on 10th June 2025. When this amount was received, £3,500 was transferred to the Reserve account leaving some spare, as we are not in a position to say at this time of year that we have enough money in the Current Account to cover all our costs to year end.

On 4th June 2025 the Clerk Invoiced NYC for the sum of £291.44, being the sum that they had informed us they would pay for grass cutting in 2025 to 26. This sum was received from NYC on 12th June 2025.

As explained at the Annual Meeting in May, the Annual Governance and Accountability Return this year had to be sent to the External Auditor because our income was over £25,000 due to the £20,000 grant from the Lottery Community Fund. In the last week of June, the Clerk was contacted by the external auditor who had some queries. When the Clerk looked at the figures in detail there was no way that the figures in the AGAR balanced, so the Clerk re-ran the whole process and produced an accurate set of figures to re-submit to the Auditor. Because of that it was necessary for the Council to reconvene and agree the revised figures. A meeting was held on 26th June 2025 to approve the revised AGAR. The Minutes of that meeting were sent to the Council on 27th June 2025. Those minutes need to be approved and signed as a true record of the meeting. The revised AGAR was submitted to the External Auditor on 27th June 2025. Subsequently because we had produced a revised

AGAR, the period of Exercising of Public Rights had to be restarted on 30th June 2025 and will end on 11th August 2025. We have had confirmation that the revised AGAR has been passed by the External Auditor, but we are not likely to see the External Auditor's report until after the Public Rights Exercise has come to an end. The Clerk suggested that at year end in March 2026, when the accounts are ready to submit to the External Auditor that a Councillor should check the paperwork, in addition to the internal auditor. This was agreed.

Payments made since the last meeting were:

Play Fitness - supply and erection of Play Equipment £24,000

Yorkshire Payroll Services - payroll administration £48.00

HMRC - 83.60

After these payments have been made the balances at the Bank are:

Current Account £4471.99

Reserve Accounts £6869.64

7. **Correspondence:** As part of our regular correspondence from YLCA we get a monthly Law and Governance bulletin which highlights any changes. There will be a new Assertion in the 2025/2026 AGAR which effectively requires us to have a GOV.UK domain on our website and our email address. There will be additional questions on the AGAR regarding this and if we do not have a GOV.UK domain we have to have a good reason why not. We will need to look into this in details before year end.

email from Clear Utility Solutions on their basket pricing scheme, where they can get advantageous prices on utilities. The Council asked the Clerk to get prices for electricity.

email from Yorkshire Water that they want to install a washout hydrant to the water main, just east of Ropery Lane to enable them to CCTV the main. This is for info only.

email from NYC planning to say that BT is going to remove the payphone.

email from Playsafety to say the play inspection will take place in September.

email from Quickline, who are the Government's provider of fibre broadband under Project Gigabit. The email says that they are committed to providing fast and reliable broadband solutions to rural and underserved communities and that full fibre will soon be available in our community. Concern was expressed as to how the fibre will be installed, as it is not clear whether the lines will be under or overground. There seems to be some confusion over what will happen, they have put posters up in the village and one resident got a letter to say that fibre broadband will be available in July 25. The Clerk looked at their website and it said they had no plans for this area at the moment. It was agreed that we should seek a meeting with them in the near future, which the Clerk will pursue.

8. **Planning: ZE25/00463/FUL: Erection of agricultural building for the storage of boxed potatoes**, was sent to all Councillors and no objections were raised. This has now been approved.

ZE25/00181/HOUSE: Erection of brick and tiled roof bin shed to front of property (retrospective): has been approved

9. **Police Matters:** None

10. **VAS data:** There is no data to present as the software has a fault on it and which was only discovered on Friday 18th July and Swarco are looking at it.

11. **Trees:** Our tree survey is due this year, the last one being carried out in November 2022. The Clerk has contacted Waites and they have provided an estimate of £580, in 2022 it was £550. The Council accepted this quote.

ST has highlighted a government scheme entitled White Rose Forest to plant trees with funding available. He has suggested some flowering cherry trees along Main Road. It was questioned whether the grant would include ongoing maintenance costs, as it is important to

note that if we have more trees then surveys and maintenance increase our costs. It was agreed that planting some trees along the north of the village green would add to the appearance of the green. The Council asked the Clerk to obtain more information.

12. **Mobile Signal – EE:** MR highlighted the large number of outages reported by EE where mobile coverage had been lost this year, mainly short duration but a recent outage had lasted from 6h to 17th July, with many households having no phone connections at all. Where consumers had contacted EE they had refunded charges and in some cases promised help to take it to the Ombudsman. The Chairman highlighted this was not a Parish Council or a NYC issue. It was agreed that the PC would write to our MP
13. **Home to School Transport (HTST):** JM raised the changes that are being made from September to HTST which have been agreed by NYC without wide consultation. Norton College has always been the Catchment School for secondary education for this area, with free HTST provided. From September HTST, free HTST will only be provided to Driffield School, with no guarantee of a place at Driffield. If parents want to send their children to Norton, a fee of £800 per school year will be charged for HTST.
It was emphasised that children are our future and creating such a rift between those who are already at Norton and sending children to Driffield, who may have siblings at Norton will cause mental health problems to those involved. The scheme is discriminating against children who live in rural areas. This is not in the children's best interests. NYC have admitted that this is all about saving money. A parent was at the meeting and stated that they pay £520 per year for their child to go to Malton school which is subsidised by Malton School. If there are 2 or 3 children in one family then the costs will be extortionate.
It was agreed that the Clerk would prepare a letter from the PC to the CEO of NYC, copied to our MP and County Councillor.
14. **Foxholes and Egdon Energy:** We have received an email from Foxholes PC asking if we had anyone who has experience in dealing with drilling for gas. The PC does not have anyone with that experience and the Clerk will reply with that information. Meanwhile we will be asked for our input once the planning application is received and processed by NYC, and there is no input from us until then.

Working party to clean the VH fencing will be on 9th August – weather permitting. Article to go into the Warbler

Next meeting 15th September 2025

Meeting closed at 8:30pm