

NORTH DUFFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk/RFO: Mrs S Look, 72 Main Street, Wheldrake, York, YO19 6AA
clerk@northduffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk www.northduffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk
MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th February 2025
Chapel Schoolroom, North Duffield

Part 1

24198. In attendance and declarations of interest: Cllrs R Arrand, S Brown, S Donoghue, R Hemingway (Chair), M Patten, L Richardson, M Walton, B Wells, D Wint. S Look (Clerk). Divisional Cllr Arthur. Members of the public.

24199. Apologies: No apologies received. **Declarations of interest:** None.

24200. Minutes of the Parish Council monthly meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2025 were proposed by Cllr Patten, seconded by Cllr Wells and unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record.

24201. Receive Divisional Councillor and PCSO report:

a. Cllr Arthur gave an update from North Yorkshire Council;

- 1) The government has withdrawn a £14.3 million rural services support grant – a grant that recognises that rural areas have greater commitments to meet in areas such as highways and waste disposal than urban areas - which will enormously add to the cost pressures of NYC. One consequence of this is that the localities budgets will be halved this year (from £10k to £5K for Cllr Arthurs area).
- 2) The council is proposing to increase the council tax by 4.99% this year – of which 2% will be allocated to the social care level and 2.99% to the general levy.
- 3) The housing target of the new NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework), introduced in December last year, will be around 4,200 dwellings for the whole of North Yorkshire (the actual figure at present is 4,077 dwellings) as against the previous target of around 2,500. This will reduce our current land supply to just over two years as against a target land supply of five years. NYC risk fines or being put into special measures if they do not hit these targets. Any deficit in the housing target will be added on to the following years target. It would appear that the new NPPF would involve a higher level of delegation to planning officers. The new NPPF also envisages an increase in the number of traveller sites approved. This is the reason why the Selby Local Plan has been dropped as it is now untenable given the new targets imposed by Central Government.
- 4) North Yorkshire Council is allocating all the money raised from the second homes council tax premiums towards building affordable housing in the area. This will be on top of the 500 council houses planned to be delivered over the coming five years in North Yorkshire. North Yorkshire is the only authority in the country planning to do this, so far, as most authorities are planning to use this premium to cover general running costs.

b. PCSO Gaskell sent an update on police matters for the area. Reports for North Duffield for the month of January were criminal damage (1), highway disruptions (2), theft (1) and RTC (1).

24202. Matters arising:

- a. Power cuts in the village. An official complaint regarding the frequent power outages in the village has been sent by the Parish Council to Northern PowerGrid. Awaiting response. Cllr Wells to attend a public meeting organised by Keir Mather MP on 7th February to discuss the power outage problems. Concerns were raised by residents that mobile phone are also affected by the power outages as the Wi-Fi signal goes down and the mobile signals sometimes do not work. Councillors reassured residents that the defibrillator will still work due to it having a battery and if you have not got a mobile signal you can still attempt to call 999 calls as your phone will search for any available phone network, this is called piggy backing.
- b. Community emergency plan. The clerk has updated the new parish council website with contact information and advice in case of an emergency. It was resolved to add Community Emergency Plan to the agenda of the Annual meeting in May to reach a wider audience.

24203. Highways update:

- a. Community Speedwatch programme. Cllr Wells has requested a further site for monitoring on York Road towards Skipwith. Awaiting approval.
- b. Cllr Hemingway and Cllr Patten attended a meeting with a NYC Highways representative to highlight the main areas of concern in the village. It has been confirmed that Green Lane up to the village green will be fully resurfaced 2025/26. The road area around the village green will be patched.

Two areas will be relined in March 2025; outside the Kings Arms (double yellow) and Skipwith Road near the playing field (following an agricultural vehicle fire).

Grass verge damage (Gamrudding). This matter is being dealt with by the NYC development management team.

A footway near the new development on Green Lane/Selby Road (near the allotments) will be installed to join the existing footway.

The loose kerbstones outside the village shop will be actioned.

The officer confirmed that the drain at the triangle end of the village green is cleared regularly and unfortunately funds are not available to move the kerb back.

Northern PowerGrid have confirmed they will be pruning the Maple tree back on the village green due to the power line proximity.

- c. 'Please drive slowly' signage at the entrances to the village are on order. Awaiting progress.
- d. To receive an update on the VAS statistics at the next parish council meeting.
- e. No progress on the replacement streetlight (LP18) outside Plum Tree Cottage on York Road. Clerk has been in correspondence with NYC streetlighting team. Awaiting further update.
- f. No further update on the Green Lane/ Maple Drive parking issues. Agree to remove from agenda.
- g. No further action regarding the request to make the A163 through the village a 30mph zone. Request has been submitted to NYC.
- h. Email received from a resident with concerns about speeding and vehicle weight on Green Lane. Advice given to resident on reporting issues / concerns direct to the police. Weight restriction is 7.5ton except for access. It was confirmed that the school buses use the route for access. Cllr Wells confirmed that the Community Speedwatch cannot monitor on Green Lane as it is not one of the areas specified by the police.

24204. Planning Applications:

- a. ZG2024/1326/OUTM. Gothic Farm, Main Street, North Duffield. Outline application for erection of dwellings with consideration of siting, layout, appearance, landscaping and access (scale reserved). Councillors resolved to object to the application. One of the concerns raised by residents has been in relation to the already stretched infrastructure in that particular area. There are sewerage and drainage issues on Back Lane that have been ongoing for several years now which North Yorkshire Council and Yorkshire Water are fully aware of. It was also noted that at certain times of the day Main Street is extremely busy due to parked cars near the shop and bus stops and it often gets blocked causing quite a lot of disruption. This means Back Lane is used more often than not as a cut through for vehicles. Back Lane is very narrow in parts, particularly where the development is proposed, and also has parked cars along it due to the current houses not having driveways / space. Concerns were raised about the minimal car parking spaces proposed on this development when the majority of households will have at least two cars given the poor public transport links to/from North Duffield. It was also reported by councillors and residents that there are frequent power and broadband outages in the village which may be exasperated with more users. This is a matter currently being investigated by Keir Mather MP due to regularity of problems in the parish. Despite these concerns, the Parish Council have also received comments from residents who support development within the village in order to help enhance the growth of its amenities and economy. The primary school is undersubscribed and would welcome more young families moving into the area and it is felt that there is a need for more starter homes. The Parish Council also recognise that it is better to build self-contained developments with its own infrastructure rather than infill that puts a strain on existing supplies. Councillors would like to encourage development with plenty of open space and recreational facilities for young people. The current facilities within the village such as the playing field are often at capacity for the number of existing users. It has also been noted that restricted covenants can be placed on developments to allow local people to be given priority to rent/buy in order to stay in their local area. Should this development go ahead, councillors would like North Yorkshire Council to request the developer to adopt the 'local connection test' method in terms of low-cost homeownership and affordable rented new homes.

24205. Ongoing planning matters:

- a. North Yorkshire Council Local Plan update; Town and Parish Council Survey for North Yorkshire Council Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2024/25. Comments by 30th March 2025. To c/f to the next meeting. NYC 'Call for Sites' information has been publicised. Consultation to follow. Sites may be added or removed from the map so no further comments to make at this stage.
- b. Selby Local Plan update; Selby Local Plan has now been stopped. To remove from the agenda.

- c. East Yorkshire Local plan update; The proposed plan if adopted may indicate some effects of future planning applications in North Duffield as they may have areas in the 1km zone of the Lower Derwent Valley. The document lists the type of development proposals likely to have a significant impact on biodiversity and/or landscape features within this area.
- d. 2024/0119/MWCU. Alleged: Unauthorised construction of large warehouse illuminated at night, visible from A163, machinery noise at Blackwood Pig Farm, Market Weighton Road W, North Duffield. Planning enforcement have met with the owner on site and seen the new building that had been erected. It was established that the owner had believed they had erected the building in compliance with permitted development regulations based on the use of the existing site. The main area of the site appears to have been used for industrial use for a long period of time and not agriculture, however, there is no planning history to show a change of use from agricultural use. Therefore, as the use, whilst it appears the use on the site has existed in excess of 10 years, because there is no planning history of such a change of use of the land, nor any certificate of lawfulness granted on the land, the owner cannot rely on the permitted development regulations in this instance. Therefore, the owner has been asked to submit a certificate of lawfulness application to seek to regularise the use of the site for industrial use. Following which a new full application will then be submitted for the building which has been erected. The owner has appointed an agent who is expected to begin submitted applications shortly.
- e. Enforcement ref; 2024/0201/LCOND. Planning ref: 2021/1353/FUL / ZG2023/0559/DOC. Land Adjacent A163 Market Weighton Road. Planning enforcement notified that the path is not complete despite houses being occupied. No further update.

24206. Planning Decisions:

- a. ZG2024/1181/HPA. 27 Green Lane, North Duffield. Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension. APPROVED.
- b. ZG2024/0914/HPA. 8 Ash Close, North Duffield. Side and rear single storey extension. APPROVED.
- c. ZG2024/0868/HPA. Meadow View, Main Street, North Duffield. The installation of an open sided gazebo (retrospective). APPROVED.
- d. ZG2024/0508/HPA. Ivy Cottage, Market Weighton Road W, North Duffield. Erection of shed (retrospective). APPROVED.

24207. Public time:

- a. A member of the public asked for an update on the Nature Recovery initiative. Awaiting further information from Carstairs following the Nature Recovery Event attended by Cllr Patten and Cllr Arrand.

24208. Financial matters:

- a. Finance report noted and transactions approved for payment as follows:
- b. Account balance and reconciliation:

	Current Account	Savings Account
Account balances as at 4th January 2025	£4768.60	£21544.87
Transactions made since last meeting (approved at the last meeting):		
S Look; Clerks Dec expenses	-£67.92	
North Duffield Methodist Church; room rental for 2024	-£160.00	
North Duffield Village Hall; room rental for 2024	-£48.00	
Payments made since the last meeting under clerks delegated powers:		
S Look; Clerks January salary	As agreed	
Unity; service charge	-£6.00	
Scottish Power; village green electricity	-£139.15	
Receipts since the last meeting:		
Flag damage payment	£50.00	
Internal transfer:		
Account balances as at 29th January 2025	£3850.25	£21,544.87
To approve the following payments:		
S Look; Clerks January expenses	-£60.64	
Teale & Sons timber; wood for tree seat	-£500.00	
S Look; Linsky hosting	-£7.51	

It was resolved to approve the above payments.

24209. Village Green and Maintenance:

- a. Cllr Hemingway to give an update on the village 'to do' list at the March parish council meeting. Marquee to be cleaned this month to send back to the supplier for repairs.
- b. The renovation of the circular bench on the village green is progressing.
- c. Clerk to get quotes for a full tree survey for the village green.
- d. To formalise maintenance dates (i.e village litter pick etc) at March meeting.

24210. Correspondence:

- a. YLCA White Rose updates and training dates noted.
- b. Road safety: Speeding campaign / speed cameras noted.

24211. Website and Parish online software:

- a. Cllr Wells has developed new maps to pinpoint the defibrillators in the village and the village maintenance areas. Cllr Wells to develop a map with the PC streetlights on and investigate where exactly the highway / footpath boundary is and map it.
- b. The new Parish Council website is now live. www.northduffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk New councillor photos to be added after the March parish council meeting. Cllrs to set up gov.uk emails for Parish Council all correspondence.

Part 2

24212. Confidential business: Resolved to exclude the public and press on grounds that matters for discussion affect individual staff matters/ procedures / legal / financial issues.

24213. Maintenance contract 2025/26:

- a. It was resolved to approve the contract to be submitted to the village maintenance contractor.

24214. Flagpole repairs:

- a. A further payment was received in January for the replacement flagpole but there is still £79.94 outstanding to pay. Clerk to follow up.

Meeting closed at 20.45.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: