

Escrick Parish Council

Minutes of Escrick Parish Council monthly meeting held in The Wenlock Room at The Parsonage Hotel at 7pm on Monday 2nd February 2026.

Part 1

26020: **Welcome:** Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

26021: **Apologies/Attendance:**

- a. Present: Cllr S Allen, Cllr Chambers (Chair), Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Hawes, Cllr Hopwood, Cllr King. Clerk; S Look. Members of the public.
- b. Apologies: Cllr Barber, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr Hopkinson.

26022: **Declarations of Interests:** No declarations received.

General updates

26023: **Public session:**

- a. Member of the public in attendance is proposing applying for funding to facilitate setting up a Veterans Village based at Queen Margarets School. This will enable veterans to be integrated back into civilian life giving them the skills, rehab and support. A request was made for support from the Parish Council including a supporting letter to aid them in the application.
- b. Member of the public reiterated concerns about Wendlo House and its use as an Air BnB. Concerns raised about the installation of a new hot tub and access issues.
- c. Concerns raised by residents about drainage problems and excess water causing damage to properties outside 7 & 9 Main Street. Safety of pedestrians also raised as an issue with the A19 being such a busy road. Resolved to report to NYC Highways to request a full investigation.
- d. Member of the public representing a number of the residents on Carrs Meadow raised concerns about the planning appeal that has been submitted regarding ref ZG2025/0338/FUL Land Off Carrs Meadow and again raised objections to the proposed development and subsequent appeal.

26024: **Public correspondence received:**

- a. Notification regarding the Carrs Meadow planning development planning appeal. Councillors resolved to bring item 26033e forward on the agenda. Planning Appeal - APP/U2750/W/25/3377009 - Land Off Carrs Meadow. ZG2025/0338/FUL. Councillors have previously resolved to **OBJECT** to the application and taken into consideration other objections raised by residents. Unfortunately, as the applicant appeal reasons have only just been added to the NYC planning portal on 2nd February 2026, and councillors have not had an adequate amount of time to consider the document. Councillors resolved for the PWG to consider submitting a response to the planning inspectorate prior to the deadline on 23rd February and circulate with all councillors for comments. Councillors were reminded that only new information should be submitted as all previous submissions will have been forwarded to the inspectorate by NYC.
- b. Update on Queen Margarets School. It has not yet sold but they are making progress with a few shortlisted parties.
- c. Councillors resolved to provide a letter of support for a Veterans Rehabilitation centre project proposed for QM.

26025: **Updates from other authorities:**

- a. Divisional Councillor Cattnach not present. Cllr Cattnach has contacted Richard Webb, the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services at North Yorkshire Council (who will be taking over as CEO at CYC) to request his support in the request for bus shelter lighting in Escrick.

- b. Community Police Support Officer not present. No report received. PCSO reported that there has been a change in leadership and as it stands now the monthly newsletters are not happening. It was reported that there have been no incidents reported in Escrick over the last month.

26026: Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th January 2026.

Finance and Governance

26027: Finance report:

- a. Account balances and reconciliation:

		Community account	BMM account
i.	Account balances as at 29th December 2025:	£3163.74	£43,379.74
ii.	Payments made since last meeting:		
	Unity – December monthly service charge	-£6.00	
	S Look – December expenses	-£18.00	
	Escrick Park Estate – Playing Field annual rent	-£10.00	
iii.	Payments made since last meeting under clerks delegated powers:	Nil	
iv.	Internal Transfer	Nil	
v.	Receipts:	Nil	
	Savings account credit interest		£260.57
	Account balances as at 26th January 2026:	£3129.74	£43,640.31

- b. Routine payments to be made:

viii.	Unity – January monthly service charge	-£6.00
	S Look – January expenses	-£18.00
	HMRC – Clerks salary	-£16.02

- c. Purchases / exceptional payments to be approved and made:

ix.		Nil
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It was resolved to accept the payments as stated above.

Maintenance

26028: Maintenance issues:

- a. No new maintenance issues reported.
- b. No progress on getting the bus shelters cleaned on the A19 near Sang Thai. Clerk has contacted Cllr Vassie (Ward Cllr for Deighton area).
- c. Overgrown hedges adjacent to two properties on the east side of the A19. It was reported that the resident has organised for them to be cut back.
- d. Councillors considered measures to grit specific pavements in the village particularly Carr Lane and Main Street. The main roads are gritted by NYC. <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/winter-service/road-gritting> More details can be found at <https://www.escrickparishcouncil.gov.uk/council/gritting/> It was resolved to contact NYC to request that Carr Lane is added to the gritting route as it is a main cut through from the A19 through the village and is very busy during school drop off and pick up times.

Village Green

26029: Village Green update:

- a. Update given from a Village Green Association (VGA). The VGA have relocated the existing bench that is next to the Corkscrew Willow Tree and put a warning sign on the tree about the danger of branches falling.

- b. Update received on the decayed Corkscrew Willow on the village green. Two companies have been approached for advice and a quote. Councillors resolved to agree to the pollarding of the tree to remove the deadwood as advised by the tree surgeon.
- c. No further update on the three overgrown Walnut trees on the village green. Planning reference ZG2026/0016/TPO on the 3 Trees to crown lift them to a height of 5m above existing ground level.

Playing Field / Play Area

26030: **Playing field update:**

- a. Nothing to report.

Planning

26031: **Planning, new applications:**

- a. ZG2026/0016/TPO to crown lift to 5.2 metres to 3 Walnut trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 7/2023. Land off Carr Lane, Escrick. Resolved no comment on this application.
- b. ZG2026/0012/HPA. Gilbertson House, Wheldrake Lane, Escrick. External render, porch and brick piers (retrospective) and gate to brick piers. Resolved no comment on this application.

26032: **Planning determinations:**

- a. No new determinations received.

26033: **Other planning matters:**

- a. North Yorkshire Council Local Plan. No further update.
- b. Targeted consultation now closed for Light Valley Solar. Concerns raised by landowners regarding potential compulsory purchase orders however NYC have confirmed the following: Island Group Power's proposal is currently at the pre-application stage for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. Before an application is submitted, developers are legally required to carry out extensive early engagement and consultation with the community. This includes contacting residents and landowners whose land might be affected, for example by potential cable routes or access requirements.
Keir Mather MP has organised a meeting with Light Valley Solar which will take place on 13th March. Cllr King to attend on behalf of the parish council.
- c. ZG2023/1110/FUL. Post Office Row 7 Main Street Escrick. Planning enforcement issue raised regarding the unauthorised felling of a mature Cherry tree. Enforcement ref; 2025/0167/HTREE. Following a review of historical images, correspondence with the owner, and consultation with the Council's Arborist, it is considered that the Council would not have recommended a TPO in this instance and would have supported the removal of the tree. In respect of the breach of conditions 3 (foul drainage) and 4 (external materials) of planning permission ZG2203/1110/FUL, which required the submission of information both pre-commencement (condition 3) and prior to the development being built above slab level (condition 4), it is noted that while starting works before discharging these details constitutes a breach, the conditions have since been complied with through approval ZG2025/0874/DOC. The development should now proceed in accordance with these approved details. Therefore, taking account of the above, it is not considered expedient to pursue formal enforcement action in this case, and the case will now be closed.
- d. No further update received on the complaint received regarding permissions required for Wendlo House being used as an Air BnB. Enforcement reference 2025/0212/LWORK. No update from NYC who are investigating it.
- e. Planning Appeal - APP/U2750/W/25/3377009 - Land Off Carrs Meadow NYC ref ZG2025/0338/FUL. Refer to item 26024a.

Highways and lighting items

26034: **Streetlighting:**

- a. Proposed lighting at the northbound bus stop of the A19 near Sangthai. Cllr Cattanach is still investigating options with NYC and City of York Council Officers. No response from CYC officer or NYC.

26035: **Highways:**

- a. Concerns raised at the December meeting regarding the safety of the Pocklington School minibus collection / drop off point in the A19 layby and suggestion made to the school to relocate the drop off / pick up point to Main Street in Escrick. Reported the concerns raised to Pocklington School Board of Governors. They responded that the use of the lay-by as a pick-up point has been approved by the Traffic Commissioners (TCO) on behalf of the Department for Transport. The Commissioners have a statutory obligation to take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of all road users. The welfare of the pupils is central to the ethos of the Pocklington School Foundation and they have therefore asked the Clerk to the Governors to ensure that parents are reminded of the importance of appropriate vigilance when rejoining the A19 from the lay-by.
- b. Ponding of water on Wheldrake Lane. Photographs submitted to Cllr Cattanach to escalate with NYC. Cllr Cattanach suggested reporting this directly to Highways at NYC. Concerns raised by the clerk to Highways and the PCSO. Freedom of information request submitted to NYP to find out the number of incidents/ accidents on Wheldrake Lane. No further progress.
- c. Parish workshop with Highways update from NYC. Workshop has now been postponed to March – no date given.

Other items

26036: **Correspondence received:**

- a. YLCA; White Rose updates and training information noted.
- b. Parish Liaison update January 2026 noted. Age Friendly town and parish guide received. On PC website.
- c. Boundary review update. In summary, the report confirms that there will be 89 Councillors, across 87 divisions (85 single-member and 2 two-member.) Almost all Divisions see some change to boundaries. Subject to the approval of Parliament, the boundaries will be effective from May 2027. Escrick, Thorganby and Skipwith will move to a new division called Cliffe and Escrick and the old Cawood with Escrick division will become Cawood and Riccall.
- d. Invitation from The Chair of North Yorkshire Council, Councillor George Jabbour, to a Civil Service on Sunday 22nd February 2026. Noted.
- e. Noted the changes to planning 'Site Notices' within the Selby division which will now be in green rather than yellow to align with the rest of North Yorkshire.
- f. The consultation on the proposed Local Planning Enforcement Plan is now live. The consultation is open for 6 weeks closing at midnight on Monday 9th March 2026. The consultation is hosted on the 'Objective Portal,' which is the Planning Policy consultations part of the Council's website. All comments and views received during the consultation process will thereafter be reviewed and considered. The consultation can be accessed directly using the following link: <https://northyorks-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/> Comments can also be made via email to: NYCLEP@northyorks.gov.uk.

26037: **Comments from councillors and public present on agenda items:**

- a. Resident requested a response from the Parish Council when cc'd into emails.
- b. Resident expressed concerns regarding the Parish Councils response to the Carrs Meadow appeal.

26038: **Items for the next meeting:**

- a. The next monthly Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Monday 2nd March 2026**.
- b. VGA conversion to a CIO and changes to third party right of appointing a charity trustee.
- c. Update on the new mobile library service.

Meeting closed at 20.55.

Signed: T Chambers

Chair, Escrick Parish Council
Date: 2nd March 2026