

Escrick Parish Council

Minutes of Escrick Parish Council monthly meeting held in The Wenlock Room at The Parsonage Hotel at 7pm on Monday 12th May 2025.

Part 1

25088: Welcome: Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

25089: Apologies/Attendance:

- a. Present: Cllr S Allen, Cllr Chambers (Chair), Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr Hawes, Cllr Hopkinson and Cllr King. Clerk; S Look. Members of the public.
- b. Apologies: None.

25090: Declarations of Interests: No declarations of interest received by councillors.

25091: Co-option of new councillor: No new councillors have applied to join the Parish Council.

25092: Statutory Annual Parish Council meeting business:

- a. Election of the Chair of the Parish Council;
Councillors resolved to elect Cllr Chambers as chair of the Parish Council.
Chair signed acceptance of office, clerk witnessed signature.
Clerk countersigned Chairman's acceptance of office.
- b. Election of Vice Chairman;
Councillors resolved to elect Cllr Hawes as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.
Vice Chair signed acceptance of office, clerk witnessed signature.
Clerk countersigned Vice Chairman's acceptance of office.

25093: Committees:

Resolved the necessity and membership of the following committees, working groups, volunteer groups:

- a. Committees;
Finance & Admin Committee; Cllr Chambers, Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Hawes and Cllr King.
- b. Working Groups;
Planning Working Group; Cllr Chambers, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr Hawes and Cllr Allen.
- c. Resolved to the formation of a small team to work on policy and communication between PC meetings relating to opposing the Heronby development if it appears in the Local Plan as expected. Liaison group to work together to coordinate proposals to present to councillors for decisions to be made by councillors at PC meetings. Group members; Cllr Chambers, Cllr Hawes and Cllr Allen.
- d. Representation on external bodies;
No representations on the Village Green Association elected. Clerk to keep in regular correspondence with the VGA.
Cllr Fairbairn to represent the Parish Council on the Playing Fields Association.
Other responsibilities;
Defibrillator checks to be carried out as agreed by Richard Rowson.
Periodic maintenance of the War Memorials and Jubilee Fountain to be carried out by Richard Rowson.
Website; Clerk and R Rowson.
Grit bins; Cllr Chambers.
Councillors recorded thanks to R Rowson for his continual support to the Parish Council.

25094: Agree schedule of meetings for the coming year:

- a. Monthly Parish Council meetings ordinarily take place on the 1st Monday of the month at 7.00pm.

- b. To confirm dates of meetings as Monday 2nd June 2025, 7th July 2025, Monday 1st Sept 2025, Monday 6th Oct 2025, Monday 3rd Nov 2025, Monday 1st Dec 2025, Monday 5th Jan 2026, Monday 2nd February 2026, Monday 2nd March 2026, Monday 6th April 2026 and Monday 11th May 2026. Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 11th May 2026.

25095: Public correspondence received:

- a. Concern raised about road safety on the A19 through Escrick. Councillors reiterated that various options have been explored extensively including traffic lights and speed reductions. Councillors noted the cost of traffic lights would be in excess of £160,000 and NYC would not adopt them if installed so not a viable option. With regards to reducing the speed limit on the A19 through the village NYC have reported it does not fit the criteria and is not justified by national standards set. The implementation of 30mph speed limit is based on simple criteria relating to frontage development and distance; 20 or more houses and a minimum length of 600 metres. With regards to the request for speed cameras, North Yorkshire Council will not install them as the majority of traffic is not speeding so this would have a limited impact.
- b. Correspondence regarding speeding on Skipwith Road. Consultation now open to lower the speed limit to 40mph. C/F to item 25108.
- c. Concerns raised by residents regarding the proposed Solar Farm. Members of the public present raised concerns regarding the size and location of the proposed site. Councillors noted that further consultation has not yet opened and therefore no comments or decisions to be made at this stage.
- d. Article illustrating the importance of the NDP. Noted.

25096: Public session:

- a. Objections raised by member of the public present about the proposed Solar Farm. Objectors from neighbouring properties were invited to the PC meeting to raise their concerns but did not attend. Site visit requested.
- b. Concern raised about planning application ZG2025/0338/FUL. Land Off, Carrs Meadow. Members of the public raised concerns about the lack of smaller starter homes and bungalows which are lacking in the parish. Concern about the size of dwellings being proposed and the close proximity to the road. Traffic / parking concerns raised particularly during school drop off and pick up times. Request for more visitor parking to be allocated on the site.
- c. Request that the Parish Council take a more proactive approach to objecting to Heronby if it is a site proposed in the new North Yorkshire local plan.
- d. Request for more signage in the village to notify motorists that speed monitoring is operated in the area. Clerk to contact Highways.

25097: Updates from other authorities:

- a. Divisional Councillor Cattanach not present however he reported that many of the grants NYC used to receive seem to have been rescinded by the Government which suggests our deficits will increase. NYC seem to have made significant savings with the NY unification, but Government cutbacks change this completely. Locality Budgets may disappear next year.
- b. Community Police Support Officer report. Escrick: Highways disruption 1; crimes recorded 4, suspect circumstances 1, abandoned call 1.

25098: Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th April 2025.

Finance and Governance

25099: Policy & Governance:

- a. Noted the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2024/25 included at page 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).
- b. Resolved to approve Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 on page 4 of the AGAR.
- c. Resolved to approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 on page 5 of the AGAR.

- d. Resolved to approve publication of the documents required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.
- e. Noted the updated Standing Orders, April 2025.

25100: Finance report:

- a. The year end annual accounts were accepted for submission to the internal auditor.
- b. Account balances and reconciliation:

		Community account	BMM account
i.	Account balances as at 1 April 2025:	£3036.26	£37,976.91
ii.	Payments made since last meeting:		
	Autela - payroll	-£94.56	
	YLCA annual membership	-£354.00	
iii.	Payments made since last meeting under clerks delegated powers:		
	Unity monthly service charge	-£6.00	
01/05	PWLB; streetlighting loan payment (D/D)	-£1467.74	
iv.	Internal Transfer	£4000.00	-£4000.00
v.	Receipts:		
	NYC - Precept		£11,280.47
	Account balances as at 2 May 2025:	£5113.96	£45,257.38

- c. Routine payments to be made:

viii.	S Look – April expenses	-£23.94
	NYC – streetlighting energy 2024-25	-£1322.23
	S Look – Clerks April salary	As agreed
	NYC – streetlight maintenance 2024-25	-£1065.61
	B Hopper – Internal Audit 2024-25	-£120.00
	HMRC – clerks pay	-£10.07

It was resolved to accept the payments as stated above.

Maintenance

25101: Maintenance issues:

- a. No maintenance issues reported.
- b. Update received from F&W Forestry regarding the Escrick Estate Woodland scoping consultation. Noted.
- c. No progress on getting the bus shelters cleaned on the A19 near Sang Thai. Clerk to follow up with CYC.
- d. No responses received to the notice in the parish magazine asking residents to consider alternative options to replace the fencing around the fish fountain. To revisit in July.

Playing Field / Play Area

25102: Playing field update:

- a. Inspections done. Update given at Annual Parish meeting.

Village Green

25103: Village Green update:

- a. Update given at Annual Parish meeting.

25104: Planning, new applications:

- a. ZG2025/0432/HPA. 11 Dower Chase, Escrick. Erection of a single storey rear extension. Councillors have no objection subject to the planning officer satisfying themselves regarding impact on neighbours' amenity and ensuring that matching / compatible materials to the existing property are used.
- b. ZG2025/0338/FUL. Land Off, Carrs Meadow, Escrick. Erection of No. 8 dwellings and associated garages and landscape. Councillors resolved to OBJECT to the application in its current form. However, despite objecting to the proposals in its current form, councillors would support a cohesive development that is consistent with existing properties in the area and which meets Escrick Parish Councils Neighbourhood Plan Design Code in full. They would like to see the impact on neighbours' amenity minimised and ensure that matching / compatible materials to the existing properties in the area are used. Concerns were raised regarding the close proximity of the proposed properties to the highway and would ideally like the frontage moving back to allow for a larger frontage to also match the current properties in the area. Councillors would like property no.7 to share the access with property 8 and have parking and a garage at the rear of the property boundary. Councillors would also like to see the current hedgerow and habitat standards maintained in the area and not reduced. It has also been recognised that there is a need for smaller starter homes in the area as identified by the NYC Rural Housing Enabler. Three starter homes incorporated into this development would enable younger parishioners to stay in the village. Councillors would also like to see conditions imposed if a development is approved on this site with regards to 'no deliveries between 8.00hrs and 9.00hrs and 14.45 and 15.45hrs'. This is due to the area already being extremely congested at school drop off and pick up time.

25105: Planning ongoing:

- a. ZG2024/1279/TCA. The Holt, 9 Carr Lane, Escrick. Tree work and proposed TPO's. Escalated to local MP Keir Mather.

25106: Planning determinations:

- a. 2025/0327/TCA. 5 Carrs Meadow, Escrick. Fell 3 No Ash trees in the conservation area. Permission granted.
- b. ZG2025-0227-HPA. The Brambles, 12 Woodlands, Escrick. Alterations to front porch and bay window, ground floor extensions and first floor extension over the garage. Permission granted.

25107: Other planning matters:

- a. North Yorkshire Council Local Plan. [You can view information on the new Local Plan for North Yorkshire and next steps here](#). The first formal public consultation stage known as 'Issues and Options' which is entitled 'North Yorkshire Local Plan: our first conversation' is now open for anyone to respond (the consultation closes on 9 July 2025). The consultation asks for views on what the vision for the area should be, the issues and matters that are important for the Local Plan to consider and the approaches we could take.
Selby Local Plan. The council has recently resolved that work on the Selby Local Plan is ceased. [The reasons behind this decision are set out in the Executive report which you can read here](#). Due to the formal decision to stop work on the Selby Local Plan, it no longer holds any weight in decision making. However, weight can still be accorded to the evidence base of an abandoned plan in circumstances where it is relevant. [As such, the evidence base documents are still available to view on the North Yorkshire local plan portal here](#). Development Plan for Selby area; The current relevant adopted development plan for the Selby area, which will be used for development management purposes, comprises the saved policies of the adopted 2005 Selby District Local Plan and the 2013 Selby District Core Strategy. [You can view the Selby development plan here](#).
- b. Update on the Light Valley Solar project received. Prior to the launch of Phase Two consultation, the project team will be inviting groups including parish councils and other key stakeholders to design workshops. These workshops will be an opportunity for the project team to openly engage with local stakeholders on the design, asking for suggestions on how the design could be changed, focusing on where people's feedback has the biggest scope to influence the design. Date TBC. Feedback from the phase one consultation and changes to the maps can be found at [Documents — Light Valley Solar](#).

- c. The Rural Housing Enabler for the Escrick area has confirmed that she will be in touch with Escrick Park Estates in due course about potential sites, and then the Parish Council should land become available. She will also be going ahead with regards to the call for sites campaign, which will involve a small number of posters and leaflets throughout the village.

Highways items

25108: **Speeding:**

- a. Following a review of speeds within Escrick at the request of the Parish Council, NYC are proposing a Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a 40mph speed limit on Skipwith Road and Mill Hill. Any objections to this proposal to be made in writing to NYC by the 5th of June 2025. It was resolved that councillors welcome the reduction but request that it is extended slightly further out of the village towards Skipwith in order for it to take effect prior to the brow of the hill of Mill Hill from Skipwith so that motorists see the change on the straight and it increases visibility of it.

25109: **Streetlighting:**

- a. Councillors discussed the options for lighting at the northbound bus stop of the A19 near Sangthai. Quotes for the following options received: 1. Streetlight installed adjacent to the York bound bus shelter - £15,849; 2. Streetlight installed opposite the York bound shelter £5464; 3. Solar light adjacent to the York bound shelter Approx. £5 - £7k dependant on height and solar yield. It was resolved that the solar light option is not viable due to the restrictions of light / trees in the area. Resolved that councillors preference is the installation of a light at the York Bound bus stop for safety reasons. Clerk to ask CYC for a breakdown of costs of the York Bound bus stop light option and request the option for a part night light. To carry over to the June Parish Council meeting.

Other items

25110: **Correspondence received:**

- a. YLCA; White Rose updates and training information noted.

25111: **Comments from public present on agenda items:**

- a. Hedge outside 1 Wenlock encroaching the path and limiting visibility when turning onto Skipwith Road from Wenlock Drive. Clerk to contact Highways again.

25112: **Items for the next meeting:**

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Monday 2nd June 2025, 7pm** in The Wenlock Room at The Parsonage Hotel.

Meeting closed at 21.40hrs.

Signed: T Chambers

Chair, Escrick Parish Council

Date: 2nd June 2025