

Escrick Parish Council

Minutes of Escrick Parish Council monthly meeting held in The Wenlock Room at The Parsonage Hotel at 7pm on Monday 11th May 2026.

26061: **Welcome:** Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

26062: **Statutory Annual Parish Council meeting business:**

- a. Present: Cllr Barber, Cllr Chambers (Chair), Cllr Cunninham, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr Hopkinson, Cllr Hopwood, Cllr King. Clerk; S Look. Members of the public.
- b. Apologies: None.
- c. Councillors noted the resignation of Cllr Hawes and Cllr Allen and resolved to advertise the new vacancies.
- d. Election of the Chair of the Parish Council. Councillors elected Cllr Chambers as chair of the Parish Council. Chair signed the acceptance of office, clerk witnessed the signature and countersigned the acceptance of office.
- e. Election of Vice Chair; Councillors elected Cllr King as Vice Chair of the Parish Council. Vice Chair signed the acceptance of office, clerk witnessed the signature and countersigned the Vice Chair's acceptance of office

26063: **Committees, working groups and volunteers:**

- a. Committees: Finance & Admin Committee; Cllr Chambers (Chair), Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr King.
- b. Working Groups: Planning Working Group; Cllr Chambers, Cllr Fairbairn, Cllr Barber and Cllr Hopwood.
- c. Representation on external bodies: No councillors were elected as Village Green and Playing Fields Association representatives. Escrick Quarry Community Liaison group; Cllr King.
- d. Other responsibilities: Defibrillator checks; R Rowson. Website; R Rowson and Clerk. War memorials and Jubilee Fountain; R Rowson. Grit bins; Cllr Chambers.

26064: **Schedule of meetings for the coming year:**

- a. Monthly meetings will generally be held on the first Monday of the month starting at 7pm in the Wenlock room, The Parsonage.
- b. Dates confirmed as; Monday 1st June 2026, 6th July 2026, Monday 7th Sept 2026, Monday 5th Oct 2026, Monday 2nd Nov 2026, Monday 7th Dec 2026, Monday 4th Jan 2027, Monday 1st February 2027, Monday 1st March 2027, Monday 5th April 2027 and Monday 10th May 2027. Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 10th May 2027.

26065: **Declarations of Interests:** No declarations received.

General updates

26066: **Public session:**

- a. A member of the public expressed concerns with regards to the Air BnB which is currently being operated at Wendlo House. Advised resident to contact the case worker at NYC. The Parish Council have objected to the retrospective application for this. Clerk to request an extension for comments so that the resident can make further observations.
- b. Member of the public raised issues on the comments made by a resident to the Parish Council on the handling of the Carrs Meadow planning application.

26067: **Public correspondence received:**

- a. Correspondence regarding the plans for development on Carrs Meadow. Noted.

- b. Correspondence regarding parking on pavements causing obstructions for wheelchair users and mobility scooters. To report a parking infringement, for example; parking on single or double yellow lines, parking on zig zag lines at a school or crossing, parking across a footpath dropped kerb for use by public/disabled to cross the road, parking in a parking bay outside the bay markings, parking without a permit or miss use of a Blue Badge residents need to contact North Yorkshire Council by calling 01423 500 600 or email Parking.Services.har@northyorks.gov.uk. The police can only take action if a vehicle is blocking a pavement or causing an obstruction to the highway and then only if they witness the offence. To report a vehicle causing an obstruction or hindering the safety of the public residents should report it to the police by calling 101.
- c. Report of fly tipping in the car park adjacent to Sustrans cycle path (reported to NYC by the resident). Any further reports can be made at [Fly-tipping | North Yorkshire Council](#)
- d. Report of ongoing drainage problems in Escrick, particularly on Carr Lane and Main Street. Clerk to contact Yorkshire Water again.
- e. National Government planning policy context changes. [Government Proposes National Scheme to Streamline Planning Decisions](#) Noted.
- f. Pothole repairs on Carr Lane. Photographs have been submitted to NYC Highways to investigate with the contractors used.
- g. Correspondence regarding Wendlo House Air BnB planning application. Noted.

26068: Updates from other authorities:

- a. Divisional Councillor Cattanach not present. No report.
- b. Community Police Support Officer not present. No report received.

26069: Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 2nd March 2026 with additional information confirming Cllr Kings eligibility to attend the Light Valley Solar meeting organised by South Milford PC.

Finance and Governance

26070: Policy update:

- a. Councillors to review the example Vexatious Complaints/Correspondence Policies over the next few weeks and carry forward to the June meeting.
- b. Councillors reviewed the Parish Council approach to social media enquiries / requests. It was resolved not to adopt an official policy and councillors agreed to direct any queries to the clerks official email address if and when appropriate.

26071: Community Governance review:

- a. The second stage 12-week consultation on the 2025/26 Community Governance Review (CGR) is in progress. Councillors and members of the public encouraged to respond on [Second Stage CGR - Escrick](#)

26072: Financial admin.:

- a. Councillors confirmed bank mandate amendments to delete Councillor Hawes and Cllr Allan from the account and add Cllr Fairbairn. Cllr King also agreed to be a contact for bank transactions and his contact status to be reinstated.
- b. Cllr Chambers and Cllr Cunningham also on the account mandate.
- c. Councillors noted the end of year Accounts 2025/26.
- d. Councillors noted the Annual Internal Audit report 2025/26.
- e. Councillors approved section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26.
- f. Councillors approved section 2 of the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 – Accounting Statements 2025/26.
- g. Councillors approved publication of the documents required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2025, the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.

- h. Resolved to accept the new website arrangements with Parish Online at a cost of £350 per annum.

26073: **Finance report:**

- a. Account balances and reconciliation:

		Community account	BMM account
i.	Account balances as at 24th February 2026:	£5591.95	£41,992.99
ii.	Payments made since last meeting:		
	Unity – February monthly service charge	-£6.00	
	S Look – February expenses	-£18.00	
	HMRC – Clerks salary	-£16.02	
	S Look – Clerks February salary	As agreed	
	Data Protection fee (D/D)	-£47.00	
	Npower – Fountain unmetered electricity supply	-£6.32	
	R Rowson – Defibrillator pads	-£69.95	
iii.	Payments made since last meeting under clerks delegated powers:	Nil	
	HMRC – Clerks’ March salary	-£16.02	
	S Look – March salary	As agreed	
	Unity – March monthly service charge	-£7.00	
	S Look – March expenses and mileage	-£63.66	
	Autela – Dec 2025 to March 2026 payroll services	-£102.00	
	Npower – Unmetered supply (Fountain)	-£1.53	
	Unity - April monthly service charge	-£7.00	
	HMRC – clerks’ April salary	-£17.82	
	S Look – April salary	As agreed	
	YLCA Annual subscription	-£385.00	
	F&W Forestry	-£720.00	
	Escrick & Deighton Club – Light Valley Solar mtg	-£50.00	
	Npower – Festive Lighting	-£17.39	
	PWLB- streetlighting loan instalment (D/D)	-£1467.74	
iv.	Internal Transfer	£3000.00	-£3000.00
v.	Receipts:		
	Unity; credit interest		£223.38
	NYC; Precept		£11,280.00
vi.	Account balances as at 5th May 2026:	£4081.99	£50,496.37
vii.	Routine payments to be made:		
	S Look – April expenses	-£56.38	
	Unity May monthly service charge	-£7.00	
	February Archiving overtime to be paid in May/June salary	See expenses	
	NYC streetlighting 2025-26	-£1271.41	
	AM Castle Tree Surgeon; Village Green Corkscrew Willow tree work	-£470.00	
	B Hopper; Annual internal audit 2025-26	-£150.00	
viii.	Purchases / exceptional payments to be approved and made:	Nil	

It was resolved to accept the payments as stated above.

Maintenance

26074: **Maintenance issues:**

- a. Cllr Chambers has carried various maintenance tasks in the village including tidying up the war memorial bus shelter, litter picking, clearance on the school path towards the play area, cut back foliage and tidied up the village entrance signs. A branch that had fallen onto the A19 from The Parsonage was reported and cleared up quickly by staff there.
- b. No progress on getting the bus shelters cleaned on the A19 near Sang Thai.
- c. Overgrown hedges adjacent to two properties on the east side of the A19. Clerk has contacted NYC to request that the path is reinstated and cleared due to it being very narrow to walk on next to the busy road and safety issues. Concerns raised about people using this pathway due to the close proximity to the busy road. Resolved to take off the agenda.
- d. Confirmed continuation of the Urban Grass cutting arrangements on behalf of NYC at a rate of £373.12.

Village Green

26075: Village Green update:

- a. Nothing further to report from a Village Green Association (VGA). Full update given at the Annual meeting.
- b. Corkscrew Willow work is now complete on the village green.
- c. Update given on the three overgrown Walnut trees on the village green. Contractor has agreed to trim just the lower branches when the trees are in leaf. However, this will be limited work as he does not want to harm the trees. In December he will then return and take the branches off in accordance with the planning consent to crown lift to a height of 4m.

Playing Field / Play Area

26076: Playing field update:

- a. Nothing further to report. Full update given at the Annual meeting.

Planning

26077: Planning, new applications:

- a. ZG/2026/0165/COU. Wendlo House, 38 Main Street, Escrick. Change of use of residential property to short term let (retrospective). Objection submitted by PWG. Awaiting decision.
- b. ZG2026/0236/HPA. Cobweb Cottage, 15 Main Street, Escrick. Single storey rear extension, replacement windows and doors, new rooflights to the rear elevation. For information only. Request sent to NYC that if the applicant is to remove two trees as requested, they should be replaced further down the garden, and the roof windows should be kept to the same current size in keeping with the rest of the structure. Permission granted.
- c. ZG2026/0261/HPA. Dower Lodge Dower Chase Escrick. Demolition of existing rear porch, erection of new single storey pitched roof rear extension and internal and external refurbishment generally. For information only. EPC has 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. Awaiting decision.

26078: Planning determinations:

- a. ZG2026/0012/HPA. Gilbertson House, Wheldrake Lane, Escrick. Erection of front entrance porch, brick piers and entrance gate and the rendering of Gilbertson House (part retrospective). Permission granted.

26079: Other planning matters:

- a. North Yorkshire Council Local Plan. The third public release of the 'Call for Sites' Submissions has been published.

- b. Light Valley Solar. Objection sent to the inspectorate by the parish council. Cllr King gave an overview of the discussions raised at meetings he has attended. It was noted that a number of councillors also attended an open meeting to discuss the project held at Escrick & Deighton Club held in April.
- c. Planning Appeal - APP/U2750/W/25/3377009 - Land Off Carrs Meadow NYC ref ZG2025/0338/FUL. Awaiting decision.

Highways and lighting items

26080: **Streetlighting:**

- a. Proposed lighting at the northbound bus stop of the A19 near Sangthai is still in the planning stage. CYC are awaiting a quote from their streetlighting team.
- b. A new solar light has been fitted in the A19 southbound bus shelter at Church Cottages.

26081: **Highways:**

- a. Frequent ponding of water on Wheldrake Lane. It was noted that NYC Highways have dug some ditches in the vicinity to alleviate the flooding. Clerk has contacted Highways for further information. No response to date. Resolved to take off the agenda.
- b. Speeding on Skipwith Road. Clerk has contacted North Yorkshire Police again and requested more speed checks.

Other items

26082: **Escrick Village Hall:**

- a. Conversion to a CIO and changes to third party right of appointing a charity trustee. It was confirmed that this has now been submitted.

26083: **Mobile Library:**

- a. Request made for an update on the mobile library visitor numbers. Numbers were approximately 14-15 on 11th May. Cllr King has put up some signs in the village to let parishioners know about it.

26084: **Correspondence received:**

- a. YLCA; White Rose updates and training information noted.
- b. Parish Liaison updates noted.
- c. Noted the Refugee Council Project update.
- d. Noted the Crisis Resilience fund.
- e. Noted the NYC parish workshops.

26085: **Comments from councillors and public present on agenda items:**

- a. Further comments made by a member of the public with regards to the way the Parish Council have dealt with the Carrs Meadow application with an apology for the way some points were raised.

26086: **Items for the next meeting:**

- a. The next monthly Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Monday 1st June 2026**.

Meeting closed at 21.45.

Signed: T Chambers

Chair, Escrick Parish Council

Date: 1st June 2026