

Escrick Parish Council

Minutes of Escrick Parish Council monthly meeting held in The Wenlock Room at The Parsonage Hotel at 7pm on Monday 6th October 2025.

Part 1

25184: **Welcome:** Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

25185: **Apologies/Attendance:**

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

25186: **Declarations of Interests:** No declarations received.

25187: **Co-option of new councillor:** Councillors resolved to co-opt Peter Barber to join Escrick Parish Council. Cllr Barber gave an introduction about his background and councillors welcomed him onto the Parish Council.

25188: **Public correspondence received:**

- a. Correspondence received regarding the proposed installation of lighting at the northbound bus shelter near Sangthai on the A19. As the proposed lighting on the west side of the A19 is expensive due to the provision of a new electricity supply across the road, it was suggested that the option of having a streetlight installed on the east side of the road outside the telephone exchange could be considered as it would be a cheaper option. Councillors agreed to await further developments on the matter from Cllr Cattanach to consider all options available.
- b. Report received that the vegetation from the Parsonage is again encroaching into the carriageway opposite the end of Main Street and overgrowing the wall onto the verge further along. Councillors agreed to monitor this for now.

25189: **Public session:**

- a. Member of the public present agreed with the suggestion made in public correspondence to install a streetlight on the east side of the A19 rather than the west side near Sang Thai to save the council money.
- b. It was suggested that the drainage board are investigating the blocked drain outside The Parsonage.

25190: **Updates from other authorities:**

- a. Divisional Councillor Cattanach not present. Cllr Cattanach is now liaising with Cllr Vassey and CYC to see what options are available to work with Aviva to improve lighting at the bus stops along the A19 including the installation of lighting at the bus stop outside Sangthai.
- b. Community Police Support Officer not present at this point of the agenda.

25191: **Minutes:**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025.

Finance and Governance

25192: **2025/26 Community Governance Review:**

- a. 12-week consultation now live. It runs from Monday 29 September until Monday 22 December. This includes Escrick Parish councils request to reduce the council size to enable it to be quorate. Clerk to respond to the consultation and reiterate reasons for the request to reduce the number of councillors for Escrick Parish.

25193: Digital and data compliance:

- a. Councillors discussed the new assertion 10 in the annual governance and accountability return for year ended 31 March 2026 – digital and data compliance. YLCA have confirmed that *‘the guidance is not explicit with regard to the provision of council owned and controlled e-mail accounts for councillors (just the clerk). However, the guidance seems to imply that it is not only officers that should be given a council account, but councillors too, in the interests of data security, Freedom of Information Act requests and audit and accountability. YLCA does not know how the external auditor will respond to Assertion 10 declarations where only the Clerk has a council controlled e-mail account.* The audit teams are looking into this, and further guidance will be published soon.
- b. Councillors resolved not to adopt the Escrick Parish Council IT Policy as recommended by YLCA. Resolved to defer until the further guidance is published on Assertion 10.
- c. Councillors considered options for a new website and councillor email accounts. Resolved to defer until further guidance is published from YLCA.

25194: Finance report:

- a. Budget/precept setting arrangements for December Parish Council meeting agreed. Date for the Finance & Admin committee budget meeting confirmed at Monday 3rd November at 6pm.
- b. Account balances and reconciliation:

		Current account	Saving account
i.	Account balances as at 3rd September 2025:	£4969.53	£40864.78
ii.	Payments made since last meeting:		
	Npower – festive Lighting Oct 2024-March 2025	-£17.39	
	Autela – payroll service Apr – July 2025	-£84.00	
	Escrick Park Home Farm – village green annual rent	-£10.00	
	HMRC – August payment	-£10.07	
	S Look – Clerks August salary	As agreed	
	S Look – July and August expenses	-£36.00	
	Clear Councils - Annual Parish Council insurance	-£1393.15	
iii.	Payments made since last meeting under clerks delegated powers:		
	HMRC – September payment	-£45.82	
	S Look – Clerks September salary	As agreed	
	S Look – September expenses	-£18.00	
	Unity – monthly service charge	-£6.00	
iv.	Internal Transfer	£3000.00	-£3000.00
v.	Receipts:		
	Precept – 2 nd instalment		£11,280.46
	Account balances as at 1st October 2025:	£5298.94	£49379.74

- c. Routine payments to be made:

viii.	R Rowson – Defibrillator pads	-£66.00
	R Rowson – Microsoft services	-£138.24

- d. 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

25195: Maintenance issues:

- a. No new maintenance issues raised. It was noted that free cooking apples had been placed on the War Memorial. Councillors raised no objections to this.
- b. No progress on getting the bus shelters cleaned on the A19 near Sang Thai. Escalated complaint to Cllr Cattanach.
- c. Resolved to advertise village maintenance contract for 2026/27 in preparation for the budget meeting.

Playing Field / Play Area

25196: **Playing field update:**

- a. Inspections done. The Playing Fields Association are looking into various funding opportunities to upgrade areas of the play area.

Village Green

25197: **Village Green update:**

- a. Report of tree damage with branches landing in a garden on Half Penny Close. Issue resolved by the VGA. It was reported that another large tree near the pond had been damaged during the recent storms.

Planning

25198: **Planning, new applications:**

- a. ZG2025/0932/TPO. 15 Dower Park, Escrick. Stem clean to the main union, reduce canopy height and spread by 2.4 metres and remove dead and dysfunction material over 30 mm to 1 No Oak tree (T1) protected by Tree Preservation Order 5/1984. Comments by 13 October 2025. No comments raised by councillors.

25199: **Planning ongoing:**

- a. ZG2025/0338/FUL. Land Off, Carrs Meadow, Escrick. Erection of No. 8 dwellings and associated garages and landscape. No further update.

25200: **Planning determinations:**

- a. ZG2025/0719/TPO. Oak Tree House 19 Dower Park Escrick. Application for consent to reduce the overall spread by 20% to 1No Oak tree covered by TPO 5/198. REFUSED.

25201: **Other planning matters:**

- a. North Yorkshire Council Local Plan. No further update.
- b. No further update on the Light Valley Solar proposals.
- 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. No update.

Highways items

25202: **Speeding:**

- a. No update on the Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a 40mph speed limit on Skipwith Road and Mill Hill.
PCSO Gaskell and colleague joined the meeting.
Cllrs reiterated concerns about speeding through the village particularly on Skipwith Road. It was confirmed that setting speed limits are a North Yorkshire Council Highways matter. Clerk to request data on number of accidents in the area of Skipwith Road / Wheldrake Lane from the Civil Disclosure team at North Yorkshire Police. It was noted that speed monitoring has taken place on Skipwith Road during September. It was noted that if Queen Margarets reopens as a school it would help with the implementation of a 40mph speed limit. The PCSO also gave an update on the incidents of Urban Explorers in the school over the summer and the subsequent security measures that are now in force. 24hr security is now in place.
- b. Further to the request to monitor motorbike noise and speeding through the village, the PCSO has passed the information to the Road Safety team and has asked if they can establish this into their patrols.
The PCSO monthly reports will be delivered quarterly going forward. The PCSO explained to councillors about the North Yorkshire Community Messaging system, it is a platform whereby residents can sign up for to get information on incidents in the area. **PCSO's left the meeting.**

25203: Streetlighting:

- a. Lighting at the northbound bus stop of the A19 near Sangthai. Cllr Cattnach is now investigating options as discussed at item 25190a. To review in November.

Other items

25204: Escrick Quarry Community Liaison Group annual meeting organised by Plasmor:

- a. Cllr King updated the council on the annual meeting he attended with Plasmor. They have pulled out of Escrick earlier this year due to the weather conditions and have been back at Hemingbrough. There had been changes to the drainage etc which have been passed by planning now. Three requests for funding received for the Plasmor bursary fund including LED streetlights at Kelfield, Escrick School benches and Escrick preschool outside storage building.

25205: Correspondence received:

- a. YLCA; White Rose updates and training information noted. It was noted that a parish councillor has applied to stand as an independent volunteer on the Police, Crime and Fire panel.
- b. Parish Liaison update September 2025 noted.
- c. Parish Precept 2026-27 arrangements noted.
- d. Still awaiting a start date for the proposed mobile library service in the parish.

25206: Comments from public present on agenda items:

- a. No further comments.

25207: Items for the next meeting:

- a. The next monthly Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Monday 3rd November 2025**.

Meeting closed at 20.45hrs.

Signed: T Chambers

Chair, Escrick Parish Council

Date: 3rd November 2025