# *Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council*

Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council held on **Monday 1st September 2025 at 6.30pm in Sleights Village Hall** pursuant to Summons

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Watson (Chairman) in the Chair. Councillors: R Corner, A Harrison, L Jones, J Parkin, P Perry, D Tate and M Warner.
North Yorkshire Councillor C Pearson

C Raistrick – Clerk

Members of the public 5

1. **APOLOGIES.**

1.1. Councillor S Bremner
1.2. **RESOLVED**: To approve the reasons for absence.

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4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

It was decided to bring this session forward in the agenda.
A representation of a group of residents concerned about the North Yorkshire Local Plan were in attendance. They wanted to reiterate their continuing concern about the suggested areas for housing development around Sleights and Briggswath and urge the Parish Council to listen to these concerns and to represent the views of the residents of the area of Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby. They asked if the Parish Council sent representatives to Planning meetings. Whilst comments were generally made in writing to the planning authorities it was stated that where there were controversial applications councillors had in the past attended the planning committee meeting in person. Discussion also ensued about the response that the council had been able to make to the initial consultation which had included concerns about traffic and the challenges with the drainage system. One resident wanted to stress how important it was to retain wildlife corridors which they felt had been missing from the Parish Council's response. Agenda item 7.1.

A second item brought to the attention of the Parish Council was the lack of a footpath on The Carrs from Briggswath to Ruswarp. It was recognised that this is not all within Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby's area with part within Whitby Town Council. Discussion included how more roadside maintenance could improve the visibility for cars and pedestrians, which level of local government was responsible for various tasks and how the issue of a footpath along The Carrs had been discussed for many years with no positive outcome yet.
Cllr Pearson gave some background on this issue and explained that the project had been estimated to cost in excess of £1 million but that the issue is still 'live' with North Yorkshire Council seeking funding for the project. It was also stated that some years ago there had been a suggestion to ask the landowner near a particularly dangerous bend to allow a permissive footpath to go across their land behind the hedge.
It was requested that Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby liaise with Whitby Town Council about this. The clerk will add this issue to the agenda of the next meeting.

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2. **DISPENSATION AND INTERESTS**.

2.1. To receive consider & decide upon any applications for dispensation. **Noted**: None received

2.2. To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. **Noted**: Cllr Perry declared an interest in agenda item 8 (b) Brook Park due to family connections.

3. **MINUTES.**

3.1. **RESOLVED**: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th July were agreed and approved as a true and correct record.

3.2. **RESOLVED**: That the notes of the meeting with Mr Battersby and Mr Marr from North Yorkshire Council on 14th August were approved as a true record of the meeting.

5. P**OLICE MATTERS.**

The report for July, August and September 2025 had been circulated to all the councillors. It was noted in the September report that there had been reports of two males going door to door selling dusters etc. It is understood that a PCSO had visited several streets within Sleights distributing leaflets about what to do when faced with people selling door to door. It was **RESOLVED** to share the advice given by the police on the council website, Facebook page and noticeboard. ( Clerk will complete this task.)

6. **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL (NYC) REPORT.**

Councillor Pearson gave an update on the situation with the Langdale Moor wildfire and mentioned that it was expected that the A171 and B1416 would be opened at 6.30pm that evening. He stated that there would be an inquiry into the wildfire at some point in the future
He mentioned the change to 4-day bin collections and that householders would be receiving a letter informing them of this imminently. In addition, residents would be receiving an additional bin to split the recycling rubbish between two separate bins – red lid for plastic, glass and metal, blue lid for paper and cardboard. There was no date yet when this would be implemented.
Cllr Pearson was asked to keep the Parish Council appraised of the progress of the North Yorkshire Local Plan.

7. **ITEMS FROM THE MEETING of 7th July 2025.**

7.1. Consultation on the North Yorkshire Local Plan. **NOTED** that the response from the Parish Council had been submitted prior to the deadline.

8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**.

8.1. **North Yorkshire Council**.

- **ZF25/00663/HS** Yew Tree Close - Erection of single storey rear extension. Cllr Tate explained that the design of the extension had been changed to a sloping roof, with brick now matching the house. **RESOLVED**: To support this application.
- **ZF25/00734/FL**, 38 Brook Park Briggswath Whitby North Yorkshire YO21 1RT Conversion of garage to annexe and holiday use. Although not objecting to the conversion of the garage to an annexe, it was **RESOLVED** to object to the use of the annexe as a holiday let and ask that, if the plan is approved, that a condition of the approval is that it cannot be used as a holiday let.

8.2 **North Yorks moors National Park Authority**

- NYM/2025/0304, The Plough Inn, 180 Coach Road, Sleights – application withdrawn.

- NYM/2025/0443, 1 Hard Struggle Cottages, Eskdaleside, Sleights - Application for removal of chimney stack at 1 Hard Struggle Cottages, Eskdaleside, Sleights**.** **RESOLVED**: to support this application.

- NYM/2025/0214, land between 3 and 9 Eskdaleside, Sleights. Amended application. After discussion about this application, it was **RESOLVED** to object to this application and give the following comments:

  The council commented previously regarding the drive to number 1 opening on to the A169 which was felt to be unsafe and had also mentioned that the size of the turning area was too small, especially with the current trend towards larger vehicles. The council reiterated their views on this aspect of the application which had not been amended.

  Dwellings 2,3 and 4 were still felt to represent an overdevelopment of the site and, as previously stated, the council felt that dwellings 3 & 4 should be replaced by a single smaller dwelling.

  Para 5.22 of the supporting information referred to "overspill parking being available on the road frontage of the site". However, there is no available parking in this area of Sleights as the existing dwellings have no off-street parking available. The addition of the driveway to the site will further reduce the on-site parking area available.

  Para 5.41 "Additional capacity exists for on street parking along the site's frontage with Eskdaleside". There is no additional capacity for parking on Eskdaleside.

  Both of the above statements suggest that there is insufficient on-site parking for the number of dwellings proposed so this must be considered overdevelopment.

- NYM\2025\ENQ\21813 – Consultation on certified exempted caravan and camping site at land at Browside Farm, Blue Bank, Sleights. Any comments would go to the organisation reviewing the application, not the planning authority (NYMNPA). Whilst not having any issues about the actual campsite, there was concern over the entrance to the site of Blue Bank where there would be limited visibility and therefore felt to be dangerous, especially for a car towing a caravan. **RESOLVED:** to object due to the site access.

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9. **PLANNING DECISIONS.** To receive and note the following planning decision/information:

9.1. **Noted:** Planning Enforcement Case 24/00141/NC 3 Briggswath. Changed to Juliet balcony

9.2. 16 Linden Close ZF25/00165/HS**.** **RESOLVED** Clerk to check on the progress of the application and also try to find out more information about the covenant regarding no parking of vans and cars on the roads around Linden Close.

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10. **ANGLO AMERICAN (AA) / WOODSMITH MINE.**

10.1. Issues regarding mining activities that impact the Parish**. Noted**: None raised.

10.2. Skills4Work Team. The team is back working now and have strimmed the car park near The Salmon Leap. Cllr Tate has spoken with the supervisor, and it was agreed that the cenotaph would also be tidied up.
The weeds near the bus shelter in Briggswath were mentioned. **RESOLVED** The clerk would put a formal request through Anglo American to tidy this area.

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11. **FINANCE.** To consider and decide action where necessary.

11.1. To receive the payment schedule and approve payment of the invoices detailed therein and sign the cheques. **RESOLVED**: To approve the payment schedule and to sign the cheques.

11.2. To receive and approve the Bank reconciliation and Budget vs Actual for August 2025. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Bank Reconciliation and Budget vs Actual for August 2025.

11.3. To receive and note an update regarding the replacement of the Model Agreement. No update has yet been received. It was agreed that it was of utmost importance to know what was going to happen in order to calculate how much the precept will need to be increased for 2026.27. In addition, clarification about what work the Parish Council would still be expected to do and what work North Yorkshire Council would take back was required. Cllr Harrison reminded the meeting that he produced a paper last year about the how much the precept would need to be increased to replace the model agreement funding. **RESOLVED**: That the clerk write to North Yorkshire Council to ask what decision(s) have been made about the replacement of the Model Agreement.

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12. **PARISH MAINTENANCE.** To consider issues and decide actions to be taken, if required.

12.1. **Public Conveniences. –** Update and decision on actions to be taken

12.1.1 Cllr Tate passed pictures of a donation box around. It costs £40 and is about the right size. Discussion about the placement of the boxes ensued and it was generally felt that it would be better if the boxes were positioned inside the toilets rather than on the outside. It was suggested that they could be placed on the inside of the doors as it would not be possible to put them on the walls. Cllr Tate agreed to check if it would be possible to attach the boxes to the doors. **RESOLVED**: To order 1 or 2 (if they can be attached to the doors) boxes in red.

12.2. **Parish Council Assets - Maintenance / Repairs to – Update and decide on actions to be taken.**

12.2.1 Village pump refurbishment. The pump is almost complete.

12.2.2 Further discussion was held regarding the wording and Cllr Tate explained that he had found a company – Signomatic – who have quoted a very competitive price. **RESOLVED**: The final wording should be “Refurbished for the Parish Council by Councillor Tate in 2025” Cllr Tate will re-submit the wording and that signs will be ordered.

12.2.3 Bench replacements. The benches have been installed.

12.2.4 Bench maintenance. The clerk has contacted the Town and Country Landscapes who had stated they could do the work. The Clerk will contact them to arrange when they will do the work.

12.3 **Footpaths**. To receive report from Cllr Tate or the Clerk on any issues within the Parish boundary and decide on actions to be taken.

12.3.1 Featherbed Lane signs. Cllr Tate has found a plastic sign from Sigomatic which he felt would be suitable. **RESOLVED**: Clerk to order 2 at £13.19 each and claim back next month.

12.3.2 Whin Green to Iburndale footpath repairs. Cllr Tate had left a message for the PROW Officer and was waiting for a response. **Resolved**: Clerk to e-mail to find out what is happening with the repairs and the contractor and emphasise that, although the footpath is usable at present, once the weather becomes wetter, the footpath will soon become unusable if action is not taken.

12.3.3 NYMNPA has asked all Parish Councils to identify two routes that could be maintained by the NYMNPA. **RESOLVED**: Consider 2 or 3 different routes that are frequently used and bring to the next meeting to decide which to submit to the NYMNPA.

12.4 **Linden Close.** The clerk told the meeting that Ian Smith had emailed to inform the council that he was now responsible for the maintenance of Linden Close and should be contacted regarding any issues. The viewing platform had been repaired. Councillors reported that the picnic tables were broken, part of the fence where the water enters the wildlife area is rotten and some of the trees look unstable. **RESOLVED**: That the clerk report these issues to NYC, ask that the picnic tables are removed, that the fence is repaired and that a survey is undertaken on the trees.

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13 **NYC / HIGHWAYS.** To consider issues and decide on actions to be taken.

13.1 Meeting with Karl Battersby regarding Highways. The notes form the meeting had been distributed to all councillors. It was felt that it had been a useful meeting. Mr Marr had asked that a list of the issues be submitted to him so that he can arrange to meet with representatives of the council and travel around the parish to look at the areas of concern. It was suggested that this list be reviewed jointly and regularly. **RESOLVED**: Cllr Tate will distribute a revised list (that will include resurfacing The Avenue) that the clerk will send to Mr Marr.

13.2 Smiddyfields signage. **NOTED**: No response received about this.

13.3 Parking opposite Bothams. No response received yet

13.4 Footpath outside No 15 The Carrs and possible relocation of streetlight. A response had been received from a Highways engineer who has discussed this with a colleague from Street Lighting and they would also like to have this column moved to improve the width of the footway at that point. They are waiting for a response to this and will update the parish council as soon as the response is received. In addition, the repairs at the bridge near Buskey House have been completed and it was agreed that the clerk should write to Area 3 Highways to thank them for the work.

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**14 WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The clerk has been transferring some of the finance reports and will complete this plus the policies in the next couple of weeks**.** It was suggested that the information about 3rd party organisations be transferred en masse after which the information can be reviewed and organisations can be contacted to ensure that it is still relevant and they still want their information on the Parish Council website However, whilst this is happening, the new website will be complete and fully functioning**.** Once the new website is live, all the information will need to be removed from the old website **RESOLVED** To decide at the next meeting when to transfer to the new website. To thank Cllr Bremner for all the work on the new website.
In addition, the existence of 2 Parish Council Facebook pages was discussed. It was agreed that there should be just one.

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**15 PARISH PLAN REVIEW**

Nothing further to be discussed at this point. The next review will be in June 2026.

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16 **COUNCILLORS ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL MEETINGS.** To consider reports and decide on actions to be taken. **Noted**: None attended.
Future events**:** The Northern Area Parish Forum is on 29th September at Danby Lodge– Cllr Harrison will attend as usual.
NYMNPA Planning Training event, 22nd October 25. Cllr Tate expressed an interest in

attending this event. Cllr Bremner had also asked to attend. The clerk will contact the NYMNPA with both names.

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17 **CORRESPONDENCE.** The following correspondence was received and the decisions made were as follows.

17.1 **For Decision**

17.1.1 Update on complaint to Royal Mail regarding the removal of the Post Box at Iburndale. No response.

17.1.1 Email regarding traffic issues on Eskdaleside. Cllr Tate visited the property owner and discussed the accident in which a car had crashed at the bend, going over into their property before landing on their car (which probably saved the driver from more serious injuries). The council discussed the areas of concern along Eskdaleside. It was **RESOLVED** to request that NYC install a crash barrier at the property to prevent similar accidents occurring. To ask NYC Highways to review the plastic bollards along Eskdaleside and replace those that are damaged to ensure that the boundaries of the road are more visible at night. To review the roadsides along Eskdaleside and cut back any that is overgrown.

17.1.2 Remembrance Day 2025. Cllr Parkin is responsible for laying the wreath and will purchase one for the event.

17.1.3 Traffic speeding on Birch Avenue, Sleights. The council discussed this issue which has been a problem for a number of years and the councillors expressed their concern about the issue. **RESOLVED**: Clerk to ask NYC to do a survey on the speed that the traffic is travelling along the road so that NYC can understand the issues and consider how they can improve the situation.

**17.2 For information only.** (Not for discussion or decision).

17.2.1 General correspondence circulated to Councillors.

17.2.2 General updates from YLCA circulated to Councillors. (Clerk to send out the new username and password for the councillors to access the YLCA website.)

17.2.3 Information and / or public consultations received from NYC and other third parties circulated to Councillors and where appropriate uploaded to the Parish Council Web site.

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**18 MATTERS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT MEETINGS AGENDA.**

The perceived value and the Council's reputation is to be added to the next agenda.

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**19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 6th October 2025 - 6:30pm, Sleights Village Hall

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**Meeting closed at 8.40pm**

**Signed: …….. Chairman.** **Dated: ……**

Catherine Raistrick
Proper Officer (Clerk)
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