

Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council

Chairman's Annual Report March 2025

This year our Clerk of many years, Victoria Pitts, left our employ to concentrate on other matters. I would like to thank Victoria for all her hard work and dedication she has shown to her role over the years and wish her all the best for the future. A big thank you also to Councillors Tate, Harrison and Parkin, who stepped in to fulfil her role in the interim.

We would also like to welcome Anne-Marie Benson, who is our new Clerk and who is settling into her role with Eskdaleside Parish Council, and our two new Councillors, Richard Atherton and Steve Bremner. Both bring valuable skills and community connection to the Council and are already making a difference to the Parish.

As ever, I would like to thank all the councillors for the work undertaken within the Parish over the last year. The activities that individuals and local organisations undertake to help others and to bring about a cohesive community within the Parish is also greatly appreciated by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has continued to keep residents informed of pertinent information by circulating newsletters, updating noticeboards and providing relevant information on its website.

Please read the other information contained in this report to find out more about the Parish Council activities over the last year.

Cllr Alf Watson, Chairman
Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council

Parish Council Tax Precept: The 2025-26 council tax precept for Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council will increase from £16,015 to £16,880. However, this will elicit no increase in council tax charge for residents i.e. annual Band D Council Tax **charge will remain at £15.97.**

Model Agreement Funds: North Yorkshire Council has agreed to extend the Scarborough Borough Council Model Agreement Funds for the final time. For the 2025/2026 financial year, the Parish Council will receive funding for village maintenance. Further details regarding future arrangements are expected during 2025-26, for ongoing funding.

Parish Plan: Last year, the Parish Council approved an extension of the current Parish Plan (2020-2025) through to 2027. Preparatory work for the 2027 review has already begun, with the aim of establishing a stronger foundation for a more comprehensive Parish Plan, underpinned by enhanced understanding of responsibilities and alignment with the NYC Strategy.

Contact the Parish Council Clerk, Anne-Marie Benson

Mob: 07459 101188 Email: esk.ugg@gmail.com

Website: www.eskdaleside-cum-ugglebarnby-pc.org.uk

Correspondence: c/o 6 Roseville Avenue, Scarborough, YO12 7NS

Our New Parish Council Website and Facebook Page!

We're pleased to announce the upcoming launch of a brand-new Parish Council website and Facebook page, designed to keep residents better informed about local news, events, and Council matters.

Our website will provide easy access to Council meeting minutes, news updates, planning applications, police reports and important community information. You'll also be able to let us know any issues and find useful contact details—all in one place.

Our new Facebook page will serve as a tool to help residents stay up to date with Council news and important announcements, providing a convenient way to stay informed.

We look forward to keeping you updated—stay tuned for the official launch!

As always, residents can contact the Clerk through the usual channels for further information or to raise any issues. Whether you have a question about Council decisions, need to report a local concern, or seek clarification on community matters, the Clerk is available to assist. You can reach out via email, phone, text or written correspondence - see details overleaf.

We encourage residents to stay engaged and make use of these established communication channels to ensure their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed effectively.

Reminder VE Day 80 years - Lighting of the Beacon

This will occur at **9.30pm on 8th May 2025**, in line with all other beacons and lamps up and down the country. The Beacon is situated on Sleights Moor (Map reference 94/854 057 (4) 85427 (5) 05732). The Beacon is accessible on foot only by hard tracks from Fairhead/Bluebank – there is no parking at the Beacon. Due to the time of year, being in the middle of the ground bird nesting season, dogs are not allowed, and all attendees must keep to the tracks which lead to the site. The ground will be uneven and rough, so attendees should wear appropriate footwear and clothing.

Other Community Parish Council Activities:

- The Parish Council has commemorated the Coronation of King Charles III and lit the Sleights Beacon for the D-Day 80th anniversary.
- Installed a new seat at Blue Bank car park and planted a tree at Daffodil Green.
- Working with NYC to find funding to improve the Whinn Green to Iburndale footpath.
- Considered planning applications and consultations from North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP) and North Yorkshire Council (NYC)
- Liaised with AngloAmerican regarding using the Skills4Work Team on community projects, as well as highlighting various impacts from the Woodsmith Mine development
- Organised for: roadside verges and seating areas to be cut throughout the Parish, benches, noticeboards and other assets to be maintained,
- Worked with NYC, NYMNP, and the police to tackle ongoing issues such as: footpath maintenance, highway problems, public transport, road safety, environmental issues, overgrown hedges, and upkeep of Linden Close Nature Area
- Responded to various queries from residents and either reported their concerns to the relevant authority or pointed them in the right direction to get a resolution

Call for sites for the North Yorkshire Local Plan

North Yorkshire Council (NYC) have opened their call for sites for development within the new North Yorkshire Local Plan. Landowners, site promoters and developers have been asked to put sites forward for designation as land for example, as housing, employment and commercial development, retail and leisure, renewable energy generation, biodiversity etc.

There are several sites proposed in Eskdaleside Parish, and they can be viewed here:

<https://app.maptionnaire.com/q/96ags7x89aj3>

NYC will not be accepting comments at this stage, but a comprehensive consultation will take place later in the process that will seek the views of the community on all sites, after work has been completed to give a greater direction as to whether sites are likely to be either recommended for allocation or dismissed.