# *Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council*

Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council held on **Monday 3rd November 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, and D Tate.

Representative of Anglo American: M Parsons

C Raistrick – Clerk

Members of the public 3

1. **APOLOGIES.**

1.1. Councillors S Bremner, M Warner and P Perry. NYC Cllr C Pearson
1.2. **RESOLVED**: To approve the reasons for absence.

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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**: None received.

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3. **MINUTES.**

3.1. **RESOLVED**: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th October 2025 were agreed and approved as a true and correct record. A request was made to detail the reason if an agenda item is brought forward in the meeting.

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4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Cllr Blackwell from Whitby Town Council addressed the meeting, giving details of a motion that was going to be put forward to Whitby Town Council on Tuesday 4th November to form a working group to address the issue of a safe walking route along The Carrs. She stated that it was important to show North Yorkshire Council that the Town Council and Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council were collaborating on this matter and described the four key areas that would be improved if a footpath could be provided – safety, connectivity, wellbeing and the environment. The meeting between NYC (Active Travel) and members of Whitby Town Council and Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council earlier in the day was also mentioned. She requested that the council ask for members willing to be on the working group.
Mr Budd and Ambrose then addressed the council on the issue of The Carrs, explaining what had been done so far to seek to improve the safety of The Carrs for walkers. Mr Budd also stated that he felt that the cost implications may not be too onerous with local contractors willing to help with work.

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

It was decided to bring item 10 forward to be discussed immediately after item 4 so that the visiting speaker could leave once the agenda item had been discussed.

10.1. Matt Parsons from Anglo American gave an update on the project. He explained that it is ten years since permission was granted for the project and over the last couple of years a detailed technical review of the project has been undertaken. As a result of this review changes required have been identified and permission will be sought from the planning authority to make these changes. These proposed changes were explained with the aid of diagrams shared with the meeting.

- The main requirement will be for a new ventilation shaft down to the production level to increase the air flow and cooling.
- He also explained that as the logistics are better understood, it is likely that they will need a maximum of 40 HGV deliveries a day at full production which is higher than originally expected. This is consistent with the traffic during the production phase which, they feel, they have managed effectively.
- The planning application will be submitted in the first quarter of next year. They have already held community consultations to discuss these plans and more are planned in the next few weeks.
- Production is now likely to start in the mid 2030s due to work slowing because of financial considerations and sinking a new ventilation shaft.
- Reacceleration of the project will depend upon securing syndication partners and the company balance sheet,
- The proposed merger with TECK, will be very helpful to the Woodsmith project. There has still been no announcement from Anglo American about the capital allocation for next year.

10.2. Issues regarding mining activities that impact the Parish**.** None raised.

10.3. Skills4Work Team. Update on works undertaken or to be undertaken. Decide actions to be taken if necessary. It was **NOTED** that the Skills4Work Team had cleared around the war memorial and were going to lay more gravel before the wreath laying ceremony on Remembrance Sunday (9th November)

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5. **POLICE MATTERS.**

The report for November 2025 was read out to the meeting by the Chair.
The following issues were mentioned:

- Assault on female in Sleights.
- Theft of a motorbike in Sleights, later found damaged.

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

Councillor Pearson was unable to attend the meeting.

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7. **ITEMS FROM THE MEETING of 6th OCTOBER 2025.**

7.1. Consultation on the North Yorkshire Local Plan. No further update and Cllr Pearson was unable to attend the meeting.

7.2. To discuss the Parish Council reputation and perceived value. Cllr Bremner had asked for this to be discussed. After a brief discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that, as Cllr Bremner was unable to attend the meeting, the item would be deferred until the next meeting on 1st December 2025.

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8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**.

8.1. **North Yorkshire Council**.

- ZF25/00807/HAS 63 Iburndale Lane Sleights Whitby North Yorkshire YO22 5DP - Variation of condition 1 in relation to 22/01903/HS to allow the retention of the existing garage and revised extension scheme. Cllr Tate explained this revised extension scheme to the meeting. The was some discussion about the labelling of the 'rear' and the 'front' of the property which appeared to be the opposite of all the other properties on Iburndale Lane. There were no legitimate reasons to object to the application although it was requested that in the comments to the planning authority it was stated that the proposed use of the 'back' garden would be out of character with the other buildings as theirs are 'front' gardens.

8.2 **North Yorks moors National Park Authority**

None received.

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

9.1. Planning Enforcement Case 24/00141/NC 3 Briggswath – update. Clerk to contact the planning authority as nothing could be found on the website.

9.2. ZF25/00663/HS NYC Yew Tree Close - Erection of single storey rear extension. Determination date 11th November.

9.3. NYM/2025/0214, land between 3 and 9 Eskdaleside, Sleights. Amended application. No decision. Comments until 25th October 2025. No decision noted.

9.4. ZF25/00900/OL, 40 Birch Avenue Sleights Whitby North Yorkshire YO22 5DA - Proposed new dwelling within existing garden. Determination date 12th November 2025

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

Discussed earlier in the meeting after the Public Participation item (Item 4)

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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 November 2025 payment schedule and to sign the cheques.

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

11.3. To receive and note an update regarding the replacement of the Model Agreement. A meeting had been held at the Town Hall in Scarborough to discuss what was going to happen with the Model Agreement funding in 2026.27. The clerk had attended and had sent out a written update to all the councillors. The following points were **noted**:

- that the funding for Parks and Open Spaces (£1,678.11) will continue into 2026.2027 whilst NYC investigate what this is used for by the Parishes receiving it and decide if it represents value for money.
- The funding for burial grounds and churchyards will continue for those that NYC are responsible for. This includes closed Church of England churchyards. (This could be a section of a churchyard not necessarily the whole churchyard).
- There will be no funding for public seats but NYC Property Services will take responsibility for repairs from April so any repairs required should be referred to Property Services.
- The funding for public shelters and bus shelters has been withdrawn but Passenger Transport will undertake maintenance on those shelters previously the responsibility of Scarborough Borough Council
- Public clocks and administration – now withdrawn as this was discretionary spend.

Cllr Harrison had distributed a paper via email looking at how much the precept would need to be increased to offset the reduction in Model Agreement funding and this was discussed together with the need to make allowance for inflation at 4% and election recharges. The need to communicate clearly the reasons for an increase in the precept was also discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to discuss and vote on the increase in the precept at the meeting on 1st December.

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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

- Voluntary contribution box. The box is in place. £43.70 had been collected to 28 October

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

- Bench Maintenance. The clerk has notified Town & Country landscapes of the acceptance of their quote and they were going to start by repairing the damaged bench.
- Littlebeck bench. A letter had been received from a local resident about the bench that had stood on Littlebeck Lane adjacent to Red Barn which, the asset register listed as ‘disappeared not replaced’. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Tate would look at the base for the bench that report back and, that if sufficient funds remained towards the end of the financial year, a replacement bench would be purchased for this spot.

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.

- Whin Green to Iburndale footpath repairs. Nothing further had been heard from the Footpath Officer about this route.
- Seggimire Lane – the Clerk had sent emails to the various parties regarding the use of motorbikes on Seggimire Lane but had only received one response from the police checking where it was.
- The Carrs - Following the discussion during the Public Participation item, Cllr Tate offered to be part of any joint working group with Whitby Town Council to try and advance the issue of a safe pedestrian route along The Carrs. It was also mentioned that Cllr Warner may wish to

be part of this working group. A number of the councillors had attended the 'Teams' meeting earlier that morning with members of Whitby Town Council and Nathan Harding, Transport Planning Officer (Projects) from North Yorkshire Council at an initial engagement session to gauge support, explore constraints and discuss development funding opportunities prior to deciding whether to proceed with any development or design. Mr Harding explained that NYC had undertaken road surveys between the 8th and 15th October which had shown that there was an average of 500 cars per day using the road at an average speed of 43.2mph. Cllr Tate explained that he had pointed out that this number was likely to be much higher in the summer months, when he felt that a survey should be carried out. They had discussed the dangers and explained how difficult it was to get off the road when traffic was approaching. The likelihood that many people didn't use the road for walking because of the danger was also mentioned.

Mr Harding had explained the constraints on North Yorkshire Council if they were to put a footpath along the road – compliance with highways standards and the Equalities Act – meaning that a low tech solution would be difficult. In addition, government funding would only be available if the footpath met certain criteria including having a cycle track alongside any footpath.

Mr Harding is going to find the previous design for the footpath and request funding to investigate possibility of having a footpath along The Carrs. A second meeting in mid-December will be arranged. This is likely to be a long process, and funding will be an issue, but it was felt to have been a very helpful meeting for a start.

12.4 **Linden Close.** There had been no response to the email sent about the tree survey. **RESOLVED** – the clerk will email again.

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

13.1 Update on meeting with Richard Marr from NYC Highways. Cllrs Parkin and Tate met with Mr Marr from NYC on 15th October to review the issues sent to him. Cllrs Parkin and Tate reported back on various issues including:

- Hedge notices will be sent out soon
- The rubble at Dean Hall Brow will be removed
- A local Highway Inspector will investigate the water at Dean Hall Brow
- Plainsides – an investigation will take place
- Iburndale Lane junction with A169 – a yellow lining scheme will be drawn up.
- Marking posts will be put up on Eskdaleside outside Alum Garth Farm.
- Road signs have been cleaned.
- The tree which has fallen against the bridge over the river/railway on the A169 is on land owned by NYC and removal will involve a crane and possible road closure and will be carried out by NYC.
- Lowdale Lane/Birch Avenue junction – asked for white line to stop parking opposite Birch Avenue on the downhill side. NYC could not fund this but perhaps the Parish Council could offer to.
- Speed restrictions – a full review of speed restrictions across the county is being carried out.

- Snowberries between the footbridge in Briggswath and main bridge on Coach Road - no annual cutting so need to keep requesting this.
- Salt bins – not automatically topped up. Email the area office if they need filling.

Cllr Tate had thanked Mr Marr for meeting them and going round the area to look at the issues.

13.2 Smiddyfields signage. **NOTED**: No response received yet.

13.3 Footpath outside No 15 The Carrs (possible relocation of streetlight) – no update abput the action to be taken yet.

13.4 Grit bin outside Sleights Station. This grit bin was originally funded from NYC Councillor Pearson's locality budget. The three years of funding has now come to an end and NYC has asked if the Parish Council will fund the grit bin from now on. (Approximately £50) It was **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr Pearson if he could fund it from his Locality budget. If that is not possible, then this cost should be included on the 2026.27 budget.

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14. **WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

14.1Update on transfer of information to the new website – ongoing

14.2 Moving to a .gov.uk domain. The website is already on a .gov.uk domain. The government would like the email addresses for Parish Councils to be a .gov.uk address. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that it was only necessary for the clerk to have such an email address.

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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.
NYMNPA Planning Training event, 22nd October 25. Cllr Tate had attended via Teams and reported that much of the meeting was focussed on affordable housing. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk would send out the Powerpoint presentation to all councillors.

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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. Clerk to chase up

17.1.2 Report of traffic speeding on Birch Avenue causing concern for safety of children. Nothing further had been heard about this. **RESOLVED**: that the clerk contact Alison Hume, the local MP, regarding the lack of response.

17.1.3 Query about land between 18 Selstone Crescent and 23 Hall Pasture and who owns it. **RESOLVED**: Cllr Tate Mr Marr has been asked to enquire at NYC about this, and Cllr Tate has visited 18 Selstone Crescent to look at the problem.

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.

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.**

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**19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 1st December 2025 - 6:30pm, Sleights Village Hall

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**Meeting closed at 8.30pm**

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

Catherine Raistrick
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