Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council held on **Monday 2nd February 2026 at 6.30pm in Sleights Village Hall** pursuant to Summons

PRESENT: Councillors: S Bremner, R Corner, A Harrison, J Parkin, D Tate, A Watson (In the Chair). North Yorkshire Councillor C Pearson (arrived 6.35pm)

H King (AngloAmerican)

Members of the public: 2

C Raistrick – Clerk

4 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION.** It was agreed to move this item to the beginning of the meeting as there were 2 members of the public present. The members if the public introduced themselves as Richard Brew and Richard Attridge and the Parish Councillors introduced themselves.

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1. **APOLOGIES.**

1.1. Cllrs L Jones and M Warner. (Cllr P Perry had sent apologies but these were not reported at the meeting.)
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. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th January 2026 were discussed. Cllr Tate stated that item 12.3 – footpaths, Whin Green, footpath repairs, should read the North Yorkshire Council Footpaths Field Officer, not the NYMNPA Ranger It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved as a true and correct record once this correction had been made.

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5. **POLICE MATTERS.**

The correct report for January had been received and distributed on to the councillors. At the time of the meeting the report for February had not been received.

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

Cllr Pearson arrived at 6.35 and reported the following to the meeting:

- North Yorkshire Council will be approving the budget shortly. It is likely that there will be an increase of 4.99% in the Council Tax. Highways had been commended on clearing the roads during the snow during the recent snowy period.

- Complaints had been received about the footpaths not been cleared of snow but Cllr Pearson explained that North Yorkshire Council do not have an obligation to do. It was suggested that it would be helpful if North Yorkshire Council communicated what they could/could not do and give a reason why in order to manage the expectations of residents. Councillor Pearson was asked to pass this request on to North Yorkshire Council although he felt that if this was implemented it would not be until Autumn.

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7. **ITEMS FROM THE MEETING of 5th January 2026.**

7.1. Consultation on the North Yorkshire Local Plan. No further update, Cllr Pearson stated that the consultation is likely to happen towards the end of the year,

7.2. S106 agreement regarding land adjacent to 69 Carr Hill Lane (Decision Notice ZF24/00437/FLA). The Clerk had contacted North Yorkshire Planning about this issue. An email had been received stating that this had been passed on to another team but no response to this had been received at the time of the meeting. **RESOLVED** – the Clerk will chase this up again.

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8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**.

8.1. **North Yorkshire Council**.

8.1.1. 25/04254/FUL - Giraffe House 26 Carr Hill Lane Briggswath. Erection of single storey side extension and elevated walkway to side and rear. Cllr Tate explained the application to the meeting and suggested that extension was in keeping with the building. He recommended that no objections should be made. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would return a decision of 'no objections'.

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. NYM/2025/0214, land between 3 and 9 Eskdaleside, Sleights. Amended application. Site visit 23rd January 2026. Cllr Tate reported back on the site visit and explained that the Planning Officer for the NYMNPA had recommended approval of the application but with a significant number of conditions attached to this approval, some of which addressed the concerns that had been raised by the Parish Council and by local residents. He gave details of some of these conditions which can be found on the North York Moors Planning website. NYMNPA Planning

Cllr Tate also stated that the council could not comment any further and that the decision now rested with the NYMNPA Planning Committee.

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

10.1. Heather King from AngloAmerican gave a report to the meeting. She explained about the quarterly liaison meetings. The most recent one in January had been attended by Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Councillors.

In addition, she gave an update about progress of the project to date explaining that they are currently in the sinking phase of the shaft and are happy with the progress and that the 80% of the tunnel has been dug. Ms King said that a map is available of the route of the tunnel and that she will forward it to the Parish Council.

Work on the merger with TEK is ongoing and the shareholders of both companies have voted in favour of it and the Canadian government have approved it. It is expected to take a year to complete. Work on finding a syndication partner is still ongoing.

An application will be made to the NYMNPA later this year for offsite drilling (Partridge Hill Fylingthorpe and Dean Hall will be the first sites.)

Ms King also told the meeting that her role now includes dealing with complaints. Ms King was told of the concern that drilling may exacerbate the issues with drainage near Dean Hall that Mr Attridge had raised at the previous Parish Council meeting (January 2026). Ms King noted this to mention at a meeting with Highways on Friday 6th February and also stated that she would try to contact Mr Attridge to discuss the problem.

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

10.3. Skills4Work Team. The meeting was made aware that it is likely that the Skills4Work team is to be disbanded. There was general concern about this as It was felt that it had been a useful scheme to help young people get into paid work and had saved local organisations money on maintenance. It was **RESOLVED** that a letter be written to Richard Flinton, the chief executive of North Yorkshire Council, to urge the council to continue their support of the project. Cllr Tate will forward some information to the Clerk to use when composing the letter.

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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 February 2026 payment schedule and to sign the cheques.

11.2. To receive and approve the Bank reconciliation and Budget vs Actual for January 2026. The clerk had changed the Budget vs Actual report slightly after discussion at the January meeting, adding a 'Forecast Outturn' column to helped to make the financial position clearer. With two months to go it is estimated that there will be an underspend of £5k at the end of March 2026. It was felt that this should be carried forward as a contingency for grounds and building maintenance in 2026.27. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Bank Reconciliation and Budget vs Actual for January 2026.

11.3. The receipt of the precept request had been confirmed by North Yorkshire Council.

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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

The loose tile had been fixed by Cllr Tate. The meeting asked if there were maintenance issues that would need to be dealt with next year but at this point nothing could be identified other than a little render that needs replacing.

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

12.2.1. Bench Maintenance. The work had not been completed due to the weather.

12.2.2. Update on the siting of a new bench. Nothing had been heard from North Yorkshire about if it was going to be possible to put a new picnic bench in the Linden Close Wildlife Area. A quote for the base for the picnic base had been received.

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

12.3.1. Whin Green to Iburndale footpath repairs. There had been no update from the North Yorkshire Council Footpath Officer. Cllr Tate had spoken to the NYM Ranger regarding the tree in the beck damaging the gabion baskets but was advised that there was no money to undertake any work at this point.

12.3.2. Seggimire Lane. Two members of the Trail Rider's Fellowship were present at the meeting. Discussion ensued about Seggimire Lane and the recent correspondence about damage to the lane and dangerous riding was addressed. It was agreed that the comments on the website about the Community Access Path needed to be updated. In addition, it was

agreed that the condition of Seggimire Lane was similar to its condition in 2017 although it would benefit from work to improve it further. It was noted that the TRF, under their Pathkeeper scheme, have undertaken maintenance work and liaise with Mike Gurney from North Yorkshire about maintenance required

However, currently work is focussed on the Whin Green to Lowdale section of the Community Access route but that once this is completed attention could be turned to the Seggimire section.

The two members of the public left at 7.40 pm.

12.3.3. The Carrs Active Travel Proposal update. A Landowners' Engagement Networking meeting arranged for the 22nd January has been rearranged for 13th March as people were unable to attend the January meeting.

12.3.4. Access from the footbridge to the railway station. The Clerk had contacted North Yorkshire Council and was awaiting a response.

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12.4. **Linden Close.** No update at present.

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

13.1 A meeting with the new Area 3 Highways manager has been arranged for 9 February at 1pm. After discussion, it was agreed to book a room at Sleights Village Hall for this meeting.

It was also agreed to add the following to the list of issues:

Water from Bracken Hill running on to Eskdaleside;

Water on the road to Ugglebarnby which is treacherous when icy.

It was agreed that photos of issues were helpful in addition to the list and that councillors should take photos of any highways problems.

13.2 Smiddyfields signage. No update **NOTED**: Clerk to chase this up.

13.3 NYC - Urban grass cutting. A letter had been received from North Yorkshire asking if the Parish Council would prefer to arrange the cutting of the visibility splays and receive payment (£58.36) or let North Yorkshire cut it (approximately 5 times per year) It was **RESOLVED** that the council were happy for North Yorkshire Council to undertake this task.

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14 WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

14.1 Introduction document for the website. This has been added to the website by Cllr Bremner**.**

14.2 Cllr Bremner is working on the Facebook page. Once complete the council must decide how and when to use it. In order for it to be effective it should be used regularly signposting people to the website.

In addition, Cllr Bremner asked the Clerk to update the council details on the North Yorkshire website with the new website details. It was also noted that Mr Atherton was still listed as a parish Councillor. This is to be corrected.

Finally, the council thanked Cllr Bremner for his hard work on the website and the Facebook page.

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15 PARISH PLAN REVIEW

The new Parish Plan is due in 12 months. This had been raised at the last meeting (January 2026) and the discussion was summarised for those not in attendance in January. This included considering how to survey the residents to get input from them which needed to be done in the next 6 months. In order to move this forward it was agreed to set up a working group. Cllrs

Harrison, Bremner and Corner agreed to be part of this group. Cllr Harrison will coordinate the group.

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16 **COUNCILLORS ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL MEETINGS.** To consider reports and decide on actions to be taken.
Cllr Tate had attended the liaison meeting with AngloAmerican at Sneaton Village Hall in January – this was covered in item 10.

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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. Request for support from Revival for financial support to hire Sleights Village Hall in 2026.27. After a discussion about the benefit to the community from the work of Revival it was **RESOLVED** to donate £250 towards the costs of the hire of Sleights Village Hall.

- **For information only.** (Not for discussion or decision).
  - Information about the Garden Waste Collection Service for 2026.
  - The Centre for Ageing Better's 'Age-friendly Town and Parish Guide'
  - General correspondence circulated to Councillors.
  - General updates from YLCA circulated to Councillors.
  - General updates from NALC circulated to Councillors.
  - Information and / or public consultations received from NYC and other third parties circulated to Councillors and where appropriate uploaded to the Parish Council Website

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

- Nothing identified

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19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Monday 2nd March 2026 - 6:30pm, Sleights Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm

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

Catherine Raistrick
Proper Officer (Clerk)
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