

MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING INCORPORATING AN ORDINARY MEETING OF MID-WHARFEDALE PARISH COUNCIL IN ASKWITH VILLAGE HALL HELD ON 15TH MAY 2025 AT 7.45 PM

(Bold denotes Annual Meeting)

PRESENT:

Dr J Crossley	:	Weston (Chair)
Mrs C Shepherd	:	Askwith (Vice chair)
Mr M Whitley	:	Askwith
Mr P Robisonson	:	Denton
Mr F Caton	:	Weston
Mrs J Olby	:	Langbar
Mrs K Chivers	:	Nesfield/Langbar
Mrs S Ellis	:	Nesfield/Langbar
Mr D Powell	:	Middleton

In Attendance

Mrs B Shaw	:	Clerk
Mr N Hull	:	NYC Cllr

Members of the public attending the meeting

Ms A Thomson

74/01 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 1.1 Cllr Crossley was elected as Chair for 2025/26. This was proposed by Cllr Caton seconded Cllr Whitley and unanimously resolved.
- 1.2 Cllr Shepherd was elected as Vice Chair for 2025/26. This was proposed by Cllr Crossley seconded Cllr Chivers and unanimously resolved.

74/02 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Chairman Cllr Crossley signed an acceptance of office.
- 2.2 Vice Chair Cllr Shepherd signed an acceptance of office.

There was a discussion about the necessity of carrying out the annual parish meetings. Cllr Hull suggested seeking advice from the Parish Liaison Officer. **ACTION: Clerk to follow this up.**

74/03 APOLOGIES

None

74/04 DECLARATION of INTERESTS

None declared

74/05 PUBLIC SESSION

Ms Thomson raised concerns about traffic volume in Askwith. She spoke about increased traffic because of development in the village and additional parking on the roadside that this had created. This has caused problems for residents with the effect being the road becoming a single lane. Standing traffic of up to ten cars is common and

farm vehicles are unable to get through. She also mentioned that the school was also concerned from a safety perspective.

There was further discussion, and the following points were made: Development traffic should be parking on the development as all planning applications refer to 'onsite parking'. It was noted that traffic counters had appeared, but no one was aware why and what is being counted. Cllr Hull commented that if parking on the roadside was causing an obstruction the issue was one of enforcement and suggested contacting the PCSO for the area. It was suggested that the Penny Bun could be approached to ask if two residents could use the car park during the week.

Cllr Shepherd thanked Ms Thomson for her time and for raising the issue.

74/06 MINUTES:

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th February 2025 having been circulated were proposed Cllr Shepherd, seconded Cllr Whitley, and unanimously resolved as a true and correct record. These were then duly signed by the Chair.

74/07 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

7.1 North Yorkshire Council Matters

Kex Gill

Cllr Hull reported that works were going to go over budget but that this was due to the increase in the cost of materials. The additional cost will be covered by reserves, and it is likely that some compromise on these costs will be reached with the contractor. Works will be completed three months later than scheduled. Landslips had been paid for separately and came in under budget. There is a full council meeting on 21.05.25 where a full update will be received from Highways.

Budget

The council are bracing for more budget cuts from central government and are expecting this to have an impact on the deficit, increasing it from an estimated £12 million to £50 million. As the council has a statutory obligation to present a balanced budget this will impact on services across the board and increase council tax. The school transport policy has been changed so that the Local Authority will now only provide transport to the nearest school not the chosen school (if this is further away). This change will be evaluated after a year but is expected to save £3 million. Similar savings will need to be made over other departments.

Boundary Changes

The consultation on boundary changes closes on 9th June and Cllr Hull said that MWPC could make their comments on proposals online. The objective is to even up the number of electors in each division and to reduce the number of Cllrs. He reported that the Local Authority were objecting to changes as some new divisions are vast (Wharfedale division stretching up to Buckden Pike) and make it unworkable for Cllrs to attend more than one meeting per evening. The changes were also felt to be disproportionately disruptive to meet the objective of reducing Cllrs from 90 to 89.

ACTION: MWPC to respond to boundary consultation.

Communication regarding refuse collection was raised by Cllr Powell as being confusing and excessive. Cllr Hull said that there is a statutory obligation to write to people regarding this service. He reported 75% of bin runs in the area had been changed to increase efficiency and the service changed from 5 to 4 days, excluding Mondays, without loss of jobs or reduction in pay. **ACTION: Cllr Hull will ask if MWPC can be added to a weekly service update.**

Cllr Shepherd asked about progress towards speed limit reduction in the area. Cllr Hull reported that the '20 is plenty' campaign was looking at every street in the county starting in Harrogate. Streets are prioritized depending on the locality. Cllr Shepherd asked if, because of the traffic problems in the area, Askwith could be prioritized. She reported that the school are very concerned, and children had produced signs that they would like to display them in the village. Cllr Hull clarified signs must not be on the public highways or verges but could be displayed on wheelie bins. **ACTION: Cllr Hull agreed to raise Askwith as a special case in the meeting he has with the CEO of the Council about this process.**

Cllr Crossley asked Cllr Hull if Dob Park and Clifton could be annexed to MWPC. Cllr Hull said he has been contacted by the planning department with a planning consultation for this area. He confirmed that there is no parish council and that if we wanted to investigate further, we would need to talk to the Parish Liaison Officer. **ACTION: Clerk to investigate annexing of Dob Park and Clifton.**

Cllr Powell asked if Cllr Hull could investigate whether Yorkshire Water will be 'making good' any damage to the road that will be caused by works to Gill Reservoirs which are due to commence soon. **ACTION: Cllr Hull will follow up.**

Cllr Chivers raised the lack of acknowledgement or response from Highways regarding the enquiry made about erecting stone signage for the village of Nesfield. Cllr Hull thought that stone would not be approved as and suggested some alternative materials to consider. **ACTION: He agreed to follow this up to ascertain how far back from the highway signage would need to be.**

Cllr Crossley handed over to Cllr Shepherd for items 7.2 to 7.4 Cllr Shepherd explained these were objectives that anyone could report on and that if Cllrs felt any were no longer relevant that they could be removed from the agenda.

7.2 **Improving the health of heather peat moorlands**

Cllr Robinson reported that Denton Reserve are working with the Yorkshire Peat Project to redevelop the peatlands.

7.3 **Identifying land for biodiversity improvement**

There were no items for discussion.

7.4 **Identifying ways to slow water flow**

The introduction of pigs onto Denton reserve was discussed as a means of achieving this. Cllr Shepherd referred to a discussion that MWPC had had previously regarding access for fire fighters and their vehicles to the moor in Langbar. It was felt that the moors were accessible but that a fire officer should be contacted to clarify the situation. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up**

Cllr Olby felt it was important for residents to think about water usage. Cllr Shepherd agreed and felt the Newsletter when it is up and running would be a good vehicle for this.

7.5 **Road safety, repairs, drains and verges**

It was proposed, Cllr Shepherd and seconded Cllr Whitely that Gary Nutall would be contacted and asked to do the visibility cut for the Parish in July/August. Hedge cutting remains the landowner's responsibility.

Cllr Whitley reported that Highways had been out to assess the drains between Askwith and Weston and said that drains/bowls would be jetted within 30 days. This has not been done. **ACTION: Cllr Whitley to provide contact details to the Clerk who will follow up.**

7.6 **Creation of cycle, walking and riding paths**

Cllr Crossley and Cllr Shepherd reported on a meeting with the estate manager from Denton Reserve to discuss the relocation of footpaths by the reserve to which MWPC have lodged an objection. The reserve has already moved the path in question; cattle have been introduced and an electric fence put up. Burley walking group have also signposted the new route. The Estate have the option to create a bridle way which would prevent the route becoming a BOAT but are not pursuing this. MWPC have been advised to object through the Definitive Map Process and to wait for an answer from the Local Authority.

Cllr Chivers asked that the footpath between Nesfield and Langbar be reported to North Yorkshire Council as it is dangerous. Cllr Shepherd asked for clarification regarding who is responsible for the bridleway on the old historic road in Askwith. **ACTION: Clerk to clarify locations and details relating to both paths and contact North Yorkshire Council.**

7.7 **Updating of Policies and Procedures**

Cllr Shepherd had carried out an audit based on guidance from YLCA regarding policies which MWPC have a statutory obligation to have. There are 34 policies required, 14 of which are ready to be signed off and adopted. The Code of Conduct needs to be read by all Cllrs and can then be discussed and signed off at the next meeting. Five policies require input from either Cllr Powell (health and safety) or the Clerk (Financial). This course of action was proposed by Cllr Crosley and seconded by Cllr Olby.

ACTION: Clerk to upload policies to Website

74/08 CLERKS REPORT

Duties since 15th February meeting: Dealing with emails, writing minutes and forming agendas, circulating and responding to planning matters, following up items from the last meeting. preparation of accounts for internal audit, working with website developer to migrate email and prepare website, VAT Claim and preparing invoices and cheques. Cllr Crossley informed the meeting that some actions from the previous meeting were outstanding due to email/website and audit work but that the Clerk will complete these before the next meeting. This was resolved as a true and correct record and proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Robinson.

74/09 DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 New contact details are required for the noticeboards reflecting new email and website addresses. It was agreed that the only phone number will be the Clerk's and that new email addresses will replace phone numbers for Cllrs. This was proposed by Cllr Crossley and seconded by Cllr Shepherd.

74/10 ACCOUNTS

- 10.1** The Annual Internal Audit report for 2024/2025 was presented to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Robinson and it was unanimously resolved to accept these.
- 10.2** The audited account statement for 2024/2025 was presented to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Shepherd, seconded by Cllr Chivers and it was unanimously resolved that this should be accepted.
- 10.3** The Annual Governance Statement for 2024/2025 and Certificate of Exemption was discussed and agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Shepherd and it was unanimously resolved that this should be accepted. Minute reference to be inserted in the relevant sections.

The period for the exercise of public rights was set as Tuesday 3 June 2025 to Monday 14th July 2025

10.4 The following expenditure and income were then approved.

Mid Wharfedale Parish Accounts 15th May 2025

Barclays

Bank statement 19/04/25 £1,911.53

Income

Precept 30/04/25 £3,000

Balance 15/05/25 £4,911.53 £4,911.53

Skipton Building Society

Balance 02/01/2025 £5,831.19

Income (interest) 02/01/2025 £185.63

Total 02/01/20245 **£6,016.82 £6,016.82**

£10,928.35

Cheques to be signed at 15th May meeting 2025

J Greenway accounts (1036) £60.00

Yorkshire Local Councils Association (1037) £368.00

A Shaw Clerk wage April (1038) £241.28

A Shaw Clerk wage May (1039) £241.28

A Shaw Clerk wage June (1040) £241.28

A Shaw Clerk wage May meeting (1041) £120.64

A Shaw Expenses April, May, June (1042) £92.69

C Smith Internal Audit (1043) £55.00

Askwith Village Hall (1044) £52.00

£10,928.35

(£1,572.17)

Total held by MWPC £9,356.18

74/11 EMAILS

ACTION: Cllrs to set up new email addresses and contact the Clerk if help is needed

74/12 PLANNING MATTERS

The planning sheet was circulated.

Ref	Date Received	Address	Planning No	Planning Request	Response Due	PC Respons	Decision	Date of outcome	Planning Reference
559A	12/09/2023	Ibbotson Farm Askwith Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2HX	6.131.55.I.FUL	provision of wall insulation to dwelling.	14/12/2023	None			ZC23/0327/FUL
560M	14/03/2024	East Moor House Farm, Middleton Ilkley, North	6.129.50.D.FUL	Formation of plant enclosure with timber screening to perimeter	07/04/2024	A			ZC24/00817/FUL
562N	25/03/2024	West Hall Farm, Nesfield, Ilkley, North Yorkshire, LS29 OBX	6.128.28.N.PNF	Modern steel protal framed building for forestry use, The building will be used to store machinery and equipment used for the management of the	18/04/2024	B			ZC24/00747/PNF
566A	10/05/2024	Elmtree Cottages Askwith Lane Askwith North Yorkshire	6.131.92/FUL	Construction of single storey rear extension, raising of rear roof planem addition of side dormer and rooflight and alterations including re-configured car parking	03/06/2024	C			ZC24/01458/FUL
568M	29/05/2024	Home Farm, Middleton, Ilkley, North Yorkshire,	6.129.20.N.DVCON	Variation of Condition 19 (annex) of planning application ZC23/04357/DVCON Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans- alterations to fenestration, roof and cladding) of planning application 22/04302/DVCON Variation of condition 19 (annex) of 22/01420/FUL to allow annex to be used as ancillary accommodation to approved Property 2.	22/06/2022	A			ZC24/01685/DVCON
571A	24/07/2024	The Mews Smithy Farm West Lane Askwith Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2HX	ZC24/02459/CLEUD	To establish existing use of detached building known as The Mews as a self-contained dwelling as defined by Class C3	17/08/2024	B			ZC24/02459/CLEUD
572W	08/07/2024	The Granary Low Hall Farm Low Snowden Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2NQ	6.131.82.D.LB	Listed Building Application for a single storey lean to kitchen extension.	01/08/2024	A			ZC24/02164/LB
573W	08/07/2024	The Granary Low Hall Farm Low Snowden Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2NQ	6.131.82.C.FUL	Single storey lean to kitchen extension.	01/08/2024	A			ZC24/02163/FUL
564D	08/08/2024	Dunkirk Farm Denton Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 0HN	6.130.51.B.LB	Listed Building consent for alterations to fenestration, installation of solar panels and internal works.	01/09/2024	A	GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS	23/04/2025	ZC24/02347/LB
568M	08/10/2024	Cherry Bank Hunger Hill Middleton Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 ODP	6.129.49.A.CLEUD	Certificate of lawfulness to allow for approved extension of planning permission 19/00597/FUL following end of previous lease/tenancy.	01/11/2024	A			ZC24/03253/CLEUD
571A	25/10/2024	The Mews Smithy Farm West Lane Askwith Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2HX	6.131.92.A.FUL	Change of use and conversion of outbuilding to form dwelling, including single storey rear extension, 2No rooflights, widening of access, car parking and garden	18/11/2024	B	WITHDRAWN	20/02/2025	ZC24/03095/FUL
572L	29/10/2024	Upper Austby Farm Hardings Lane Langbar Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 0EQ	6.128.46.Y.FUL	Demolition of existing commercial buildings and erection of a bungalow with associated landscaping works.	22/11/2024	C	REFUSED	23/01/2025	ZC24/03602/FUL
578D	16/12/2024	Centre Of Pond Land Comprising Os Field 6673 Denton North Yorkshire	6.130.44.A.FULMAJ	The erection of a wellness centre with a welcome cabin, sauna, still room, hot tub and	09/01/2025	A	WITHDRAWN	12/02/2025	ZC24/03939/FULMAJ
580A	05/02/2025	Snowden Bank Cottage Askwith Moor Road High Snowden Otley NorthYorkshire LS21 2NJ	6.131.24.C.FUL	Installation of solar panels to southwest and southeast roof slopes.	01/03/2025	D	APPROVED	17/03/2025	ZC25/00217/FUL
581D	10/02/2025	Home Farm Denton Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 OHF	6.130.47.K.FUL	Prior notification for change of use of agricultural building to office (Use Class E)	06/03/2025	A	APPROVED	28/03/2025	ZC25/00383/PNG
582D	12/02/2025	Telephone Box Smithy Lane Denton North Yorkshire	6.130.KIOSK	BT consultation on the proposed removal of public payphone services and lock the kiosks.	08/03/2025	A			ZC25/00389/KIOSK
583M	12/02/2025	Telephone Box Hunger Hill Middleton North Yorkshire	6.129.KIOSK	BT consultation on the proposed removal of public payphone services andlock the kiosks.	08/03/2025	A			ZC25/00390/KIOSK
584W	25/02/2025	Cock Pit Farm Cottage Moor Lane Weston Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2HS	6.139.166.C.FUL	The conversion of traditional agricultural buildings into 2 dwellings	21/03/2025	A	WITHDRAWN	31/03/2025	ZC25/00556/FUL
585A	04/03/2025	Elm Tree House Smithy Farm West Lane Askwith Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2HX	6.131.26.J.FUL	Planning application for construction of 2 detached houses with attached garages, conversion of outbuilding to self-contained dwelling, single store rear extension, detached garage, front porch, re-configured side lean-to And garden pavilion to elmtree house including new shared vehicular access and associated landscaping	28/03/2025	B	REFUSED	17/04/2025	ZC25/00558/FUL
586M	25/03/2025	Cherry Bank Hunger Hill Middleton Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 ODP	6.129.49.B.DVCON	Section 73 application for the Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Drawings) of Planning Permission 19/00597/FUL (Demolition of existing extensions and porch. Erection of two storey and single storey extensions, and a porch) to alter fenestration.	18/04/2025	A			ZC25/00926/DVCON
572L	03/04/2025	Upper Austby Farm Hardings Lane Langbar Ilkley North Yorkshire LS29 0EQ	6.128.46.Y.FUL	Demolition of existing commercial buildings and erection of a bungalow with associated landscaping works.	06/05/2025	None	APPEAL		ZC24/03602/FUL
587A	14/04/2025	Westbeck Farm West Lane Askwith Otley North Yorkshire LS21 2JL	6.131.40.G.FUL	Conversion of an outbuilding (former garage that is currently used as an office) into an annex, with window and door fenestration alterations.	08/05/2025	A			ZC25/01095/FUL

70/13 WEB SITE

ACTION: Clerk to send out new website address to all Cllrs.

70/14 MEMBERS POINTS OF INFORMATION

Cllr Chivers asked the Clerk to follow up planning enforcement concerning the removal of the decking at 'The fold', Nesfield. Cllr Caton asked the Clerk to follow up the report made about the rotten/overhanging tree. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up both enquiries**

Date for the next two meetings 14th August and 13th November 2025.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.45pm.

Passed as a true and correct record Chairman

Date

