

Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 17 September 2025
Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Nigel Denison (Chairman), Cllr Peter Mitchell, Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Angela Horner, Cllr Steve Lewis, Tony Whiting (Clerk) plus Cllr Alyson Baker (North Yorkshire Council (NYC) items 1-6 only, and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllr Andy Gale and Deirdre Brown.
2. Declarations of Interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
 - 2.1. None declared.
3. Public Participation – no comments made
4. To receive comments from Councillors
 - 4.1. Cllr Horner raised the issue of a family impacted by NYC's new policy of only giving bus passes to secondary school age children attending their nearest school. Cllr Baker asked her to email her details about the case. Chairman asked that the Council should be made aware of cases where parents were experiencing these problems. He and Cllr Lewis would discuss the issue later and it would be on the agenda for the next meeting.
5. Chairman's report
 - 5.1. Chairman welcomed the new clerk, Tony Whiting
 - 5.2. Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) had asked the Council to fill out a return about business continuity planning. He asked the clerk to investigate if the Council had a business continuity policy and to bring it up to date using a template supplied by YLCA.
6. News from North Yorkshire Council (NYC)
 - 6.1. Cllr Baker reported on several issues beginning with the Local Government Boundary Commission consultations to revise the boundaries of 25 divisions in North Yorkshire. The latest proposals for the division she represents abandon an earlier plan to include Dalton in the division. However, the division would lose Myton on Swale and Tholthorpe. The meeting felt it important to retain Myton on Swale more than Tholthorpe. The Commission has a link for councils to express their opinions by 13 October.
 - 6.2. Additional topics of interest had been passed to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors.
 - 6.3. Cllr Baker left the meeting at 6.50pm before item 7.
7. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 August 2025 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
8. Clerk's report and correspondence
 - 8.1. Clerk reported he had attended a very helpful induction course earlier in the day.
 - 8.2. Clerk read excerpts from a letter from Harry Briggs, Head of Operations Head of Operations for Waste and Street Scene, apologising for problems in not collecting recycling bins in the area on time. The issue would be highlighted in the Parish Council News section of the October edition of the Village magazine.
 - 8.3. Yorkshire Water employees had been called out to jet a drain at the corner of Main Street and Bridge Street but needed to return with "a bigger unit."
 - 8.4. Cobbles had been disturbed by a Northern Powergrid contractor outside Anthony's Cottage on Main Street. Clerk had spoken to the householder and alerted Northern Powergrid to the problem.
 - 8.5. An email had been received from NYC asking for all precept information to be available by 31 December. Clerk to send Chairman a copy.
 - 8.6. Clerk had met a resident interested in sharing an allotment off Back Lane.
9. **Financial Matters**
10. Clerk's financial report
 - 10.1. On August 31 balances were Current a/c £3,962.54; Reserve £4,466.29; CIL £11,895.86 totalling £20,324.69.

Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

- 10.2. External Auditor's report. A satisfactory report had been received and all documents were on the website.
11. Helperby & Brafferton Recreation Trust
- 11.1. No grant application received.
12. To note Payment Card Purchases (PCP) and note or approve accounts received:
- 12.1. RBL Poppy wreath £20. PCP payment **noted**.
- 12.2. Boroughbridge Computer Services Setting up printer to scan correctly £60. Payment **approved**
- 12.3. Retiring clerk's expenses £42.89. Payment **approved**.
- 12.4. Retiring clerk's further expenses in shredding confidential waste £30. Payment **approved**
13. **Matters for Consideration**
- 13.1. Future of the Golden Lion – Ms L Wignall reported from the Golden Lion Community Asset Group (CAG) that it had secured funding of more than £100,000. It had put in an offer in excess of that as it had confidence it could raise more funding through more shareholders becoming involved or seeking loans. The asking price was £225,000. Chairman felt that a successful bid would have to be at least £200,000. Cllr Horner spoke of fear that the village may end up without a pub. The pub's listing as an asset of community value is due to expire on 26 January 2026. The Council cannot reapply at the moment. Chairman said the listing issue would be on the agenda of the December meeting.
- 13.2. Lych gate border – Chairman reported that the work of reshaping the border and resurfacing the lower part of Bridge Street was likely to take four or five days. He would confirm the start date, likely to be in late September, with the contractor Revely's Groundworks. Clerk was drafting a flyer to be circulated to Bridge Street residents explaining when there would be constraints on parking and deliveries. Pedestrian access would be unaffected. Councillor Mitchell was investigating if further financial support of £1,000 was available.
- 13.3. Adoption of .gov.uk email addresses for Councillors– Chairman summarised a fact sheet from the Information Commissioner's Office about how councils could improve their data protection compliance. Some Councillors were sceptical about setting up .gov.uk email addresses for councillors but it was felt it had to be done to remain compliant. Chairman proposed the Council should investigate the cost of creating them as it needs to be included in the budget.
- 13.4. Condition of dilapidated building RR11 on Raskelf Road – Chairman said Mooreys had looked at it and believed it to be safe unless someone deliberately tried to push it to the ground. The rubble ought to be removed. Chairman to ask the allotment holder, who is a builder, if he could make the wall stronger.
14. **Ongoing Issues**
- 14.1. Cobbles project – it was agreed that the council should try to find other contractors in addition to Revely's Groundworks who could relay cobbles following the council's protocols as Revely's may not always be available.
15. **Planning Matters**
- 15.1. Planning Application ZB25/01460/FUL, proposed extension and alterations to the cricket pavilion at the Helperby Sports Ground, Back Lane, Helperby – **supported**.

Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

- 15.2. Planning Application ZB25/00126/FUL, construction of 27 dwellings including associated infrastructure, open space and landscaping on land off Broad Ford Drive, Brafferton. This revised application had improved the style and look of the proposed development and spread out the number of affordable homes but had not altered the number of homes proposed. Allotments had been added but the sewage pumping station remained in its former position. Taken with the existing development, this would mean 55 dwellings entering and leaving the site from a single access road, Broad Ford Drive, close to a sharp and narrow corner on Boroughbridge Road.
- Chairman said the accepted residential design guide limit for a single access road is 50 homes. The principal issue concerning the Council was not the type of homes but their number. A member of the public expressed concern at the narrow nature of the road by the bend and would give the Council information about regulations relating to road width. Cllr Darwin said that based on surveys, the number of vehicles using Boroughbridge Road was around 1 million a year. Cllr Horner offered to post on Facebook information about how individuals could make their views known to NYC. Chairman said the Council write a letter of objection building on its objection letter to the previous application. Its fundamental focus would be fears about traffic safety.

16. Planning Decisions/information

- 16.1. Planning Application ZB25/00954/FUL, proposed change of use of land for the siting of 24no holiday cabins (phase 2) at Brafferton Manor Farm, Brafferton Manor Station, Brafferton - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council.
- 16.2. Planning Application ZB24/02089/OUT, outline application to consider access for the construction of 2 x self-build dwellings on land adjacent to the Telephone Exchange, Back Lane, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council.
- 16.3. Planning Application ZB24/00913/FUL (amended), proposed residential scheme for 8 units on land to the south of Raskelf Road, adjacent to Balk Avenue, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council.
- 16.4. Planning Application ZB23/00771/OUT, outline planning application for 1 x dwelling with all matters reserved except access on land at Brafferton Manor, Brafferton – awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council.
- 16.5. Planning Application ZB25/00126/FUL, construction of 27 dwellings including associated infrastructure, open space and landscaping on land off Broad Ford Drive, Brafferton - awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council.
- 16.6. Planning Appeal APP/U2750/D/25/3368731 concerning Application ZB25/00392/FUL, proposed two storey extension at 10 High farm Cottages, Raskelf Road, Helperby. NYC Appeal Ref 25/00027/REFUSE
- 16.7. Planning Application ZB25/01602/FUL for works or extensions to a dwelling, Burnside, Dunroyal, Helperby. This application was received after the agenda had been published. Clerk to circulate it to councillors for comment.

17. Closing Matters

18. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting
- 18.1. None mentioned
19. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 15 October 25