

Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 15 October 2025
Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Peter Mitchell (Chairman), Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Angela Horner, Cllr Deidre Brown, Cllr Andy Gale, Tony Whiting (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllrs Nigel Denison and Steve Lowe.
2. Declarations of Interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. None declared.
3. Public Participation – a member of the public asked if there were any allotments available. Clerk took his details and said he would find out and let him know.
4. To receive comments from Councillors
 - 4.1 Cllr Horner said she would guide the Clerk about how to post on Facebook.
5. Chairman's report
 - 5.1. Chairman reported the work to reshape the church bank and resurface the end of Bridge Street had been done very well.
 - 5.2. He was waiting to hear if an application from Inspire to help meet the shortfall for the resurfacing work would be successful.
 - 5.3. The Land and Maintenance Committee would not meet for the time being as this was not necessary.
 - 5.4. Work was starting on the external stonework of the church.
 - 5.5. InPost lockers would be installed at the side of the Village Hall in January, saving people having to go to Boroughbridge Post Office.
 - 5.6. It was reported that research by a local resident had suggested that Pilmoor Solar Energy may still exist as a legal entity. More work is needed to confirm if this is so.
 - 5.7. Yorkshire Local Councils Associations had asked the council to fill out a return about business continuity planning. The Clerk was working on this with Cllr Denison.
6. News from North Yorkshire Council (NYC)
 - 6.1. Cllr Alyson Baker sent her apologies. Her notes of items of interest had been circulated before the meeting. Her request to lay a wreath by the War Memorial on Remembrance Day was granted.
7. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 September 2025 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
8. Clerk's report and correspondence
 - 8.1. Clerk reported that Northern Powergrid had arranged the successful relaying of cobbles disturbed by its contractor on both sides of Main Street.
 - 8.2. An enquiry from a resident who had recently moved to the village about allotments had resulted in her agreeing to share with an existing allotment holder.
 - 8.3. Cllr Horner and the Clerk are to attend a meeting of the Easingwold and District Community Partnerships on October 23.
 - 8.4. New, more effective anti-virus software had been bought recently. Cllr Horner said Lui Ryan would assist the Clerk to install it.
 - 8.5. A Freedom of Information request from the Adam Smith Institute had been received. To submit a fully detailed response would be very time consuming. Clerk will prepare responses to the easier questions, provide a link to the council's website and seek advice from relevant organisations.
9. **Financial Matters**
10. Clerk's financial report
 - 10.1. Current a/c £11,938.06; Reserve £4991.60; CIL £11,963.34.
 - 10.2. The second half of the precept £8,750 had been received in late September.
11. To note Payment Card Purchases (PCP) and note or approve accounts received:
 - 11.1. PCP purchase of anti-virus protection for three years £62.99 **noted**.

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- 11.2. Ken Westerman weeding £48 **noted.**
- 11.3. Revelys reshaping the church bank £2,850 **noted.**
- 11.4. Kyle and Upper Ouse Drainage Board £5.14 **noted.**
- 11.5. National Allotment Society annual subscription £84 **noted.**
- 11.6. Terry Bowman work at the Lees £65 **noted.**

12. Matters for Consideration

- 12.1. Bus passes for children – no comments
- 12.2. Future of the Golden Lion – no comments.
- 12.3. Adoption of .gov.uk email addresses for cllrs. The potential cost for this would be £40 for setup fees and £420 annually. It was felt this could not be justified as councillors had no legal requirement to do this. Instead they would continue to use personal email addresses vigilantly and that the only official emails from council would continue to come from the Clerk who has as a .gov.uk email address.
- 12.4. Proposed Sedgeby Solar Farm near Sessay, Little Sessay and Thormanby. Information from the proposers of this scheme, which is not due to be in operation until 2033, was noted.

13. Ongoing Issues

- 13.1. Cobbles project – no comments

14. Planning Matters

- 14.1. Planning Application ZB25/01773/FUL for works or extensions to a dwelling, replacement of existing outbuildings, Spring Dallah, Main Street, Helperby. This application was received after the agenda had been published. Clerk to circulate it to all councillors for comment apart from Cllr Brown who is the applicant.

15. Planning Decisions/information

- 15.1. 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.
- 15.2. 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.
- 15.3. 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.
- 15.4. 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.
- 15.5. 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. The council had sent a letter of objection to the revised plans saying the houses were unnecessary, inappropriate in design and their traffic implications dangerous. The council considered a response letter from the consultants to the scheme but councillors were unconvinced by its contents.
- 15.6. Planning Application ZB25/01602/FUL proposed alterations 2 new bi-folding doors, window raised in kitchen, new vertical timber boarding to replace tile hanging on dormer windows at, Burnside, Dunroyal, Helperby –no objections, awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council.
- 15.7. Planning Application ZB25/01460/FUL, proposed extension and alterations to the cricket pavilion at the Helperby Sports Ground, Back Lane, Helperby. GRANTED.

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16. Closing Matters

17. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting

17.1. Budget discussion.

18. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 19 November 25.