

Minutes of the meeting of Barkston Ash Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 7.00 in the Village Hall.

Present: Catherine Daniels, Chair, Jeanette Beresford, Nick Beresford, John Brassington, Phil Williams and Sue Williams. Gwyneth Stephenson. Also present Sarah Miles.

Apologies: None

Matters Arising:

- a) **Speed Signs:** Nick Beresford reported that the Swarco speed signs were being manufactured and could be installed before Christmas. The Clerk to approach other councils to see if they could use the redundant sign for spare parts. Monk Fryston Parish Council have asked the Parish Council to support them in requesting North Yorkshire Council to install Speed Indicator Devices (SID's) in preference to the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) that are currently being used by writing to the local councillor. John Brassington will send a reply.
- b) **Grass Cutting:** A lawn mower has been purchased for Parish Council use and Mr Bill Thompson has agreed to garage the mower and cut the grass.
- c) Jeanette and Nick Beresford attended the meeting of the Selby branch of the YLCA 22nd September. This meeting is an 'open house' for any council representatives to ask questions and receive advice from other council representatives. At the next meeting on 25th February 2026 the topic will be rewilding. Councillors were reminded that they have access to both the YLCA and NALC websites.
- d) **Christmas lights:** councillors will meet at 2.30 on 30th November to put the lights in the church yard and Fir Tree Court. Nick and Jeanette Beresford gave apologies at the time as they already had a prior engagement for 30th.
- e) **Standing Orders and Financial protocols** are required to be published on the website. Templates of both are available on the YCLA website and will be amended to be bespoke for Barkston Ash and circulated to councillors for adoption. Other mandatory protocols are to be reviewed and published.

Following a training session attended by Catherine Daniels it was agreed that a more detailed agenda should be published. The format will be implemented in the new year.

- f) Website: Jeanette Beresford had investigated the provision of .gov.uk email addresses for councillors. However the costs were prohibitive at £72 per address per annum. There is already this provision in place for the Clerk and it was considered that there should be one for the Chair. It was proposed Sue Williams and Nick Beresford that alternative web hosts be investigated.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council would provide a computer for the use of the Clerk solely for Parish business. This was proposed Sue Williams and Catherine Daniels and agreed. Jeanette Beresford to look at options and bring suggestions to the next meeting.

Finance. Invoices for payment were approved by John Brassington and Phil Williams all agreed.

Yorks Local Councils Assn	£27.40		£27.40
R Stride 3855	£15.50	£3.10	£18.60
HMRC Mth 7	£22.80		£22.80
HMRC Mth 8	£28.00		£28.00
Clerks fee Oct/Nov	£269.96		£269.96
ZeroOne Digital	£192.00		£192.00
W Thompson - grass cutting	£250.00		£250.00

Precept – following discussion it was decided that the current precept should be increased by the rate of inflation. £6500 will be requested. This was proposed John Brassington and seconded Sue Williams all agreed. There are no capital projects proposed for 2026/27 and the precept will cover essential payments.

Planning. No new planning applications had been received.

The Clerk had reported the problem of deliveries to the building site on Hollyhocks Lane which were being left on Church Street and causing a pedestrian hazard and blocking the bus stop. A letter from the Enforcement Officer stating that parking spaces had to be in place only when the work was completed despite the council's concerns expressed to the planners that there was insufficient space for deliveries. The complaint has been forwarded to North Yorkshire Highways.

Correspondence: All correspondence had been circulated to councillors on receipt.

Any Other Business:

There had been no correspondence from Alex Tant-Brown, Sherburn Town Council, regarding the previously proposed formation of an Elmet Forum. The Clerk is to write requesting a meetings calendar.

Jeanette Beresford reported that a road sign on the A162 had been damaged. The Clerk to report to N Y Council.

There was a discussion about two recent accidents involving children from Barkston Ash Primary School. Neither resulted in injuries but were due to negligent driving. The Clerk is to write to Mrs Vaughan, headmistress to invite her and the head of governors to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the problem. If necessary, the meeting could begin at an earlier time.

YCLA have sent a programme of Councillor training sessions for all councillors and Clerks. Suitable dates are to be agreed with councillors.

[Date of next meeting.](#) Tuesday, 20th January 2026