

**Minutes of the meeting of Barkston Ash Parish Council
held on Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr Daniels, Cllr Brassington. Cllr J Beresford and Cllr N Beresford,
Cllr P Burgis ,Cllr P Williams and Cllr S Williams.

10/26 Cllrs were reminded about approval for recording the meeting

11/26 Apologies for absence None

12/26 There were no declarations of interest or disclosure of pecuniary interest expressed.

13/26 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2026 were **agreed** as a true record.

14/26 To receive information on ongoing issues:

1. The policies and procedures that had already been uploaded to the website were confirmed. The contract of employment for the clerk was to be consolidated by the staffing committee. The Standing Orders and Complaints procedure to be added.
North Yorkshire Council are to be asked for a certificate of dog bin collections.
Cllr Beresford was thanked for her work on this.
2. Following the closure of the railway bridge at Church Fenton Station there has been a considerable increase in haulage vehicles through the village.
Barkston Ash residents have only been contacted by Network Rail by way of a 'Transpennine Community Update' delivered by mail to Barkston Ash residents. At no point has Barkston Ash Parish Council been spoken to by Network Rail, the Project Manager, any if the contract companies working on the project nor even NYC Highways. Given the size of Barkston Ash its two 90 degree bends and the significant parking issues twenty-four hours a day it seems unlikely that Network Rail did not consult with Highways.
The Parish Council Chair visited the site and spoke to the Site Manager, who did indicate that there was concern about the transport of machinery, including cranes and materials, and said that

a model of the village had been created and that trial runs of bringing in the crane would be needed.

The Site Manager was to ask the Project Manager to contact the Parish Council Chair and hopefully to attend the full Parish Council meeting on 21st July. the Chair has had no contact and no representative attended the meeting.

At no point have Barkston Parish Council or residents been given any information about the transport impact to the village. Church Fenton appear to have been consulted with , given a drop-in session for people to find out more detail and ask questions and have benefitted from community investment. No Brackston Ash residents or councillors were invited to the drop-in session in Church Fenton. This appears to be a gross oversight. In less than a fortnight we have had multiple near misses reported in terms of collisions with contractor traffic travelling through the village and at the junction with the A162.

Due to the size and length of the works traffic there is already damage to the footpath and road surfaces through Church Street. Traffic is mounting the pavement at the sharp corner at Barkston Towers.

The Clerk to write on behalf of the Councillors to Network Rail and NYC Highways appraising them of the concerns raised by the Parish Council and residents.

Additionally, TransPennine Upgrade works signed the road through the village as a 'No Parking' area on 21st July. Again no notice was given to the Parish Council. The Clerk to contact Area 7, Highways to ask if any application had been made to do this. During the school holidays the roads are accessible but Highways/Network Rail to be asked if there is a contingency plan for September when the children return to school and for the remainder of the 26/7 school year.

A separate point was raised regarding the parking for the station for traffic from the west. Cones have been put out on Sandwath Lane for access to houses on the Sandwath estate. There needs to be some area of hard standing for parking for people to access the trains to Leeds and York, failure to do so will result in people having to park along Common Road which will add to the accessibility issues for plant traffic. The Clerk to raise this on behalf of the Councillors with Network Rail.

15/26 Planning:

No planning applications or decisions had been received.

16/26 Finance:

It was resolved to approve for payment the current invoices;

R Stride – Payroll June £ 18.60

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Clerks fee /HMRC in accordance with NALC rates

W Thompson £350.00 – gross mtce June/July

HMRC Mth 3 £ 28.00

HMRC Mth 4 £ 27.80

D A Beachcroft £435.60 VAT only on insurance claim

Aviva Receipt £250.00 Refund of Excess on Insurance claim

17/26 The date of the next meeting 15th September 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall.