

HORTON IN RIBBLESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Ian Orton

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Minutes of the Meeting of Horton-in-Ribblesdale Parish Council held in the Horton Quarry Admin Building on Monday 12TH January 2026 at 7.30pm.

Present – Parish Cllrs Martin Hanson (Chair), Fiona Durham (Vice Chair), Kathryn Jackson, Lorraine Leary, Ian Mounsey and North Yorkshire Councillor David Staveley

Members of the Public: Two member of the public were present.

Parish Clerk: Ian Orton

335/26: Apologies for Absence: Cllr Thomas Milman

336/26. Code of Conduct – Localism Act 2011 To record any councillor’s disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to any item on this agenda. To consider any changes in members’ register of interests & to consider dispensations: None were declared.

337/26. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8th December 2025.

After discussion the Council resolved to recommend approval of the minutes.

338/26: Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

339/26: Vacancy for Parish Councillor: The clerk explained that a formal notice to replace former councillor Joan Myers had been posted between 2nd December and 22nd December 2025 inviting applicants to stand as a parish councillor. As no applications were received the Parish Council can now co-opt a new parish councillor. The Chair indicated two members of the parish present had expressed an interest in becoming a parish councillor.

Members of the Council asked both candidates about the role of a parish councillor and after a secret ballot it was agreed Elizabeth Hornby should be appointed to the parish council. The Chair thanked both candidates for wishing to support the community.

340/26: Public Participation: A member of the public asked about the request to place a memorial bench in Helwith Bridge Picnic Site. The Chair explained that the clerk and some parish councillors had met with the applicant for the bench and agreed the wooden bench purchased by the family was suitable as a memorial bench.

At the request of the Council the clerk had prepared a Policy for Public Benches but after consideration of this was deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

341/26: A Community Building in Ribblesdale: The Chair of the Playing Fields Committee had attended the meeting and was asked about expanding the Pavilion or possibly in partnership with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee; the Village Hall to create a new Community Building that would meet the needs of an expanding community. The discussion centred on what the community wanted and it was agreed the clerk should report the costs of carrying out a full consultation exercise within the parish to help identify the needs of the community.

342/26: North Yorkshire Council Reports: NYC Cllr David Staveley went through his report on NYC activities for January 2026 adding the reduction in funding by Central Government would have an impact on service delivery from North Yorkshire Council. Cllr Staveley gave details of the first affordable homes to be funded by council tax premium and the new recruitment drive recently launched to entice new talent to the Work for your Local Council Campaign.

343/26: Financial Statement and Invoices for Payment:

a) **Financial Statement 12.01.26** The clerk reported that at 09.01 2026 there was £11236.60 in the Business Account, £6473.65 in the Savings Account and £3270.76 in the Dimsdale Account. The Council had started the financial year with just under £8000 in the Business Account. b)

b): **2026-27 Draft Budget:** The clerk presented a draft Budget report for 2026-27 also giving details of the projected spend and income for 2025-26. The clerk added that insurance cover for the community 2026 Christmas lights had been included in the draft budget. After discussion it was agreed to note the report prior to reviewing the draft budget at the March 2026 Council.

c): **Purchase Microsoft 365 Premium:** The clerk requested that the Council consider purchasing Microsoft 365 software at a cost of £80 a year as the majority of organisations he dealt with were moving towards 365 and Co-Pilot was very useful for financial planning. Cllr Jackson asked about if 365 included the full Office range and the clerk confirmed it did. After further discussion the Council agreed to purchase 365 on an annual basis.

d): **Invoices:** The clerk gave details of the invoices to be paid including Roert Davidson, business steam, the clerks December salary and the annual insurance renewal.

344/26: Planning:

a) **Planning Applications:** a) *Section 73 application in respect of variation of conditions 3 and 18 of permission reference C/44/101G to allow for the decommissioning of the existing primary crusher with building and to provide for the proposed installation and use of a fixed feed hopper with support structure, upper enclosure and adjacent loading bay, along with a mobile primary crusher to be positioned beneath the fixed feed hopper which will feed crushed mineral onto the existing C2 conveyor in the mineral processing area during Phases 2, 3 and 4 of the approved development at Arcow Quarry, Helwith Bridge, Horton-in-Ribblesdale, (GR:403472, 463055) - C/44/101J The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has received the above application from Tarmac.*

After discussion the application was noted.

b) **Planning Decisions:** The clerk reported that no Horton in Ribblesdale planning applications had been considered by the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

345/26: Green Space Issues:

a) **Horticultural Contract 2026-2029:** The clerk went briefly through the procurement process and at the request of Cllr Mounsey circulated maps linked to the 9 sections within the grass cutting contract. After discussion it was agreed to remove the annual cuts of the highway verges on map 2 and map 2a. With these changes the Council agreed the Grass Cutting Schedule and that the specification is advertised locally and sent to appropriate local grass cutting firms.

346/26: Highways, Street Lighting & Maintenance:

a) **Phone Box Update:** The clerk explained that ‘possibly’ after pressure from North Yorkshire Council BT had decided to retain the final payphone in the parish and the Council would be repaid the £1 used to purchase the phone box.

b) **Public Bench Policy:** The clerk confirmed that at the request of Cllr Durham the draft Public Bench Policy would be deferred till the next meeting.

347/26: Hortons Stocks: Cllr Durham gave an update on the progress towards getting the former Horton Stocks registered as a community asset.

348/26: Emergency Plan: The clerk indicated the revised Emergency Plan would be presented at the Annual Meeting in May 2026.

349/26: Correspondence:

a) The clerk gave details of a letter from the local MP explaining the launch of the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire’s Men’s Mental Health Investment Programme.

b) A resident from Helwith Bridge had asked about the Council paying the £100 a year public lighting cost. Cllr Jackson indicated that Arcow Quarry had offered to pay the cost.

350/26: Reported Incidents: North Yorkshire Police had 9 reports to the police between 08.12.25 & 09.01.26 including burglary, suspect vehicle, concern for welfare and crime violence.

351/26: Any Matters not included on the agenda which the Chair considers to be a matter of urgency: a) Cllr Leary asked it was possible to have a flag pole adjacent to the memorial in the cemetery. It was agreed the clerk should bring costs to the next meeting. b) Several councillors mentioned that an additional ‘honesty’ box by the car entrance to Helwith Bridge would help increase the car park donations. It was also agreed the clerk should bring costs to the next meeting.

352/26: Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:
Monday 9th February 2025 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion.

Chair

Date