

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 Pavillion on Monday 9TH February 2026 at 7.30pm.

Present – Parish Cllrs Martin Hanson (Chair), Fiona Durham (Vice Chair), Liz Hornby, Lorraine Leary, Thomas Milman, Ian Mounsey and North Yorkshire Councillor David Staveley

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

Parish Clerk: Ian Orton

371/26: Apologies for Absence: Cllr Kathryn Jackson

372/26. 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: Cllr Leary declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 361b/26 Planning Permission: C/44/228B.

373/26. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 12th January 2026.

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

374/26: Matters Arising: The clerk gave costs for an additional honesty box and fitting at Helwith Bridge Picnic Site. After discussion the costs for purchase and fitting of an additional honesty box were agreed. Cllr Mounsey asked the clerk to obtain costs for a QR code to support electronic donations for use of the car park.

375/26: Public Participation: A member of the public asked for an update on the proposed sale of the Horton Primary School Playing Fields. The Chair noted this item was on the agenda and agreed to bring it forward. The clerk explained that the fields were subject to disposal but an Interim Moratorium Period had been put in place and on 5 February 2026 a request was received from Craven Wildlife Rescue to be treated as a potential bidder for the property. As a result, the property cannot be sold until 13 July 2026. During this six months period the owner(North Yorkshire Council) may continue to market and negotiate sales but may not exchange contracts or enter into a binding contract.

376/26: A Community Building in Ribblesdale: The Chair suggested that he met with the Chairs of the Village Hall and Playing Fields Committees to consider which questions should be included in a questionnaire to go to all 235 houses in the parish. After discussion it was agreed this was a constructive way to move the project forward. The date and time of the meeting to be circulated to members of the Council.

377/26: North Yorkshire Council Reports: NYC Cllr David Staveley went through his report on NYC activities for February 2026 giving details of the welcome by tenants of a pledge to deliver higher quality homes with improved energy-saving features. In addition, Cllr Staveley gave details of purchase of garden waste licences for 2026 and a warning of illegal burning of waste was subject to charges under The Clean Air Act of 1993.

378/26: Financial Statement and Invoices for Payment:

a) **Financial Statement 06.02.26** The clerk reported that at 06.02 2026 there was £9697.78 in the Business Account, £6481.35 in the Savings Account and £3274.63 in the Dimsdale Account. The Council had started the financial year with just under £8000 in the Business Account. A draft 2025/26 Financial Statement will be brought to the 9th March Council meeting.

b) **Invoices:** The clerk gave details of the invoices to be paid including Roert Davidson, npower and the clerks January salary and admin costs. Income from Helwith Bridge Car Park had remained at around £10 per month.

379/26: Planning:

a) **Planning Applications:** a) *An application for a Lawful Development Certificate at Holme Farm Caravan & Camp Site in Horton in Ribblesdale. The applicant is seeking to establish a lawful use of a season car park on land to the north of the campsite (see attached). The National Park need to establish an evidence base for whether or not the field in question has been operating consistently as a car park. Are any of the members able to provide any statement on the degree to which the field has been operating as a car park?*

No councillor felt the seasonal car park had been in use for 20 years but possibly had been in use for around 10 years. The Council were broadly supportive of a seasonal car park for people camping or using a caravanette but objected to the seasonal car park being used by people who were not staying at the camp site. Concern was also raised about supervision of the car park as the camp site was unsupervised during the evenings.

b) *Householder planning permission for insertion of gable window (previously approved) and formation of pergola adjacent to garage at Hillcroft Cottage, Horton in Ribblesdale BD24 OHT- C/44/228B.*

The Council broadly supported the permission but wished for assurance that the gable window would not overlook any of the adjacent properties. With that assurance the Council agreed the planning permission.

380/26: Green Space Issues:

a) **Flag Pole Memorial Cemetery:** Cllr Leary introduced a report proposing the purchase of a flag pole, Union Flag and Yorkshire White Rose flags at a site adjacent to the War Memorial in the cemetery. After discussion it was agreed that subject to no concerns from the Church the flag pole up to 4.6m and flags should be purchased with the Union Flag flying all the time except on Yorkshire Day when the white rose of Yorkshire will fly.

b) **Horticultural Contract 2026-2029:** The clerk gave an update on the progress of letting a Horticultural Contract for 2026-29. The clerk added that a report recommending a contractor would be brought to the 9 March Council meeting.

381/26: Highways, Street Lighting & Maintenance:

a) **Public Bench Policy:** At the request of Council the clerk had prepared a Public Bench Policy which had been circulated for comment. After discussion a reduced public bench policy was agreed principally stating the Council will consider each application on its merits.

b) **Helwith Bridge Picnic Site Tables:** The clerk asked about progress with Horton Quarry purchasing plastic picnic tables for Helwith Bridge picnic area. After discussion it was agreed Cllr Jackson and the clerk approach Horton Quarry for an update.

382/26: AGAR Small Councils Cost: The clerk explained that for Annual Governance and Accountability Return, Horton in Ribblesdale Parish Council was classed as a small council and therefore did not need a full external audit at a cost of around £500. A standard audit costing around £150 would be adequate. After discussion the Council agreed to be classed as a small council.

383/26: Annual Meeting 11th May 2026: The clerk asked if the Council were happy to carry both Annual Meeting of the Parish and the Parish Council on the same meeting. The Chair explained the differences between the two meetings and it was agreed both would be held at the same meeting.

384/26: Correspondence:

a) The clerk confirmed that all relevant correspondence had been circulated to the Council.

385/26: Reported Incidents: North Yorkshire Police had 9 reports to the police between 11.01.26 & 07.02.26 suspect vehicle, concern for welfare/safety, theft of quad bikes, abandoned call and concern for walker. The Chair requested that a representative of North Yorkshire Police attend the next meeting.

386/26: Meetings with members of the public: Cllr Mounsey requested that when the clerk was meeting any members of the public councillors were informed so they could make every effort to attend. The clerk assured him details would be circulated and requested that when councillors were holding meetings that affected service delivery he could be informed.

387/26: Any Matters not included on the agenda which the Chair considers to be a matter of urgency: a) The Chair confirmed no urgent items had been raised.

388/26: Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:
Monday 9th March 2025 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion.

Chair

Date