

Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council

Minutes of meeting – Thursday, 16 January 2025 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Mr Walker, Mr Lamperd, Mr Wall, North Yorkshire Councillor Wilkinson and three residents.

Residents raised the following issues before the meeting:

Village Green Damage

A resident's door camera footage recorded a car drive over the Kirkby Fleetham Village Green on New Year's night. It is impossible to determine any real detail of the car type or registration plate.

The damage doesn't look extensive and may not need significant repair.

1. Apologies

Cllr Edwards-Heathcote. The Council accepted this apology.

2. The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, November 21, 2025, were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting proceedings and signed.

Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Lamperd.

3. Co-option of a Parish Councillor

The Parish Council received a written application for the office of Parish Councillor and co-opted a candidate to fill an existing vacancy.

Cllr Walker welcomed Dr Henderson. The written application was circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting. Dr Henderson introduced himself, gave information on his background and experience, and explained why he wished to become a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Walker proposed Dr Henderson's application, which was unanimously agreed upon. The Councillors voted in favour of Dr Henderson's application, and he then signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Parish Clerk will notify the Electoral Services Officer at North Yorkshire Council of the council appointment.

4. Matters to Report

Dog Bins

The dog bin service is currently unavailable as it's being reviewed, so the Council can't purchase a bin until the review is over. In the meantime, the clerk emailed Hambleton for a quote.

St Andrew's Terrace, Great Fencote

Highways and Broadacres have confirmed that St Andrew's Terrace is outside their ownership. The Council will examine the land registry to see if the road is part of the Village Green.

Signatories

An application has been made to update the banking mandate to add Cllr Wall as a signatory for the Parish Council account.

Risk Assessment

The Parish Council has conducted annual risk assessments of its estate and assets. Councillors provided detailed comments on the risk assessments to the Clerk, who then formatted and published them.

Remedial actions from the risk assessments will be reviewed in the Spring when the weather improves. The Council will advertise for a community working group to assist with routine remedial actions.

Bus shelter

The Great Fencote bus shelter's roof has been re-felted. The wall boards need some minor repairs, and in the spring, it will be given a new coat of wood preserver.

Savings Account

The application to open a Savings account has been completed.

Parish Portal

The Parish Portal has now been closed. The Clerk has registered for a Customer Portal account and will email the Councillors with registration instructions.

Community Plan

The Community Plan has been updated to include changes to the new Councillors.

5. Burial Grounds

a) Parish Cemetery

Traps have been set for the Moles, and Pest Control is waiting for North Yorkshire Council permission to enter St Andrew's.

The bug box has been installed as part of the community project.

It was agreed that former Councillor Herbert may remain a member of the Burial Authority. In addition, two representatives of St Mary's Church are willing to participate in the Authority. These additions are considered both welcome and in line with the Burial Authority Terms of Reference.

b) St Mary's Churchyard

The Council will meet with the contractor to discuss details of this year's maintenance.

c) St Andrew's Churchyard

The fallen section of a tree has been reported to the North Yorkshire Council, which is dealing with it. Part of this broken section of the tree has been cut back and moved out of the area of the Churchyard which has been sold but part still remains to be cleared away.

The landowner appears to have taken ownership and has fenced off the area, ready for construction.

6. Correspondence

YLCA Training (0101/25), YLCA Weekly News and Notifications (0201/25), We are prepared for severe weather (0301/25), North Yorkshire Parish Liaison Meeting: Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday 20th November 2024 (0401/25), [mysite] Contact - new submission (0501/25), Meeting with NYC regarding Morton Flats flooding (0601/25), Flood Monitoring Information (0701/25), NYC - Weather disruption to Waste Services (0801/25), Road Safety Surgeries (0901/25), Planning Application ZB24/02344/MBN (1001/25), Document for this week's Parish Council meeting (1101/25).

Swiss Airforce

The Council has replied to a resident who has raised a concern to the Parish Council about noise and disruption from flying into and out of RAF Leeming.

7. Finance

Cllr Henderson was nominated as the new bank account signatory. The Clerk will update the bank mandate.

a) It was resolved to pay the following, and the payments will be raised accordingly:

Chq	Amount	Payee	Service
BACS		N.Lowe	Clerks wages for Dec and Jan
BACS	£1634.94	WEL Medical	Defibrillator and Cabinet - Inv I281995

BACS	£669.13	Zurich Municipal	Parish Council insurance - Inv 540401191
BACS	£165.00	R.Richards	Mowing and strimming of St Mary's
BACS	£215.00	Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall	Renting Village Hall for Parish Council meetings Inv - KFVH 368
BACS	£56.00	A.Booth	Lockable cupboard for heritage project - INV0641354
BACS	£100.00	A.Dick	Re-felt the bus shelter in Great Fencote
BACS	£128.00	HMRC	Income tax (Oct-Dec 2024)

This was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Wall.

b) Income:

This month's income was £ 9,349.03, which includes a large VAT refund from HMRC, much of which relates to the VAT on the Lychgate construction.

8. Planning

a) Applications

ZB24/02386/FUL: Application for alterations and extension to dwelling and new garage structure, revised scheme from previously approved application

Location: Denon Planetree Lane Kirkby Fleetham Northallerton

Applicant: Mr And Mrs Wright

The Parish Council raised no comments or objections to this planning application.

ZB24/02344/MBN: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to form a single dwelling

Location: Land South West Of Lodge Farm Low Street Kirkby Fleetham

Applicant: Mr R Barker

This application is made to NYC under the terms of The Town and Country Planning Act (Permitted Development) Class Q. This means that it is not part of a normal formal full application for consent.

The Councillors were unanimous in expressing concern at the method of seeking approval. Councillor Walker agreed to contact the responsible Planning Officer by telephone and seek guidance and a better understanding of the process. Further concerns were noted at the lack of clarity on the plans for the other adjacent agricultural buildings.

Two local residents have contacted the Parish Council setting out specific concerns and their comments will be taken into account in the response to NYC. Councillor Walker will formulate a detailed draft response, which after review and agreement by all Councillors, will be submitted to meet NYC's response deadline.

ZB24/02350/FUL: Construction of a 2no bedroom dwelling adjacent to The Old Post Office House

Location: The Old Post Office House Great Fencote Northallerton North Yorkshire

Applicant: Mrs Dick

The Parish Council raised no comments or objections to this planning application.

b) Outcomes

None

9. Community Transport and Social Care

Community Transport

The Council continue to await the proposals for improving bus services throughout North Yorkshire, both from the new Mayor of York and North Yorkshire Council. North Yorkshire Council is also due to publish its 15-year Transport Plan.

Social Care

The community has experienced several bereavements in recent weeks, and support continues to be offered through connections with organisations like Hambleton Community Action.

The December visit to Whitegates Café and Garden Centre for their Festive Christmas Tea was fully booked and received positive feedback. The next outing is scheduled for Tuesday, 18th February 2025, to Kiplin Hall, with transport arranged via hired minibus. Plans for the 2025 outings are underway, with dates set for April 8th, June 24th, August 19th, October 23rd, and December 9th. Venue selections are being finalised.

10. Parish Insurance

Cllr Walker proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council accept the comparison quote for a 12-month Local Council Insurance Policy with Zurich, effective 04 January 2025.

11. VE Day

The Parish Council continues to discuss the D-Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations programme with community stakeholders.

The church is organising afternoon tea in the Village Hall on Saturday 10 May 2025. Cllr Walker will email community stakeholders about plans to organise an event on Sunday 11 May 2025.

12. Urban Grass Cutting 2025/26

North Yorkshire County Council has written to the Parish Council about continuing the Urban grass-cutting in the Parish.

Should the Parish Council wish to carry out urban grass cutting in 2025/26, North Yorkshire Council will similarly make payments in 2025/26. In the summer of 2025, North Yorkshire Council will supply a purchase order to the Council, and the Clerk will invoice the North Yorkshire Council. Based on the rate of 8p per m², the funding for grass cutting of urban highways will be £402.32 in 2025/26.

The Councillors agreed to accept North Yorkshire County Council's offer. The Clerk will inform Highways Asset Management of the Council's decision by 28 February 2025.

13. Playground

There is no further update. Discussions will continue.

14. Defibrillator for Little Fencote

The defibrillator in Little Fencote has been installed and is now working. The Clerk has registered the defibrillator on the Circuit, the national network that provides the NHS ambulance services with vital information about defibrillators across the UK.

A Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) representative has agreed to visit the Village Hall on 18 Jan to provide training in life-saving CPR and familiarisation with defibrillators. The Council has agreed to pay a donation to the YAS Charity as thanks for this free service.

The Clerk will contact Northern Powergrid to inform them that the defibrillator has been installed.

15. Any Other Business

Solar Farm Grants

A new application has been received. The proposal is to replace the broken egg box on the Kirkby Fleetham Village Green after the recent strong winds damaged the original.

The Council discussed the application, and the Councillors agreed to support the application.

It was also unanimously agreed that the remaining cost of the Little Fencote defibrillator, cabinet, mounting brackets and steel pole after the deduction of reclaimed VAT and the kind contribution for NYC Community funding will be supported by the Solar Grant.

Meetings

The Clerk has booked the Village Hall for all 2025 meetings. The next meeting will be in the Village Hall library at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 10:07 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting: 20 February 2025.