

EPPLEBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Council: Jenny Pears, T: 07867122005 e: epplebypc@gmail.com
Eppleby Parish Council, c/o 14 Twinsburn Road, Heighington, Co. Durham, DL5 6RL

MINUTES

Minutes of MEETING of EPPLEBY PARISH COUNCIL on 1ST JULY 2025 held in Eppleby Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor A. Allum (AA) (Chairman)
Councillor A. Burnett (AB)
Councillor P. Dowson (PD)
Councillor A. Simpson (AS)
Councillor D. Burrell (DB)

In Jenny Pears (Clerk)
Attendance: Residents

01-07-25/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE **ACTION**
Councillor Angus Thompson (AT) – North Yorkshire Council – **ACCEPTED**

01-07-25/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

01-07-25/03 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th May 2025
RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2025 are confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

01-07-25/04 UPDATES FROM MINUTES OF 6th May 2025

RESOLVED – Clerk previously raised the issue with Highways of the damaged grills in School Lane. Highways confirmed they have scheduled the work to take place in Spring. Councillors asked Clerk to follow this up as it needs doing in the drier months. The home to school transportation issue is still unresolved. Clerk read out the brief email update from AT. He shared his concerns that Richmond school is full which means students from his constituency may not be able to get a place at the school. In respect of the new transport policy, he said he didn't like it any more than anyone else. Had the motion before full council on 19th May succeeded and reverted to the catchment system, and which he voted against, then we would almost certainly have had to put forward cuts in frontline services. SEND or special educational needs could have been one. Is that what people want? Of course not. We all want more funding from central government. But it has been made absolutely clear that that won't be forthcoming. Indeed, sadly the vibes are that even more cuts to funding for councils like North Yorkshire are forthcoming. He also said: Please understand that without further funding, by year 28/29 it is very unlikely that anyone in North Yorkshire will get free school transport. AT did share that he is supporting an initiative brought forward by Sharon Diamond, a resident of Eppleby. This is looking at tweaking the current public bus timetable managed by Hodgsons. Students from villages like Stapleton, Manfield, Eppleby, Aldbrough and Melsonby will be able to travel to Richmond School for £1 per journey which, with full attendance throughout the academic year would be about £390.

AA has corresponded with AT since the last meeting and in response to AT's vote to support the new policy. Councillors feel unsupported in the issues raised. AA confirmed that there is still an issue of children in Eppleby village being allocated 3 different schools

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk/AT/AA

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under the home to school transportation policy. The school allocated is dependent on where they live in the village. This needs to be one school allocated to all children of Eppleby. This was raised at the November meeting, this was the last meeting AT attended. The work to carry out remedial/repair work on the benches was delayed as the wrong benches were delivered and left on the village green. JN Bentleys are looking into this. Clerk followed up on the other issues previously raised and to be completed by JN Bentleys. AA confirmed that damaged verges have been repaired. Councillors did agree that they will except any benches that donated by JN Bentleys and will then look at what is still required and if it can be funded by the Parish Council.

Clerk

AA asked that the item to replace the goal posts is reviewed at the next meeting. Clerk confirmed that the installation meeting for the outdoor gym equipment was arranged for 2nd July. AS, Mary Imray and Clerk will attend the meeting and agree the placement of the equipment. AS said that there is an area near the entrance of the play park that may need to be avoided. He will raise this at the meeting. The installation will take place end of August/beginning of September. The vegetation growth on the footpath still needs cleaning. Clerk has contacted Street Scene at NYC.

AA

Clerk/AS

Clerk

No update had been received from Steve Barker at Highways on the various issues raised with flooding, blocked gullies, and drainage around the village. Clerk will follow this up again. AA did mention no date has been agreed to carrying out the dye testing. There was flooding at New Road, this was from the old gully/bus stop to the new gully. Clerk will raise this. AS suggested that the noticeboards are refreshed. It was agreed to monitor the existing boards and mark as completed. A resident of Chapel Row mentioned flooding issues. AA has asked the resident to forward him a copy of the correspondence. As yet, nothing had received. Councillors discussed that they had spoken about this issue years previously and options had given to the residents to either re do their drainage and connect into a possible soakaway (they could build on the village green) or possibly discuss with Highways about connecting to the drains. This was not taken any further. AA reiterated that the Parish Council will be as supportive as they can. The residents involved would need to agree a plan and move this forward.

Clerk/AA

Clerk

Completed

Completed

01-07-25/05

REPORT FROM NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

RESOLVED – Clerk read out a brief an email update from Councillor Angus Thompson (AT) as he was unable to attend the meeting. No update/change on the two main issues of transportation to Middleton Tyas School and the transportation for children attending secondary school. Extracts from the email are included in item 04. AB did raise concerns as the first home to school policy report was poor and the financial information shared is not consistent. Councillors asked the Clerk to request a copy of the minutes from the EGM on 21st May 2025.

Clerk

01-07-25/06

PLANNING APPLICATIONS and DECISIONS NOTICES

RESOLVED – ZD25/00254/FULL - Thornfield House, The Green - Full planning permission for new ancillary residential accommodation comprising an additional floor over the existing garage and the construction of a two-storey extension to the existing property and ancillary works. No further comments.
Decision Notices – None.

Completed

SPENDING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

01-07-25/07

RESOLVED – The Clerk provided an overview of the finances since the last meeting. This was shared with Councillors by email prior to the meeting. Covering the period 1st April to 23rd June 2025.

Completed

The following cheque payments were approved and signed:

Eppleby Village Hall - £40.00, Reimburse Alan Simpson for fertiliser and flowers for tubs and troughs - £142.00, Clerk invoice - £334.49, CE and CM Walker £376.80 and £565.20.

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Clerk confirmed a payment of £153.43 had been received from Highways for reimbursement of grass cutting.

TO DISCUSS ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

01-07-25/08 **RESOLVED** – A pre planning meeting took place on 11th June 2025 with Melsonby, Stanwick, and Aldbrough St John Parish Council. AA represented Eppleby. The collective issues/questions have been shared with NYC planning and are awaiting NYC's availability to meet. **Clerk**

AA asked Councillors to consider having two quoits pitches on the Village Green. **AA**
Councillors felt that this is something to discuss further but residents did ask if consideration could be given as to where the pitches will be. It was agreed that AA would put a post on Facebook to see if there was a demand for it and put a proposal together. An issue of chickens roaming the village and causing damage had been raised. Councillors discussed that Clerk should write to the resident, the chickens can roam on residents own land. If any damage is incurred it will be the owner's responsibility. Clerk to look at legislation and share on Facebook. **Clerk**

AB shared that he has sold his house and will be moving from the village. He will be resigning from his role as a Parish Councillor once a move date has been agreed. AA suggested that at the next election others have the opportunity to be Chair of the Parish Council. Clerk will confirm the election date. **Clerk**

AS raised the issue of the tarmac melting/bubbling. This is by the school and shop. AS asked Clerk to raise this with Highways. **Clerk**

01-07-25/09 TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
RESOLVED – Sharon Diamond attended the Parish Council and spoke about an initiative she has put together. The no 29 Hodgson bus service, with some tweaking of the timetable could offer transport to surrounding villages. Providing school children transport to and from school and residents access to a service that benefits everyone. The route is under review by NYC and Sharon has asked that the Parish Council support the changes. Councillors unanimously agreed to support it. Clerk will write to AT and the Mayor of York. Residents raised the issue of parking around the village. Was adequate consideration given for parking, some of the village green is used. AA agreed that parking is limited. Household's now have more than two cars; this has increased over time. It is something the Parish Council can't 'police' but do ask that residents are considerate of others and where they park. Ensuring minimum damage to the verges and village green. **Clerk**

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

01-07-25/10 The date of the next meeting was agreed to take place on **Tuesday 2nd September but has now changed to 16th September 2025 at 6.30pm** in Eppleby Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.47pm.

SIGNED: (Chairman) DATE: