Dunnington Parish Council

MEETING OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 14th September 2026 Time: 7.00pm
Venue: The Tower Room, St Nicholas Church, Church Street, Dunnington, YO19 5PW

MINUTES

PC26/9/1 – Formalities

Present: Cllr Ruston (Chair), Cllr Shaw, Cllr Dykes, Cllr Ford, Cllr Rowley, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Rees-Gay, Cllr Bachelor, Cllr Mayor, Cllr Jackson and Cllr Ward.
Also in attendance: Cllr Warters (Ward Councillor), the Clerk, one member of the public and one Police Officer.
Apologies: Cllr Thompson.
Late arrival: Cllr Kay arrived at 8.45pm, following consideration of Item PC26/9/18.1.
1.2 Recording of Meetings
Attendees were reminded of the Council's policy regarding audio/visual recording of meetings.
1.3 Applications for Dispensation
No applications for dispensation were received.
1.4 Declarations of Interest
Cllr Rowley declared an interest in PC26/9/12 – Poppy Wreath Donation and abstained from consideration and voting on the item.

PC26/9/2 – Minutes

The minutes of the previous Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 13 July 2026 were considered.
Resolved: That the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record.

PC26/9/3 – Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: To exclude the press and public for the consideration of confidential business under Items PC26/9/20, PC26/9/21 and PC26/9/22.1.

Variation to the Order of Business
The Chair varied the order of business.
Following consideration of PC26/9/6, Items PC26/9/11, PC26/9/16, PC26/9/17, PC26/9/20 and PC26/9/21 were brought forward. The meeting then returned to PC26/9/7 and continued with the remaining agenda business.
For clarity, these minutes are recorded in the published agenda order, rather than the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

PC26/9/4 – Public Participation

A member of the public spoke regarding Eastfield Lane, including the potential availability of further land for housing.
Concerns were also raised regarding parking on Church Street and the frustrations experienced by residents.

PC26/9/5 – Cemetery

The Council received an update regarding the cemetery.
Matters relating to the cemetery gates were discussed.

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PC26/9/6 – Eastfield Lane

The Council received an update on outstanding matters relating to Eastfield Lane.
It was noted that matters involving Council contractors were currently being held in abeyance pending 25 September.

PC26/9/7 – Highways

Cllr Rees-Gay provided feedback following discussions with City of York Council Highways. Matters discussed included white lines on York Street, bus stops, introducing a one-way system on Church Lane and other outstanding highways matters.
Cllr Warters raised the 20mph speed limit.
It was agreed that outstanding matters would continue to be followed up. Darren Hobson and George Holmes were referred to during the discussion. The Clerk would copy Ward Cllr Warters into the relevant correspondence and Cllr Dykes and Cllr Rees-Gay would be asked to provide a recap/update where required.

PC26/9/8 – Assets of Community Value

8.1 Hagg Wood
The Council received an update regarding the Hagg Wood Asset of Community Value application.
It was noted that the matter was due to proceed to a public session on Tuesday 6 October, with the agenda expected to be published approximately one week beforehand.
The Council considered representation at the meeting and it was proposed that Cllr Dykes attend to support the application if required.
Cllr Rees-Gay proposed the motion, seconded by Cllr Major. Cllr Ford and Cllr Jackson abstained, with all remaining members voting in favour.
Resolved: That the proposal be supported if deemed necessary.
8.2 Village Pub
The Council received an update following consideration by City of York Council.
The outcome was that the application had been accepted and this was noted by council.

PC26/9/9 – Land Registry / Land Valuation

Cllr Dykes provided an update.
It was reported that valuations had been received and forwarded to the solicitor.
It was anticipated that matters would progress in relation to the Village Green/allotments/ Julias Garden, Intake Lane and Hassacarr, following which the relevant land registration matters could be progressed.

PC26/9/10 – Website

An update was received regarding progress with the website.
It was noted that approximately two hours of work had been undertaken.

PC26/9/11 – Resident Concerns

11.1 Pear Tree Lane – Parking
Cllr Ruston raised concerns regarding vehicles blocking driveways in Pear Tree Lane.
It was reported that a resident was speaking to the school and Police regarding the issue.
11.2 Field Surveying in the Village
The Council discussed field surveying and land which had recently changed hands.
Concerns regarding possible future housing development were raised, together with the importance of maintaining a suitable buffer zone.
11.3 Other Resident Concerns

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Other concerns raised by residents were noted.

PC26/9/12 – Poppy Wreath Donation

Cllr Rowley had declared an interest in this item and abstained from consideration and voting.
The Council considered the usual annual donation of £100 towards a Royal British Legion poppy wreath.
The proposal was made by Cllr Rees-Gay and seconded by Cllr Jackson.
Resolved: To approve the £100 donation, with Cllr Rowley abstaining.

PC26/9/13 – Village Green

Cllr Dykes provided an update regarding the electricity supply to the Village Green.
It was reported that the relevant licence did not allow the provision of a free electricity supply.
The Council considered a one-off payment of £340, together with the associated wayleave arrangements.
The proposal was made by Cllr Dykes and seconded by Cllr Rees-Gay. Cllr Ford abstained, with all remaining members supporting the proposal.
Resolved: To approve the proposal.

PC26/9/14 – In Bloom

The Council considered the winter planting arrangements and quotation.
Resolved: To approve expenditure of £750 for Dunnington in Bloom.

PC26/9/15 – Playpark

15.1 Playpark Issues
The Council considered current playpark issues and noted that recommendations were required, together with consideration of the available budget.
15.2 Playpark Group Recommendations
It was agreed that this matter would return to a future meeting.
Matters relating to RoSPA, play equipment and potential grant funding were also noted for further consideration.

PC26/9/16 – Hassacarr Lane

16.1 Vandalism
An update was received regarding recent vandalism at Hassacarr Lane. Unfortunately, there is no CCTV coverage at the location.
David Ellison, the Police Officer from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, introduced himself to the Council and provided an update. Attempts had been made to establish who was responsible for the damage involving ball bearings; however, no one had come forward with any information. Investigations would continue, and contact with the Police would be maintained.
A general conversation was has regarding anti-social behaviour in the village and the position regarding e-scooters was also explained, including the circumstances in which their use is lawful within authorised schemes.
16.2 Children and Animal Safety
As above
Cllr Jackson referred to previous incidents of anti-social behaviour around the tennis court and car park area.
It was noted that the street lighting in the area had previously been switched off but had now been restored.
16.3 Gates
The repair of the gates was considered.

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Resolved: To defer the matter pending receipt of a quotation for the required repairs.
The Police Officer then left the meeting, and the Council thanked him for his attendance.

PC26/9/17 – Village Trees

17.1 Intake Lane Tree
Cllr Dykes provided feedback following consultation with three tree surgeons.
It was reported that damage to a resident's wall had not been established as having been caused by the tree. The resident had been advised to provide supporting evidence regarding the alleged damage.
Photographs previously circulated were discussed. Fungus on the tree/root area was also noted.
It was agreed that the tree would continue to be monitored and that further appropriate arboricultural advice would be sought.
17.2 Other Trees on Parish Land
A concern raised by a resident regarding a cemetery tree was discussed.
It was agreed that further information would be forwarded to the resident following the hedge cutting. Cllr Rowley also noted that he would like the Cemetery Group to consider not allowing sunflowers on the cemetery as they grow too tall.

PC26/9/18 – Village Show / Fayre

18.1 Village Show
Arrangements for the Village Show were discussed.
It was agreed that the matter would be considered further in October.
Cllr Kay joined the meeting at 8.45pm following consideration of this item.
18.2 2027 Village Fayre
The Council discussed arrangements and possible dates for the 2027 Village Fayre.
Consideration was given to holding the event earlier, before the school summer break, and potentially working with the Sports Club.
Cllr Rees-Gay would liaise further regarding possible dates.

PC26/9/19 – Annual Parish Meeting

The Chair spoke about arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.
It was agreed that the matter would return to a future meeting for further consideration.

The Clerk, Ward Cllr Warters and the member of public left the Meeting

PC26/9/20 – Staffing

20.1 Recruitment
The Council received an update on the recent recruitment process and its outcome.
20.2 Replacement Clerk/RFO
The Council considered the recommendations arising from the recruitment process.
Resolved unanimously: Subject to satisfactory references, to appoint Candidate B.
20.3 NJC Pay Increase
The Council noted the NJC pay increase 3.30% backdated to April 2026.
Cllr Dykes was nominated to raise the necessary paperwork and inform Autela.
20.4 Handover
The Council discussed the handover process.
Resolved unanimously: To support the proposals made.
The Clerk and Ward Cllr Warters returned to the Meeting.

PC26/9/21 – Budget 2027/28

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21.1 Preparation of the 2027/28 Budget
Cllr Dykes provided an update regarding preparation of the budget.
Members were invited to bring forward matters for consideration, including possible future initiatives relating to the playpark and provision for children.
The possibility of setting aside funding for future playpark initiatives was discussed.
Cllr Dykes and the Clerk would arrange a meeting to progress preparation of the budget.
21.2 NJC Payroll Increase
The NJC payroll increase and its budget implications were noted.
It was confirmed that this matter had already been actioned.
PC26/9/22 – Quotes and Payments
22.1 Quotations
The Council considered quotations received, including quotations relating to fencing.
Four quotations were considered
The quotations were discussed, including the need to ensure that they were compared on a like-for-like basis. One quotation to be confirmed and will come back to Finance
22.2 Payments
No payments for consideration received.

PC26/9/23 – Planning Matters

The Council considered the planning matters and applications listed on the published agenda.
The Council also discussed the Local Plan and associated site plan for the New Village at Elvington with a public consultation on the 17th and 18th of October of which councillors were aware of.
No further comments were raised on the remaining planning matters.

PC26/9/24 – Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of Dunnington Parish Council was agreed as 12 October 2026 in The Tower Room, St Nicholas Church, Dunnington.

Meeting Closed at 9.09pm

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