



## STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, York YO325XW  
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Chairman : Mr A H Fisher

### MINUTES OF AN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 09<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025 AT 7.15 PM

**Councillors Present:** Andrew Bolton                      Chris Chambers  
Tony Fisher<sup>1</sup>    Sarah Glynn  
Graham Green    Simon Hide  
Lawrence Mattinson                                  Daniel Pillai  
John Shirbon

**In Attendance:** Fiona Hill – Parish Clerk

**Public Present:** 0

<sup>1</sup> City of York Councillor

**24/304 a) To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting:**

Thomas Carmichael, Anthony Drake and Alan May

**b) To consider the approval of reasons given for absence:**

Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

**24/305 To discuss the casual vacancy resulting from the death of Susan Nunn:**

A notice will be placed on the website and social media

**24/306 To receive any declarations of interest under the Parish Council Code of Conduct or Members register of interests: None**

**24/307 a) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025:**

Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

**b) To endorse the approved Planning Committee minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025:**

Resolved / Endorsed (Unanimous)

**24/308 Public participation on any subject relating to the agenda: None**

**24/290 To receive matters raised by/with City of York Ward Councillors:**

a) City of York Council – Consultation – Rougier Route

Cllr Fisher gave a summary of the proposed changes

Resolved / (Unanimous) The Parish Council would not respond via the consultation, but would email CYC to say:

- the changes would not reduce traffic, just move it elsewhere

Approved ..... Chairman    Date.....

- there would be very little tangible benefit
- a holistic approach rather than a piece meal approach, should be adopted

b) City of York Council – Consultation – Boundary Review

Cllr Fisher gave a summary of the review

Resolved / The Parish Council would not respond to this consultation. (Unanimous)

- c) City of York Council - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Adoption Notification  
The Parish noted the content of this email.

Cllr Fisher reported that the landscaping had been finished at the bus terminal.

**24/291 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action on matters arising/ongoing issues:**

- a) North Yorkshire Police monthly reports – October 2025 report received

b) Community Memorial Garden – Governance, Christmas tree, Beyond The Built

Governance – Dave Meigh, CYC is now drafting the lease agreement

Christmas tree – the Parish Council had not heard about the draw from York Christmas Trees  
Beyond The Build – is a civil engineer/ construction company who wish to give back to communities. The Parish Council would accept their offer of a meeting and Cllr Shirbon would lead.

Cllr Fisher would speak to David Nunn, about planting a tree, in memory of Susan, in the memorial garden

c) Play Areas – Councillor inspections, Post ROSPA works

Cllr Dale had conducted inspections since last meeting, but no report had been received.  
Cllr Drake would conduct the inspections until the next meeting.

Sutcliffe were providing the parts for the swing seats, which would be fitted by, Jon Brock, the handyman.

To date, only one quote had been received for repairing the rotator surfacing - Park Lane £695.00 plus VAT. This work would be delayed until spring when the weather would hopefully be better.

d) Tree Works – Allotments, Flaxton Road, York Road

Allotments – the High Risk jobs would be done 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Flaxton Road:

A resident had contacted the Parish Council as follows:

“Please can I ask for an item to be added to the agenda for discussion for the next meeting. There is a tree on Flaxton Road (photo attached) which is of concern due to the amount it is leaning.

Please can a tree surgeon take a look at this tree and assess if it is at risk of falling and potentially causing an accident. However please can the tree surgeon be a private contractor and not the one who is employed by the York City Council (Haxby Christmas Tree fiasco comes to mind). I raised this issue with York City Council last December but they couldn’t help”.



Lewis Tree Surgery inspected and reported:

“The tree was assessed from ground level only. From ground level the tree appears to be in reasonable health however there is some dead wood evident over the carriage way that should be addressed as soon as possible for safety reasons.

The lean could be due to the tree searching/growing towards the light but the ground conditions are soft and prone to being waterlogged in the winter. With this in mind I think it would be prudent to carry out further investigation using an Arboricultural Consultant such as Barnes and Associates who have equipment to investigate further and provide reassurances as to the safety of the tree.

If you would like us to obtain a quotation for such a report on your behalf, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we can do so”.

Barnes Associates have quoted £825.00 plus VAT to undertake a Dynamic Stability Assessment.

Resolved / The Parish Council would not proceed with the Barnes quote at this stage, but would ask Lewis Tree to remove the dead wood and if possible, attach strapping. (Unanimous)

York Road – the work had actually been done by City of York Council, but the arisings had not been removed from the other site of the road.

Resolved / The Parish Council would ask Lewis Trees to remove them. (Unanimous)

e) Fence Repairs – Allotments, Langton Court

Allotments – Oakwood Landscaping had quoted £1968.00 including VAT for fixing the fallen fence. The Parish Council deferred a decision to allow time for obtaining more quotes.

Approved .....

Chairman

Date.....

Langton Court:



The Handyman had cut back the Ivy to expose the salt bin and reported that the fence behind was rotten. Oakwood Landscaping had quoted £2181.00 including VAT for removing Ivy and replace fence. The Parish Council deferred a decision to allow time for obtaining more quotes.

f) Handyman – work update

The work has now been completed with planters, noticeboards and seat/benches. He has still to do the play area works and the tree plaque.

g) Planning Inspectorate – ROW/3362930 – Westpit, Strensall, YO32 5RY

Cllr Fisher had reported on this at the October meeting. The Public Inquiry in the village hall, starting at 1000 on 09 June 2026 and is expected to last four days.

City of York Council is supporting the confirmation of the parts of the order relating to public footpaths 22, 23, 24, 31, 35 and 36

For the remaining footpaths shown within the order (25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34 and 37), CYC is taking a neutral stance towards confirmation.

This means that whilst CYC will arrange and administer the inquiry they will not present a case either in support or opposition to the confirmation.

Both CYC and the supporters of the parts of the order CYC is taking a neutral stance towards need to have submitted a statement of case by 28 January 2026.

Russell Varley, the Definitive Map Officer at CYC has contacted the Parish Council to:

..... find out whether the parish council is intending to present a case in support of those parts of the order that CYC are taking a neutral stance towards.

..... ask if representative from parish council would like to discuss what is required for a statement of case and how a local public inquiry operates.

He has also shared the Statement of Case Appendices, which will be treated as sensitive until the Parish Council decided if it will support the affected footpaths at inquiry.

Approved ..... Chairman Date.....

Resolved / the Chairman and Parish Clerk should work through the 15 footpaths and suggest what the Parish Council stance should be, which would be submitted for approval at the next Parish Council meeting on 12 January 2026. (Unanimous)

Resolved / as the submission date is 28 January 2026, I wish to gratefully accept your offer to discuss with you what is required for a statement of case and how a local public inquiry operates. (Unanimous)

**24/292 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action, on matters raised since last meetings:**

a) TPIP River Foss Project – Meeting Invitation – 16 January, 4-6 p.m. at St Nicks  
Cllrs Fisher, Hyde and Shirbon will attend

b) Grass Cutting Contract 2026-2028

A number of companies have been sent the specification asking them to quote with a deadline of 31 December 2025.

c) Tree Risk Assessment 2027-2029

The Parish Clerk would contact Bartletts, BHA, Barnes and Think ARB for quotes for this reporting work.

**24/293 To discuss matters raised by/with Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO):**

a) Bank reconciliation, Receipts and Payments to date, including budget comparison 01Apr25 – 30Sep25:

The Parish Clerk circulated a bank reconciliation totalling £198417.03 and at the next meeting a budget/actual comparison for April – December 2025.

b) Payment Approval: None

c) Financial Management – Budget/Precept 2026/2027, Internal Controls

Resolved – Precept Demand £54000.00, Budget £75970.00 (Unanimous)

Internal controls, had slipped from agenda, so would be re-introduced in January 2026.

d) Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Business Continuity Plan

This has been drafted and is now held by the Chairman and Parish Clerk

e) Monthly Report from Parish Office:

Asset inspections – the Parish Clerk had inspected all parcels of land, seats/benches, planters, noticeboards and all are in order. Still to do – village signs / bus shelters.

Cemetery inspections / Two loose headstones – One family I had not heard from, but the headstone is no longer loose. The other family has advised that the stone mason has been delayed due to weather.

Fallen tree / Northfields allotments – the parishioners insurance company appears to have paid their claim. The Parish Councils insurance is still requesting information, so I presume they are preparing for a counter claim.

Approved .....

Chairman

Date.....

Damage to verge (Lords Moor Lane) – DPD had responded to the email, requesting further information from the Parish Council. Cllr Fisher would try to speak to the parishioner who received the delivery.

Bin outside fisheries – still awaiting for this to be returned after CYC replaced the bus shelter.

Bus shelters – City of York Council have conducted a review and found smashed panels at Northfields and Knapton Close, so will quote for replacements.

Dog fouling – a parishioner reported a professional dog walker in van with around 15 dogs, using the open spaces near the curly wurly bridge. Cllrs would monitor the area.

**24/294 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00 p.m.**  
Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

Approved ..... Chairman Date.....