

BAGBY AND BALK PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bagby and Balk Parish Council **Wednesday 12th November 2025**

Present: Cllr McKenzie (Chair), Cllr Varey (Vice Chair), Cllr Crick, Cllr Cook, Cllr Southwell, Clerk R Hedger, 3 members of the public.

2025-26.95 Public Participation

See Allotment update below (2025-26.102).

2025-26.96 Apologies:

1. To **Note** Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence

None at this time.

2025-26.97 To Note any Declarations of Interest

1. To **Approve** Dispensation Requests
2. To **Note** Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None at this time.

2025-26.98 To Receive Nomination for Co-Option of New Parish Councillor

1. To receive nomination for new Councillor

Councillors were pleased to receive a nomination for a new Councillor, B Southwell.

2. To vote to co-opt new Councillor

Councillors voted unanimously to co-opt B Southwell onto the Parish Council.

3. New Councillor invited to join the meeting.

Councillor Southwell was welcomed to the meeting and received the declaration of acceptance and register of interest forms to be retained by the clerk and a copy sent to NYC. One councillor vacancy remains.

2025-26.99 Minutes

1. To **Approve** the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 08/10/2025

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true account, and these were signed by the Chairman.

2025-26.100 To Receive reports for North Yorkshire Council

Cllr Baker sent correspondence to inform residents that a confirmed case of Avian Influenza has occurred at a premises in the Knayton area.

2025-26.101 To Note and discuss any Planning issues

1. To **Note** NYC Planning Applications Notices received

None at this time.

2. To **Note** NYC Planning Decision Notices received

ZB25/01642/FUL Granted	Householder Application for Planning Permission for works or extension to a dwelling: Extension of existing building to create additional bedroom space. Demolition of existing single storey element and erection of 2 storey extension to create additional bedroom and living areas. Erection of single storey residential annex to rear of existing detached garage structure.	Bagby Grange, Bagby, Thirsk, North Yorkshire
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Councillors noted the planning decision notice.

2025-26.102 To Note or Approve and Finance and Governance issues

1. To **Discuss** the 2026/27 Budget and Precept

Councillors considered the Clerk's budget report and discussed the options outlined for the budget 2026/2027. Given an increase in expenditure in recent years, councillors supported an increase in the precept to assist in re-building essential reserves. Councillors were in favour of a 23% increase in the precept, but agreed to consider this more fully prior to making a final decision at the December meeting.

2. To **Note** the current Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitoring

Councillors noted the current Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitoring. The current bank balance is £7943.93.

3. To **Consider** approving the payments detailed below:

YLCA	Training: How do I help my community as a councillor?	£27.40
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Councillors approved the payment.

4. To **Consider** appointing an internal auditor

The clerk had contacted 5 internal auditors. The two most suitable quotes were as follows: £165 (no VAT) from PATAS and £300 from Internal Audit Yorkshire. It was resolved that the clerk would appoint PATAS.

2025-26.102 Allotment update

1. To **Update** on shed roof issue

The Chairman has arranged to meet the shed provider on 18/11/2025 and invited C Musgrove to attend.

2. To **Update** on purchase of allotment gate

Will Gray provided a quote for a 12 ft gate at a cost of £700. The price includes supply and installation with rabbit wire. Cllr Cook noted that this is a fair rate, and Cllr Crick mentioned the good quality of work completed recently by Mr Gray. The cost would be subsidised by the recent Locality Budget Fund grant of £400. It was resolved that the clerk would contact Mr Gray to arrange for installation of a 12 ft gate as soon as possible.

3. To **Discuss** hedge-planting

The clerk noted the receipt of 3 shipments of free hedge plants from the Woodland Trust. Councillors discussed the current planning conditions, which suggest additional hedging on the southern boundary, resulting in a double hedge. Councillors instructed the clerk to contact Planning to clarify whether it would be possible to plant hedging elsewhere on site, rather than increasing an existing hedgerow. Councillors also instructed the clerk to purchase approximately 50 tree guards.

4. To **Discuss** Lottery Funding application

Councillors discussed the content of the application and thanked allotment holders for producing such a thorough document. The addition of a wheelchair-friendly pathway between the community plot and the shed was also discussed, with options such as crusher run mentioned. Councillors agreed to seek a further quote from Will Gray, possibly to be added to the Lottery Funding bid.

2025-26.103 Other Business and Correspondence Received

1. To **Update** on Monk Park Farm licensing hearing

The Chairman had attended the hearing in October where the license was approved on certain conditions. Monk Park Farm is required to contact the Parish Council in advance of any events, which will be noted at future meetings. It was resolved that the clerk would contact Licensing to seek clarity on any further conditions.

2. To **Update** on parish insurance

The clerk renewed the policy with Zurich insurance.

3. To **Note** delay to resurfacing of York Road

The clerk informed councillors of correspondence from Highways noting that 'given the number of other ongoing works in and around Thirsk, it was decided to postpone the work until the next financial year rather than have further disruption at this time. It is envisaged that the resurfacing of the A170 Barbeck/York Road will now take place sometime after March 2026.'

Councillors noted the delay. Councillors instructed the clerk to contact Highways to seek more specific details of when this work will be completed in light of repeated complaints.

4. To **Update** on progress of SCAF funding application

No update on the Scott Creative Art Foundation application, but councillors instructed the Clerk to contact Highways and seek clarity as to why no footpath was created when the original property was initially converted.

5. To **Discuss** Monk Fryston correspondence re Speed Indicator Devices

Councillors asked that the clerk write in support of SID trials, as suggested by Monk Fryston Parish Council.

6. To **Discuss** correspondence regarding Operation Star (North Yorkshire Police)

Councillors were grateful to Mr Skilbeck for making contact. It was resolved that the Clerk would invite Mr Skilbeck to PC meetings.

2025-26.104 To Note matters for information for next monthly meeting agenda

1. To **Confirm** the Precept level for 2026/27
2. To **Discuss** Assertion 10 and moving to gov.uk email and website
3. To **Confirm** dates of meetings in 2026

2025-26.105 To Confirm date, time and venue for next meeting

Meetings start at 7pm – next meeting is 10/12/2025 at Power Point, York Road, Thirsk.

The meeting closed at 8:35pm.