

Bagby & Balk Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Bagby & Balk Parish Council Held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7.00pm at Power Point, York Road, Thirsk, YO7 3BX

Members Present: Cllr McKenzie (Chair)
Cllr Varey (Vice Chair)
Cllr Crick
Cllr Cook
Cllr Southwell

Also Present: Clerk R Hedger
4 members of the public

2026-27.39 Public participation

The Chair invited allotment-holders to participate at this point if they would prefer not to wait.
Please see 2026-27.46.1.

2026-27.40 Apologies

NYC Cllr Baker submitted her apologies in advance, and these were accepted by councillors.

2026-27.41 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.

2026-27.42 Minutes

1. To **Approve** the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 08/07/2026

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the meeting and were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting. These were duly signed by the Chair.

2026-27.43 To Receive reports for North Yorkshire Council

Cllr Southwell noted that at the Thirsk and Malton area meeting it had been mentioned that a market town improvement fund is available and Thirsk is on course to receive some funding, which is likely to impact Bagby.

It was noted that the NYC Councillor was not present at the meeting.

2026-27.44 To Note and Discuss any Planning issues

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

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

3. To Note withdrawn NYC Planning Application

ZB25/00505/MRC	Application for removal of condition 5 (Bike storage stabling & tack storage) for previously Approved application 18/01722/FUL	Westholme York Road Thirsk North Yorkshire
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Signed Chair:

Dated:

Councillors noted the withdrawn planning application notice.

2026-27.45 To Note or Approve Finance and Governance issues

1. To **note** the current Bank Reconciliation, Cash Book and Budget Monitoring documents

Councillors noted the current bank reconciliation, cash book and budget monitoring documents and these were signed by Cllr Crick.

2. To **consider** and **agree** the NALC 3.3% salary increase

Councillors considered this proposal and agreed to the salary increase, effective from 01/04/2026.

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

J Broadwith	Grass cutting	£ 1477.80
SWARCO	VAS speed signage maintenance contract (annual payment)	£214.14
Greentech	Topsoil and compost	£1824.00 (covered by Lottery Funding grant)
Sam Turner	Picnic benches and solar lights	£962.89 (covered by Lottery Funding)
Parish Online	New compliant website	£330
NSALG	Membership	£84.00
YLCA	Training - Powers, Policies and Procedures	£28.20

RESOLVED: That the payments (as detailed above) are approved.

2026-27.46 Allotment update

1. To **discuss** community bed set-up

It was noted that community beds and picnic benches are built and in place thanks to the kind efforts of allotment-holders, but that it was now necessary to set up a process by which community beds are allocated. Allotment-holders suggested they would like community bed users to sign the same agreement to ensure rules are followed and to assist with the general upkeep of the allotment site. Cllr Crick suggested a 'champion' to oversee any work/access to the community beds. The Chair suggested that the village society may be interested in one or more community beds, and it was resolved that the Chair would set up a meeting. If there was no interest in the community beds following these efforts, it was suggested that planting low-maintenance perennial crops and/or herbs might offer a solution.

2. To **update** on progress of lottery funding orders

Only a metal unit for the lawnmower and a lawnmower remain on the purchase list.

3. To **discuss** amendments to tenancy agreements and plot pricing for 2027 and 2028

The Chair noted that councillors were in the process of updating the tenancy agreement to reflect how the site had developed since it was established. Plots would continue to be priced at £50 per full plot and £25 per half plot until April 2028. An increase from April 2028 was not agreed and would be discussed and decided prior to April 2027 to allow allotment-holders one year's notice of this proposed change.

One allotment holder asked whether lottery funding would be available next year. Cllr Southwell stated that applications could be submitted annually, and it was noted that other grants are also available.

4. To **discuss** allotment polytunnel

Signed Chair:

Dated:

Allotment-holders agreed that a polytunnel similar in size to one already on site (approx. 3m by 8m) would suffice. It was noted that benches and shelving would be a useful addition, and it would be necessary to have a professional build this on site. It was resolved that the clerk would investigate a polytunnel within budget, taking building costs into consideration. Cllr Cook noted that he would provide the clerk with contact details for a tradesperson who builds these in the area.

2026-27.47 Other Business and Correspondence Received

1. To **discuss** councillor photos on noticeboards

Councillors discussed the request to publish their photographs on the website and notice boards. Noting privacy concerns, it was resolved not to publish councillor photos.

2. To **discuss** bus services within Bagby

Councillors discussed reported concerns with bus services in the area, noting that Bagby and Balk are rural villages and do not benefit from regular public transport. It was resolved that the clerk would respond to the resident who had made the report to recommend discussing this matter with NYC Cllr Baker.

3. To **discuss** stone village sign

It was confirmed that there has always been only one stone village sign. It was noted that hedges around road signs require trimming and it was resolved that the clerk would contact NYC.

4. To **discuss** reports of speeding in Bagby and Balk

A resident had contacted parish councillors to report concerns about speeding in the village. Cllr Southwell noted that the police speed van had been in the village recently and queried whether the police collected data. Parish councillors noted speeding concerns and it was resolved to regularly monitor the issue and to contact the North Yorkshire Police liaison if this escalated.

5. To **update** on new website

Cllr Southwell noted some possible amendments and additions for the new website, and it was resolved that the clerk would apply these as soon as possible.

6. To **update** on sewage work health and safety query

A representative of NYC Health & Safety department had been in touch to confirm that North Yorkshire Council had no responsibility for this. It was resolved that the Chair would contact Yorkshire Water.

7. To **update** on Tree Preservation Order

NYC Planning have assessed the tree and confirm it scored highly on the Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Order assessment and is therefore worthy of protection. The operations team have started the process of placing a TPO.

8. To **discuss** flooding on Bagby Lane

It was resolved that the Chair would monitor this.

9. To **discuss** potholes in village

It was noted that work had been carried out to repair potholes in one half of the village. Councillors were satisfied with this work and eagerly anticipated the rest of the work being carried out.

10. To **note** new VAS speeding signage maintenance contract

Councillors noted the maintenance contract in place.

11. To **note** correspondence from the Protect Hambleton Association

No update.

12. To **note** casual vacancy

Councillors noted the vacancy.

13. To **discuss** Planning REF ZB26/00387/FUL

The clerk confirmed she had not received a response from Planning to the letter submitted outlining issues with the retrospective planning application.

2026-27.48 To Note matters for information for next monthly meeting agenda

1. To **confirm** parish insurance renewal
2. To **discuss** Planning REF ZB26/00387/FUL

2026-27.49 To Confirm date, time and venue for next meeting

Members noted the date of the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14th October at 7.00pm at Power Point, York Road, Thirsk, YO7 3BX.

Signed Chair:

Dated: