

CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Cliffe Village Institute on Monday 7th September 2026

26/199 Present: -

Councillor G Wilson (Chairman)
Councillor H Cross
Councillor S Gummerson
Councillor A Holman
Councillor A Marshall
Councillor R Woodall
Councillor E Yates

North Yorkshire Councillor K Arthur

Two members of the public were also present including Mr Robert Procter – Chairman of the Hall for Hemingbrough CIC Group.

26/200 Apologies: -

Councillor J Jewitt
Councillor J Wallinger

26/201 Declarations of Interest: - None

26/202 Public Session: -

It was noted that a member of the public present is writing a dissertation on the effectiveness of Parish Councils and Cliffe Parish Council has been given a top rating "Confident Councils are informative, encouraging and transparent bodies that actively lead and guide their residents".

The Chairman read out and answered the following questions raised by the resident: -

1. Council minute books, especially those written by earlier generations are informative, educational and entertaining. Does the Parish Council actively promote their availability to local residents and to families elsewhere that are researching ancestors, and how are ledgers protected and accessed?

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council do not actively promote their availability but as public records they are available and are kept secure in a locked cabinet and safe with two Councillors required to be present whenever the cabinet or safe is accessed. It was also noted that a lot of the original documents are stored at the Borthwick Institute for Archives at the University of York.

2. The A63 Road is a misery beyond the Council's control that physically splits the village. Have there been any serious incidents in recent years, and does it harm social cohesion?

The Chairman advised that fortunately there has not been any serious incidents recently, and it was noted that the Parish Council have been campaigning for the installation of a pedestrian crossing at Cliffe Crossroads for several years.

It was noted that Jo Coles – Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime (York and North Yorkshire) had attended the April Parish Council meeting and taken away several actions however no further response has been received.

The Chairman gave an update on the A63 road safety measures that the Parish Council have had implemented or are actively pursuing including new speed limits and signage in Lund, Vehicle Activated Sign, speed restrictions during school drop-off and pick-up times and the road resurfacing.

Mr Robert Procter – Chairman of the Hall for Hemingbrough CIC Group gave a progress update on the Hall for Hemingbrough which will be available for the local community including Cliffe.

It was noted that the legal transfer of land (3 acres) and funds (£500,000) has not been completed yet and work cannot start until this has been done.

Mr Procter advised that the CIC Group have a comprehensive five-year business plan and are working closely with Up for Yorkshire. It was also noted that the plans on their website are currently being revised and Mr Procter agreed to email the updated plans to the Chairman.

The Chairman thanked both members of the public for attending the meeting.

26/203 Listen to reports from North Yorkshire Councillor: -

North Yorkshire Councillor K Arthur advised that he is in the process of arranging the first meeting of the Bus Improvement Liaison Committee.

Councillor Arthur spoke about the new National Scheme of Delegation relating to planning issues which is being imposed by National Government and will affect all Local Authorities from 31st October 2026.

Planning applications will be split into two types, Schedule 1 applications will be determined at officer levels; Schedule 2 applications will be delegated to officers to determine unless the nominated officer and the nominated member agree the application should be referred to the planning committee.

Councillor Arthur also gave an overview of timelines and advised that discussions are ongoing with regards to the new arrangements.

Concern was raised that this will unfortunately create a situation in which more planning applications will be decided via delegated officer powers and fewer via Planning Committees.

Members raised concern that a lot of planning applications that are rejected by North Yorkshire Council go to appeal and are then passed. It was also noted that the rejected planning applications are not enforced and no enforcement action is taken by North Yorkshire Council despite the Parish Council raising complaints.

The **Chairman** reported that he has still not had any response from **Councillor M Crane** regarding the ongoing planning and enforcement issues and **Councillor Arthur** agreed to chase this up.

Councillor Arthur also agreed to raise the lack of planning enforcement along with the lack of response from Jo Coles – Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime (York and North Yorkshire) with the North Yorkshire Council Executive.

The **Chairman** reported that he is going to request a one-to-one meeting with Keir Mather MP to discuss all the outstanding local issues and the lack of response from Jo Coles.

26/204 Confirmation of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th August 2026 (Reduced Agenda): -

Members **resolved** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th August 2026 as an accurate record of the meeting.

26/205 Planning: -

a) Councillors considered the following Planning Applications received: - NIL

b) Consider Planning Applications Received not listed on the agenda: - NIL

c) Note Planning Applications Granted: - NIL

d) Note Planning Applications Refused: - NIL

e) Note Planning Application Withdrawn: - NIL

f) Note receipt of planning appeal against refusal of an application for: - NIL

26/206 Finance: -

a) The following payments were proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed: -

i. J Leighton-Eshelby (Clerks Salary – September)	£ As Agreed
ii. HMRC (PAYE)	£ 184.38

b) To approve payments not listed on the agenda: -

i. Parish Council Handyman (Refurbishment of the wooden bench & planters on Village Green)	£ 154.29
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c) To ratify payments made in between meetings: -

i. Alan Parker (Children's Book Library)	£ 50.00
ii. George Reay (Village Hall Noticeboard Keys)	£ 95.90

d) Note receipt of income, as listed below: - NIL

26/207 Representatives Report: -

Councillor R Woodhall spoke about the possibility of painting the village green fencing and it was agreed to put this on the agenda in the spring.

Councillor A Holman raised concern regarding a fallen willow tree on Hagg Lane with a Tree Protection Order (TPO) that was blocking a resident's drive. The clerk explained the history of this, and it was noted that Hemingbrough Parish Council have recently removed the tree after getting planning permission from North Yorkshire Council.

Members raised concern regarding drainage at a new property being built at Viola Gardens, York Road which is having an adverse impact on the neighbouring properties. **North Yorkshire Councillor K Arthur** agreed to raise this with North Yorkshire Council Planning Enforcement as a matter of urgency.

Councillor H Cross reported that the Mary Waud Foundation has received four grant applications for further education from former pupils of Cliffe VC School.

Councillor S Gummerson reported that the Cliffe Playing Fields Beer Festival had been very successful with @ £4000 profit raised.

Councillor E Yates advised that the Stephen Greenwood will be installing the new fencing on the village green at the end of the month, and he has asked if tubular metal fencing can be installed instead of wooden fencing to match the rest of the village green (at the same cost). This was agreed by members, and it was also decided to ask Stephen to remove the metal panel as agreed by Highways and replace it with tubular metal fencing to join up with the existing fence.

It was also agreed to relocate one of the benches currently under the trees to opposite the book library and turn the other one around to face the fields rather than the road. **Chairman** and **Councillor E Yates** to meet with Stephen Greenwood to discuss our exact requirements.

Councillor A Marshall reported that the broken/missing fence between William Jacques Drive and the A63 has still not been replaced/repared despite nothing being actioned therefore he has reported this again and is awaiting a response.

The **Chairman** reported that Alan Parker has installed the new Little Library as his last job for Cliffe Parish Council before he retires and it looks fantastic, the Parish Council wish to thank Alan Parker for all his hard work and service to the Cliffe community.

It was noted that the original Book Library has been damaged so George Reay will be repairing the back & the damaged roof and repainting it. **Chairman** to also contact Western Wolds Men in Sheds who supplied the original Book Library to ask them to replace the broken front door.

The Chairman also advised that Cliffe Village Institute are holding their annual jumble sale on Saturday 12th September.

Councillor S Gummerson reported that a resident had contacted him regarding the bus going straight down the A63 and bypassing the village on several occasions; **Councillor Gummerson** to speak to the resident in the first instance to clarify which service he is referring to and **Councillor A Marshall** (Bus Improvement Liaison Committee Representative) will report this accordingly.

It was also noted that **Councillor Gummerson** no longer lives in Cliffe Parish however under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 79 (1) (e) he can remain as a Cliffe Parish Councillor as he is living within 3 miles of the Parish.

The **Chairman** also reported that he had a met with PCSO Hannah Gaskell to discuss various village issues and she would be holding a pop-up police session during one of the monthly coffee mornings at the Village Institute.

26/208 Confirm date of next meeting: - Monday 5th October 2026 commencing at 7.00pm in CLIFFE VILAGE INSTITUTE (Reduced Agenda)

26/209 Parish Council Owned Land: -

Councillor H Cross gave a progress update regarding the land registration.

*Councillors are elected on behalf of everyone on the Register of Electors; therefore, matters discussed, proposed and voted on, become the majority view and are not necessarily individual councillor's views.
Parishioners may view previous minutes, by giving prior notice to the Clerk (Ring 01757 630077 for appointment).*