

AMPLEFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN AMPLEFORTH VILLAGE HALL

ON WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillors: Cllrs Nichola Nichols (Chairman), Antony Straszewski (Vice-Chairman), Ed Carter, Emily Slingsby

ALSO PRESENT: Nigel Knapton (Clerk) & 3 members of the public.

26/15 APOLOGIES & DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were apologies from Cllr Kate Beck. There were no declarations of interests.

26/16 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JANUARY 2026

Minutes had been previously circulated, and these were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

26/17 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Matters discussed were cemetery water runoff, dogs on lead signs and overgrown churchyard wall.

26/18 NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Mason was not present.

26/19 CLERK'S REPORT

- a. The burial register had been updated, and a copy would be placed in the filing cabinet.
- b. The cemetery landscaping and fencing had been completed, and the invoice would be paid.
- c. A previous Clerk had reported that the Millennium Green bank account was with Barclays Bank plc and this would be followed up.
- d. NYC Streetscene had sent several waste bin options, and these had been sent to the football club so they could choose which one was most appropriate.
- e. The draft affordable housing survey had been circulated and as there were no issues with this the Clerk would let North Yorkshire Council know.
- f. The Clerk had produced a poster for the litter picking event on 21 March 2026 at 10am. The MP and NYC Councillor had also been invited. The Women's Institute had been informed of the arrangements. The Clerk would now book the village hall.
- g. The Clerk was book on a YLCA Introduction to Cemetery Management Course.
- h. The grass cutting contractor had confirmed that the price for 2026 would remain the same as 2025.
- i. The tree maintenance on West End over the garages had been done.
- j. North Yorkshire Council had informed the developer of Field View Close that the street lighting needed to be amended before adoption.
- k. The broken fence between Birdforth Way and St Benedict's Close had been repaired by Yorkshire Housing.

Approved Chairman

26/20 **GRANT APPLICATION - GRAVEYARD LIGHTING**
It was agreed to grant Our Lady & St Benedicts Church a grant of £750 towards their graveyard lighting scheme.

26/21 **CEMETERY**
It was agreed that a contractor be engaged to ascertain the state of the land drains in the cemetery and log their location in order to repair any damage and comply with the clear distance from new graves.

26/22 **TREE MANAGEMENT**
A letter had been received from North Yorkshire Council regarding the maintenance of the trees on Beacon Hill and the Ampleforth to Oswaldkirk road. It was agreed to write to two of the common share tenants to give them a copy of the letter and ascertain what tree works they would be carrying out to comply with their lease agreements.

26/23 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED**
None received.

26/24 **NYC - PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPEALS**
None received.

26/25 **FINANCIAL, AUDIT & GOVERNANCE**

a. The following payments were agreed:

		<u>£</u>
Nigel Knapton	Salary	447.17
HMRC	PAYE	133.09
Metcalfe Fencing & Land Services	Cemetery fencing and landscaping	6,870.41
Gerard Thompson	Removal of branches	25.00

b. No other invoices had been received.

c. The bank reconciliation, receipts and payments, actuals vs. budget and bank balances were noted.

26/26 **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**
It was agreed that the Clerk purchase four A4 'dogs to be kept on a lead' signs for use in the cemetery.

A request from NYC Streetscene had been received to move the playing fields dog waster bin so it is accessible by vehicle for emptying. Gerard Thompson would be asked if he could undertake this.

26/27 **PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**
None.

26/28 **CORRESPONDENCE**
There was no further correspondence requiring decision.

Approved Chairman

26/29 **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Creation of newsletter.

Review of burial fees.

26/30 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next full council meeting will be held on Thursday 5 March 2026 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.07pm.