

STAINFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Stainforth Parish Council Meeting held in the Village hall, Stainforth, on Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 7.00pm.

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Present – A. Horsfall (Chair), C. Smith, J. Blackburn, I. Black, D. Staveley (North Yorkshire Council) A. Blackburn (Clerk), no public present.

36/26. Apologies for Absence. – A. Sharp.

37/26. Code of Conduct – Localism Act 2011.

To record any councillor's dis-closable pecuniary interests in relation to any item on this agenda. To consider any changes in member's register of interests and consider any associated dispensations – none received.

38/26. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th July 2026.

Council resolved to approve the minutes.

39/26. Matters Arising & Actions.

Ref: 32/26 – The clerk informed council that the allotment fees has been settled with a previous tenant and their gardening equipment had been effectively returned.

33/26 – The clerk had completed and submitted the recent transport survey.

Also council concern in regard to the Calderdale Energy Park proposal relating to increased quarry wagon numbers had been sent to the appropriate authority.

29/26 – Following concern from a resident regarding the height of trees along the beck side near the foot of her garden it was noted that the responsibility for tree maintenance falls upon the owner of a property next to a water course, this is legally described as 'Riparian Ownership'.

34/26 – The clerk had monitored the electricity supply within his residential property following a visit from an Electricity North West engineer and had noted that the maximum voltage was now 260v as opposed to the 269v prior to visit.

41/26. North Yorkshire Councillor Report. The chair moved to this item.

Cllr Staveley had submitted his report for September and this had been uploaded to the PC website. The Kex Gill road improvement project was nearing final completion with part of the highway open to traffic. Cllr Staveley raised concern as to the wind strength across the new road as the highway was now on top of the hill and subject to crosswinds.

The new 'Tourist Tax' was close to being implemented across the region with a starting rate of £1/ night/ person, this would affect all holiday accommodation.

The new NYC policy of awarding taxis the contract for school transport provision had raised much concern from many parties including Stainforth PC. The chair highlighted serious safeguarding issues relating to children across the age range including primary school children being transported in a taxi. Cllr Staveley stated that this had caused much debate within the authority with financial pressure being the instigator of this issue.

40/26. Public Participation – nothing received.

42/26. Yorkshire Dales National Park Planning Applications.

No new applications published.

43/26. Financial Statements & Invoices for Payment.

Council resolved to approve the statement for September, clerk to process payments.

44/26. Correspondence.

1) Police report. – no Police report received.

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44/26. Correspondence (continued).

2) Parking payment machines.

Notification had been received that North Yorkshire Council are installing new car parking machines that do not issue a ticket after payment, the registration number of each vehicle is electronically stored after it has been entered on the machine by the person parking the vehicle. The chair highlighted that the system does not incorporate number plate recognition cameras and could prove ineffective, Cllr Black mentioned that a similar system had been introduced at a Skipton car park in the past but not effectively utilised.

3) Trees on a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

After an enquiry received from a resident the clerk had liaised with the Yorkshire Dales National Park for details of any tree on a TPO within Stainforth. The only remaining tree within the parish on a TPO is at Haworth Barn.

45/26. Highways, Street Lighting, & Maintenance.

Cllr Smith informed council that dog waste had been seen at locations within the village and suggested further signage be placed to remind owners about cleaning up after their dogs. Council discussed the issue with leafleting to follow any signage if the fouling continues.

Action – Clerk to post dog waste signage.

Cllr Black highlighted the recent road closure notice that had been posted for the closure of the B6479 from 07/09/2026 for 5 days, then 2 days. Residents had taken different routes, travelling extra miles to comply with the notice only to find out that the road was not in effect closed. A traffic calming measure had been introduced instead of the full road closure. Council discussed the notification as it had affected the community in a large way as extra travel times, fuel costs and delays had been experienced by residents because of what seems to be an inaccurate assessment of works.

Action – clerk to submit a complaint to NY Council Highways.

46/26. The Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 13th October 2026.

Meeting closed 8.09 pm

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Chairman