

STAINFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Stainforth Parish Council Meeting held in the Village hall, Stainforth, on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 7.07pm.

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

1/25. Apologies for Absence – A. Sharp.

2/25. Code of Conduct – Localism Act 2011

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

3/25. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 11th March 2025.

Council resolved to approve the minutes.

4/25. Matters Arising & Actions.

136/24 – The clerk informed council that the rocks that had been left on top of the soil following the Yorkshire Water excavation of the roadside verge adjacent to The Hollies had now been removed and the new grass was growing back.

5/25. Public Participation.

Council discussed the increasing number of dog bite incidents within Stainforth Parish and from reports received the incidents involve one particular dog. Council were concerned about the number of incidents and were unsure as to what the Police had done about the issue. **Action** – clerk to liaise with the Police.

6/25. North Yorkshire Councillor Report – the chairman deferred this item.

7/25. Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024-25.

1) Certificate of Exemption

Council considered the cash books & certificate as presented by the clerk and resolved to approve – P – J. Blackburn, S – C. Smith.

6/25. North Yorkshire Councillor Report. The chairman moved to this item.

Cllr Staveley had submitted his annual report which had been uploaded to the PC website. The report highlighted that North Yorkshire Council was operating effectively unlike some other councils within the country, this following a reduction in funding from central government.

NY Council were evaluating the school bus service as it was costing approximately £50 million/ year, methods to reduce the financial cost were being discussed.

Boundary changes were being evaluated and a review is taking place to determine an effective method of representation. As always this will attract a cost implication which would not be popular during the present financial restrictions.

The clerk highlighted the refuse bin collection service which was to be changed to 3 bins from the present 2 and that this would move to a 3 weekly cycle of collection.

Council discussed bin collection issues and problems with the increased number of bins.

Cllr Staveley stated that a roll out of the new bin service was to be done one district at a time and support would be available to help with any issues.

New housing developments were being encouraged to work with planning authorities to create a central bin store for collections instead of each individual property.

The new second homes tax implemented this year was to be used for the development of local affordable housing.

7/25. Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024-25 – the chairman moved to this item.

2) AGAR section 1

Council considered the document as presented by the clerk and resolved to approve, P – J. Blackburn, S – C. Smith.

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7/25. Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024-25 (continued)

3) AGAR section 2.

Council considered the document as presented by the clerk and resolved to approve, P – J. Blackburn, S – C. Smith.

All AGAR documents signed by the chairman & clerk.

Action – clerk to forward documentation to the external auditors.

8/25. Christmas Tree Music.

Item deferred to a future meeting.

9/25. Yorkshire Dales National Park Planning Applications – no new applications.

The clerk informed council that there had been confusion regarding the last decision by council on a recent planning application. The clerk had informed the Yorkshire Dales National Park Planning Authority that council is finding it difficult to determine changes to plan applications by using the documentation available and suggested future amendments to be highlighted in red to ensure an accurate assessment. Council consensus was in agreement.

10/25. Financial Statement & Invoices for Payment.

Council resolved to approve the financial statement including invoices for April.

Action – Clerk to process payments.

The clerk reported to council that all 4 allotments had been paid for 2025-26 and there was one person on the waiting list.

11/25. Correspondence.

Police Report

16/03/2025 – Abandon call.

21/03/2025 – Found property – Goat Lane – keys & wallet.

21/03/2025 – Crime violence – dog bite.

HSBC – banking charge for March - £8.

12/25. Highways, Street Lighting & Maintenance.

The pot holes previously reported to NY Highways on the B6479 between the Old School and The Hollies had now received a temporary repair.

All lighting reported as effective and defibrillator operational.

13/24. The Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 13th May 2025.

Meeting closed 8.05 pm

Chairman